



Electronic Positive Response Code Definitions and Facility Operator Usage Guidelines

Electronic Positive Response (EPR) is a system that encourages and facilitates electronic communication from member facility operators back to Blue Stakes of Utah 811 regarding the status of each locate request. This information is then made available to excavators, helping complete the communication loop between member facility operators and those performing excavation work. Currently, EPR is voluntary for facility operators in Utah. However, Blue Stakes highly encourages every member facility operator to actively participate in EPR as a proactive measure to help protect their underground infrastructure and ensure a safer excavation environment across the state.

What to Expect:

- Each member facility operator is responsible for posting their EPR status code for the locate requests they receive.
- Initially, EPR status information will be blank on each locate request. Please allow time for the responding member facility operators to update the system.
- After one or more member facility operators submit their responses, the submitted EPR codes will be included with the locate request information for review by the excavator or requestor.
- These standardized codes are designed to streamline communication, reduce misunderstandings, and improve excavation safety.
- For your safety, please inspect the excavation site for proper markings, respect and protect the marks, excavate carefully within the Tolerance Zone and around the marked facility lines, and contact Blue Stakes if you are concerned there may be unmarked facilities in your excavation area

100: CLEAR – NO CONFLICT

Definition: The facility operator's lines are not in conflict with the area to be excavated.

When to use: Only when there are no underground facilities within the area of delineation and/or the locate request location.

200: MARKED

Definition: The area of delineation and/or locate request location has been completely and accurately marked.

When to use: After the entire area has been marked according to the locate request.

201: MARKED – UP TO PRIVATELY OWNED FACILITY – CONTACT PRIVATE FACILITY OWNER FOR LOCATE

Definition: Marking has been completed up to the point of private ownership. Facility operator does not own or maintain the remainder of the facility line.

When to use: When the locate reaches a privately-owned line, and it is the excavator's responsibility to contact the private owner



202: MARKED – HIGH PROFILE FACILITY – FACILITY OPERATOR REQUESTS TO BE PRESENT FOR EXCAVATION

Definition: A high-risk facility is marked, and the facility operator must be present during excavation.

When to use: When excavation may impact high-profile lines and oversight is necessary for safety.

203: MARKED – AT TIME OF MEET

Definition: Facility was marked during a scheduled meet between the facility operator and excavator.

When to use: When markings are completed in person at the agreed time and location with the excavator.

204: MARKED – ABANDONED FACILITIES MAY BE IN AREA

Definition: Markings are completed, but there may be abandoned or out-of-service facilities present.

When to use: When abandoned infrastructure is suspected or confirmed, and markings are made to the best of available information.

205: MARKED/COMPLETED – VISIBLE OR EXPOSED FACILITY – CONTACT FACILITY OPERATOR IF CROSSING

Definition: Marking has been completed where the facility is already visible or exposed.

When to use: When facilities are exposed and visible onsite, the excavator must contact the facility operator before crossing or disturbing.

300: NOT MARKED – INCORRECT ADDRESS INFORMATION – NEW LOCATE REQUEST NEEDED

Definition: Marking cannot be completed due to inaccurate or incorrect location/address information on the locate request.

When to use: When the address information provided does not allow the facility operator to locate and mark the area accurately.

301: NOT MARKED – NO RESPONSE FROM EXCAVATOR REGARDING QUESTIONS

Definition: Marking cannot proceed due to lack of response from the excavator to facility operator's questions.

When to use: When clarification or details are needed from the excavator, but no reply is received.

302: NOT MARKED – RESTRICTED OR NO ACCESS

Definition: Physical barriers prevented access to the area needing marking.

When to use: When the facility operator is unable to safely access the locate site.



303: NOT MARKED – SITE NOT PRE-MARKED

Definition: The locate request indicated that the site would be pre-marked by the excavator, but it was not.

When to use: When field markings expected by the facility operator are missing, making it unclear where to mark.

304: NOT MARKED – EXCAVATOR NO SHOW FOR MEET

Definition: Facility operator arrived for a scheduled meet, but the excavator failed to show up.

When to use: When a meet was agreed upon and the excavator did not attend.

400: ONGOING – CURRENTLY WORKING WITH EXCAVATOR

Definition: Communication and/or coordination with the excavator is ongoing to resolve a locate requirements, concern and/or special instructions.

When to use: When additional time is needed for coordination and/or clarification concerning the locate request.

401: ONGOING – FACILITY OPERATOR HAS QUESTIONS – WILL CONTACT THE EXCAVATOR DIRECTLY

Definition: Facility operator has follow-up questions and will reach out directly to the excavator for clarification.

When to use: When direct contact is needed to resolve ambiguity concerning the locate request.

402: ONGOING - EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST – WILL CONTACT THE EXCAVATOR DIRECTLY

Definition: Unforeseen or special conditions prevent marking at the time. Facility Operator will coordinate directly with the excavator.

When to use: When factors such as weather, emergency work, or site-specific issues delay marking.

777: AUTO RESPONSE – NO RESPONSE REQUIRED

*** System Response Code is used by Blue Stakes only**

Definition: This is an automated system response from Blue Stakes, not requiring further action by the facility operator.

When to use: Used by the Blue Stakes system for informational or automated purposes only.



Blue Stakes of Utah 811

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888: AUTO RESPONSE – LOCATE REQUEST HAS BEEN CANCELLED

*** System Response Code is used by Blue Stakes only**

Definition: Indicates the locate request has been cancelled and no response from the facility operator is required.

When to use: Used by the Blue Stakes system when a locate request is cancelled before facility operator action is necessary.

999: VOLUNTARY ELECTRONIC POSITIVE RESPONSE (EPR) NOT POSTED BY MEMBER FACILITY OPERATOR

*** System Response Code is used by Blue Stakes only**

Definition: The member facility operator did not post a Voluntary EPR response.

When to use: Used by the Blue Stakes system when the member facility operator chooses not to use the Voluntary EPR process. This status does not indicate that the member facility operator has no facilities in the area. The member facility operator may still have underground lines within the proposed excavation site. The member facility operator may have chosen not to respond with an EPR response. Excavators are encouraged to check facility markings at the site prior to excavation.