

# **WESTERN UNDERGROUND COMMITTEE**

## **GUIDE 1.1** (1.1/00/0868)

### **MAINTENANCE AND EXTENSIONS TO EXISTING JOINT TRENCH SYSTEMS**

NOTE: This "Guide" summarizes the opinions, recommendations, and practices of the Western Underground Committee members and is issued only to assist these members in preparing their own specifications, or in making recommendations to specification agencies. Thus, this "Guide" may not reflect the complete requirements of each individual utility and is not binding upon them.

- 1.0** At least 24-hours advance notice shall be given to the operating department of the other utility before any scheduled digging and backfilling is performed. If an emergency exists which requires immediate action, notice of the location, time, and nature of the work done shall be given as promptly as possible.
- 2.0** Before excavating, both telephone and power cables should be located from ground surface and approximate burial depth determined. After excavating, identification shall be made before any cables are opened or cut.
- 3.0** When the depth of the all-joint facilities is definitely known, power-digging equipment may be used for excavating all but the last 12 inches of covering. The last 12 inches must always be removed by hand digging. When the depth of cables has not been established, only hand digging may be employed.
- 4.0** If damage to buried plant involves only the telephone facilities, the telephone company should immediately notify the power company of the faulted condition. The power company may be requested to physically separate and protect its facilities from damage during the repair operation.
- 5.0** If damage to buried plant involves only the power facilities, the power company should immediately notify the telephone company of the faulted condition. The telephone company may be requested to physically separate and protect its facilities from damage during the repair operation.
- 6.0** If the damage involves both power and telephone facilities, the company first on the scene should immediately notify the other company. The power company should first complete the excavation, then repair and/or protect its cables. The telephone company should then repair its facilities.

