

TRENCHING REQUIREMENTS

Customers must provide all trenches along private roads, right-of-ways, county roads and state highways. Trenches provided by the customer or contractor must meet the following requirements. **Please note that failure to comply with all requirements may result in additional charges to the customer. In addition, work may need to be rescheduled which could cause significant delays to customer's project timelines.**

- 1) The PUD Superintendent will call the customer within approximately 10 business days to schedule his/her job after the customer's proposal has been accepted and a work order released. (Please provide PUD with a daytime phone number.)
- 2) It shall be the customer's responsibility to ensure trenching spoils are placed in such a manner that large utility truck access is not impeded. Do not place spoils in center of roadway. In the rare event it is not possible to retain access for large equipment/vehicles due to trenching activities, the customer must provide equipment and operator on-site or coordinate the pre-staging of equipment before digging. This may include pre-laying wire/conduit or dropping off vaults/transformers before digging.
- 3) By law the Customer is required to call for UNDERGROUND UTILITY LOCATES AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO DIGGING - 1-800-424-5555. Once the utility locations have been marked the excavator is responsible for maintaining the markings. **Please note that customers are responsible for arranging private locates for any facilities on property not covered by participating members of the utility notification center.**
- 4) Trenches should be of an adequate width for the installation as determined by the PUD. (See attached ditch specifications.) Trench shall be a minimum of three (3) feet deep. The bottom of the Trench shall be level and free from all obstructions. Directional boring must utilize a minimum of (2) two-inch conduits at a minimum depth of 42 inches and must be proofed by PUD personnel.
- 5) The trench should not be dug prior to scheduling the job with the PUD superintendent. Trenching within two (2) feet of primary cable should be done by hand with the PUD crew on site.
- 6) It shall be the customer's responsibility to ensure the customer provided trench is on the customer's private property or within an existing easement for utilities. The customer shall assume all responsibility for installations that require relocation resulting from trenching that is not within an existing easement or on the customer's private property.
- 7) The backhoe and operator must be on site at the time of the power installation to backfill the ditch when the installation is complete.
- 8) The PUD will install the primary cable in the ditch and the customer shall cover the cable with at least one (1) foot of select backfill prior to the cable being energized. Backfill will usually be selected from material excavated from ditch.
- 9) The Customer may then backfill the remaining ditch. Clearances between PUD cables and other conductors, cables, or pipes shall not be less than one (1) foot.
- 10) If the trenching is on Mason County, City of Shelton or Washington State right-of-way, the trenching contractor must be registered, actively licensed, with a bond and insurance in the State of Washington. Trenching in county, city or state right-of-way shall conform to specifications, locations and distances specified in the county, city or the state road permit. Please visit www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Contractors/HireCon/default.asp to verify your contractor is registered, actively licensed, and bonded with insurance in the State of Washington.

Please contact your engineer if you have any questions about these requirements