

Excavation

WHEN TO COMPLETE – Before the start of any **Excavation** activities

Confirm each control / safeguard below before starting work	Guidance for confirming each control / safeguard	Person(s) Performing Work	Start-Work Verifier
I HAVE CONFIRMED:			
<p>1</p> <p>The Excavation has been evaluated for energy isolation requirements.</p> <p>Does Excavation work require energy isolation? Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes: complete Energy Isolation Start-Work Check</p> <p>If no: continue to Step 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All potential energy sources have been identified, isolated, and locked and tagged per isolation plan The underground utility has been drained, flushed, or purged to remove explosive materials or gases 		
PRIOR TO EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES			
I HAVE CONFIRMED:			
<p>2</p> <p>Underground utilities are visibly marked (e.g., pipelines, cables, communications, power)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local utilities have been consulted about the dig so they can identify their lines (use programs like Dial Before You Dig (UK) or Call 811 (US)) Underground utilities are visibly identified with flagging or paint Depth and width of utilities or structures are known before digging Before starting mechanical excavation, actions have been taken to locate and expose underground line/utility and structures (e.g., probing, hand digging, soft digging, air knitting, hydro-vac) 		
<p>3</p> <p>Excavation equipment maintains minimum clearances from overhead obstructions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location, height, and voltage of overhead power lines have been identified <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain identified minimum distance between equipment and energy source To help with this, use flagging or barriers on overhead power lines 		
<p>4</p> <p>Excavation area is secured and barriers are in place to prevent unauthorized access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excavation area is visibly identified with caution tape, silt fencing, or other visual identification Excavation area is secure from unauthorized access No personnel are in line-of-fire hazards (e.g., swing radius of excavator, discharge side of trencher) Only essential personnel/crew are in the area where the excavation work is occurring 		
<p>5</p> <p>Soil stability has been assessed and controls/safeguards are in place per excavation plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A competent person assessed the soil type to define the excavation safeguards Excavations have a protective system (sloping, shoring, or shielding) in place, as applicable Storage of excavated material is at least 2 ft (0.61 m) from the edge of excavation Ensure stability of adjacent utilities/structures potentially affected by excavation through means of shoring, bracing, and underpinning 		

<p>6</p> <p>Equipment stability and potential for unplanned movement have been assessed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment, load, and ground surface have been assessed for stability • Verify: load securing, workplace conditions/travel path, equipment capacity • Equipment maintains safe distance from the unprotected edges of excavation or trenches to prevent cave ins 		
<p>7</p> <p>The excavation has been evaluated to determine if it is a confined space. Is excavation a confined space? Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> If yes: complete Confined Space Entry Start-Work Checks If no: continue to Step 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss methods of communication with attendant and rescue team prior to entry • Rescue equipment is at the job site • The entrant is wearing rescue equipment per plan (e.g., harnesses, retrieval device) • The rescue crew: is available, is aware of specific hazards related to this task, can execute the rescue plan 		
<p>8</p> <p>A plan is in place to protect personnel entering the excavation from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cave in • hazardous atmosphere • water accumulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavation has been inspected by the competent person prior to entry, and as conditions change • Protective systems are in place and may include: bracing, shoring, underpinning, benching • Retaining devices or shield systems in place • Daily inspections are performed to identify hazards and changing conditions • Initial gas testing is conducted by a Qualified Gas Tester • Required follow-up testing frequency is established per the plan • Crew will conduct daily inspections to identify hazards and changing conditions (e.g., contamination, water accumulation, or utilities encountered) 		
<p>9</p> <p>Excavations deeper than 4 ft (1.2 m) have access and egress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a safe means of access and egress when entering an excavation greater than 4 ft (1.2 m) in depth, up to 25 ft (6.7 m) of lateral travel. Examples are: ladders, stairways, ramps, sloping for ingress/egress 		
<p>Confirm these controls / safeguards are in place and verified prior to starting work. Stop and seek help if anything changes.</p>			

	Printed Name & Role	Signature	Date
Start Work Verifier			

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