

## Schock, Victor F.

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**From:** Tim Hubbard <timhubbard0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 30, 2014 11:31 PM  
**To:** Schock, Victor F.  
**Subject:** One Call Complaint

Victor

Thank you for taking my call last Friday. I am responding to your letter regarding the One Call complaint from Verendrye Electric to T & A Turf and Irrigation. T & a Turf and Irrigation is a small golf course irrigation contractor based out of Elmwood Ne. T & A Turf was subcontracted by another out of state general contractor to do the irrigation on the golf course. T & A Turf started the irrigation installation in July of 2013 at which time the general contractor called in locates for the entire golf course property. During the locates, T & A Turf witnessed the flagging and locating of the two utilities on the site. There was one high voltage line that was located under the lake and across hole #2 and a sewer line that runs the length of the property. During the 2013 construction season, T & A Turf installed the irrigation mainline piping throughout the golf course on holes #10 -#18. In June of 2014, T & A Turf installed the irrigation mainline on holes #4 and #5. We stopped installing the mainline on hole #3 due to the earth moving was not completed on hole #3. T & A Turf left the mainline exposed and left pipe clearly laying out of the trench on the ground so we could connect and continue trenching once the dirt moving was complete. We then left this area of the course to install in other areas and returned to this hole #3 to install the mainline in late August. During the time T & A Turf left hole #3 to install in other area of the golf course, a high voltage electric cable was installed across hole #3. The contractor that installed the high voltage line did not leave any flags or indications there was a high voltage power line installed across an active construction site. T & A Turf started trenching directly at the end of the pipe we left exposed in the trench. We trenched approximately 30' and hit one leg of the newly installed high voltage power line. We stopped trenching immediately and called the local power company to let them know we did hit a power line. Come to find out, the power line was actually installed directly in front of the exposed pipe we left but we were fortunate enough not to hit all three legs at the start of our trenching but hit just the one leg 30' away from the end of our exposed trench. The contractor that installed the power line new the white pvc mainline was going to be continued but did not leave any warning or flagging that they installed the power line. I admit we did not have a one call ticket number. We always get a ticket number before any trenching and digging on any project no matter the size. For the first time, we did not call in a locate on a project and have paid the price. In this instance, I don't think it would have made a difference if we had a ticket number. We had been in this area three weeks prior to the power line being installed, left this area for three weeks, and come back to find a power line installed directly in front of our exposed pipe waiting to be completed. The power line installation crews drove their installation machine directly past the end of our pipe. Common sense would have been to at least flag the newly installed high voltage power line across an active construction site to help bring awareness to the other contractors.

Hind sight is easy to see we made a costly mistake on not having our own locates done and how we need to keep the locates updated at least every two weeks. In this case, I am not sure if we would have been notified if we did have a locate number since the incident occurred within a couple weeks of the power line being installed.

Tim Hubbard  
T & A Turf and Irrigation.