

Determining When a Field Meet and/or Standby is Required

1. General Information

Mark and locate employees determine the need for a field meet and/or standby (activity monitoring), and then take the following actions:

- A. Communicate the need for a field meet or standby to the excavator.
- B. Schedule a field meet with the excavator, as required.
- C. If a standby is required, communicate the following information to the excavator:
 - **No excavation is allowed without a standby person on site.**
 - **A 48-hour advance notification is required to schedule a standby person.**
- D. Document all actions and communications on the Underground Service Alert (USA) ticket.

2. Field Meets

Field meets are required in the following situations:

- A. When the excavation is within 10 feet (ft) of a “high priority subsurface installation,” as defined by California Government Code §4216(e) and California Code of Regulations, Title 8, §1541(b)(1)(B).
- B. Excavation activities are performed by a non-compliant excavator.
- C. Agricultural activities where grading, disking, ripping, or other disruptive physical work may threaten underground facilities. When agricultural operations are planned to occur over many days, conduct random field visits to ensure that the operator is complying with all required safety practices.
- D. Whenever planned construction methods or practices are likely to threaten the integrity of underground facilities.
- E. To determine excavation schedules on large-scale projects, as well as to obtain other critical information.
- F. When excavating activities may impact overhead facilities (e.g., cranes, booms, drilling rigs).
- G. Blasting activity is within 50 ft of the nearest edge of a Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Company) facility.

3. Standby (Activity Monitoring)

Standbys are required in the following situations:

- A. Excavations are within 5 ft of the nearest edge of a critical facility.
- B. All boring activity that crosses a critical facility.
- C. All boring activity that parallels a critical facility within 10 ft of the nearest edge of the facility.

- D. All blasting activity occurring within 50 ft of the nearest edge of a Company facility.
- E. When normal agricultural operations, such as tilling, disking, or ripping occur within 5 ft of a critical facility, until the agricultural operator demonstrates to the standby person that they are complying with safe excavation practices.
- F. When the underground facility is confirmed to be shallow enough to be hit by the agricultural operation being performed and/or the agricultural operator does not have a process in place to protect the facility.