State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
SAFE DIGGING MONTH
APRIL 2009

WHEREAS, each year, the nation's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage by those who fail to call 8-1-1 to have underground facilities located prior to digging, resulting in possible service interruptions, damage to the environment, personal injury and even death; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to reduce these damages, the North Dakota One Call Board and the North Dakota Public Service Commission promote the national Call-Before-You-Dig number, 8-1-1, as well as the use of safe digging practices; and

WHEREAS, designated by the Federal Communications Commission in 2005, 8-1-1 provides potential excavators and homeowners with a simple number to reach their local One Call Center to request utility locations at the intended dig site; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota law requires that anyone planning excavation or demolition must notify North Dakota 8-1-1, and if a facility must be located, personnel will be sent to mark the location of underground facilities at no cost to the requesting party; and

WHEREAS, by following safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money by making a simple call to 8-1-1 in advance of any digging project, waiting the required amount of time for the utility to be located, respecting the location marks by maintaining visual definition throughout the excavation, and digging with care around the marks; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota excavators and homeowners are encouraged to know what is below, and to call 8-1-1 before digging to ensure the safety and connectivity of our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2009, **SAFE DIGGING MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger
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