

JOHN R. KROGER  
Attorney General



MARY H. WILLIAMS  
Deputy Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
GENERAL COUNSEL DIVISION

November 5, 2009

Kevin A. Knode  
Kipco, Inc.  
90465 Woodruff Street  
Eugene OR 97402

Dan E. Neal, Registered Agent  
Kipco, Inc.  
1361 Pearl Street  
Eugene OR 97401

Re: Violation of Oregon Utility Notification Center Rules  
DOJ File No.: 860-100-GP0113-09 / Docket No.: NC 279

**PLEASE READ ALL DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY –  
DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

On October 20, 2009, a representative from your company met with the Oregon Utility Notification Center (OUNC) Enforcement Committee to discuss an alleged rule violation. At that meeting, an agreement was reached regarding penalties for the violation.

Enclosed are two sets of documents that formalize the allegation and the agreement. One set is made up of original documents. The other set is a set of copies for your files.

Please refer to the originals. The complaint simply serves as a formal notice to you of the violation you were charged with and requires that you submit an Answer to the **Public Utility Commission** responding to the allegation. You must serve your Answer on the Commission by mailing it to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Administrative Hearings Division, PO Box 2148, Salem, OR 97308-2148. Filing an answer would be your opportunity to admit or deny the allegation and, if denied, to ask for a formal hearing. Because you already reached an agreement with the OUNC Committee, you do not need to submit an answer. Instead, you need only sign and return the enclosed Stipulation in order to answer the Complaint.

The Stipulation sets forth the terms and conditions of the agreement you reached with the committee. **You must sign and return the Stipulation within 20 days of the date of this letter in order for it to be approved by the Public Utility Commission as a resolution to the pending Complaint. You need not make payment until the Commission has issued a final order in this matter.**

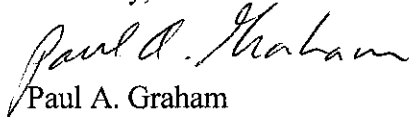
If for some reason you no longer agree to the terms of the Stipulation, you **MUST FILE AN ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT**, admitting or denying the allegation.

If there is a discrepancy between the formal Stipulation and the agreement reached at the meeting that causes you concern, please contact Michael Thompson at (503) 378-6760.

Otherwise, please return the signed Stipulation to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon at the following address so this matter can be resolved:

Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
Administrative Hearings Division  
550 Capitol St NE – Suite 215  
PO Box 2148  
Salem OR 97308-2148

Sincerely,



Paul A. Graham  
Attorney-in-Charge  
Regulated Utility & Business Section

Enclosures  
PAG/nal/#1702377

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  
2 **OF OREGON**

3 NC 279

4 PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF  
5 OREGON,

6 Complainant,

7 v.

8 KIPCO, INC. (an Oregon corporation),

9 Defendant.

COMPLAINT

10 1.

11 This proceeding is initiated by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (hereinafter  
12 "Commission") to determine whether civil monetary penalties should be assessed as provided in  
13 ORS 757.993. The Commission maintains its office at:

14 550 Capitol St NE – Suite 215, PO Box 2148, Salem, OR 97307-2148.

15 2.

16 At all times herein relevant, the defendant was doing business in this state.

17 3.

18 Under ORS 757.993, the Commission has discretion to seek penalties for violations of  
19 rules adopted by the Oregon Utility Notification Center (OUNC).

20 4.

21 Under ORS 757.552, OUNC has adopted rules that prescribe requirements for  
22 notification to OUNC of excavation activity and marking of underground facilities for the  
23 purpose of preventing damage to such facilities.

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5.

OUNC adopted OAR 952-001-0050 which was in effect at all times herein relevant. The rule provides in relevant part:

(1) \* \* \* [A]t least two (2) business days, but not more than ten (10) business days before commencing an excavation, the excavator shall notify the Oregon Utility Notification Center of the date and location of the proposed excavation, and the type of work to be performed.

6.

On or about September 4, 2009, defendant violated OAR 952-001-0050 in that the defendant failed to notify the Oregon Utility Notification Center of a proposed excavation before commencing the excavation.

7.

ORS 757.993 provides, in relevant part, that:

“\* \* \* every person who violates or who procures, aids or abets in the violation of any rule of the Oregon Utility Notification Center shall incur a penalty of not more than \$1,000 for the first violation and not more than \$5,000 for each subsequent violation.”

8.

Defendant has not violated OUNC rules in the past.

9.

WHEREFORE, the Commission directs the defendant to file a verified answer to this complaint within twenty (20) days from the date this complaint is mailed to the defendant. If no verified answer or other written appearance raising a question of fact or law is filed with the Commission at its office in Salem, Oregon, within the 20-day period, the allegations of the

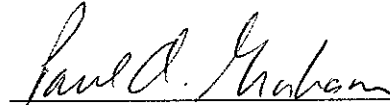
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1 complaint shall be deemed admitted, and a penalty shall be imposed in the amount of \$1,000 for  
2 each violation alleged, for a total of \$1,000.

3  
4 DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009.

5 Respectfully submitted,

6 JOHN R. KROGER  
7 Attorney General

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9 Paul A. Graham, OSB #77190  
10 Assistant Attorney General  
11 Of Attorneys for the Public Utility Commission  
12 of Oregon  
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1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  
2 **OF OREGON**

3 NC 279

4 PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF  
5 OREGON,

6 Complainant,

7 v.

8 KIPCO, INC. (an Oregon corporation),

9 Defendant.

STIPULATION FOR ENTRY OF FINAL ORDER

10 The Public Utility Commission of Oregon, appearing by and through Paul A. Graham,  
11 Assistant Attorney General, and Kipco, Inc., the defendant herein, hereby stipulate as follows:

12 1.

13 A Complaint in this case is pending before the Commission charging the defendant with  
14 one violation of law, OAR 952-001-0050.

15 2.

16 Both parties to this proceeding are willing to forego further processing of that Complaint  
17 and further are willing to resolve this matter on the basis of this stipulation.

18 3.

19 The defendant admits that the violation was committed as alleged in the Complaint and is  
20 willing for the Commission to enter an order finding that the violation was committed as alleged  
21 in the Complaint.

22 4.

23 The parties further agree that the Commission may enter an order assessing civil  
24 monetary penalties against the defendant in the amount of \$1,000 under the following terms and  
25 conditions:

- 1 A. Defendant shall sign and return this stipulation within 20 days of the date it was served  
2 upon (mailed to) defendant.
- 3 B. \$200 shall become due and payable on or before the 30th day following the  
4 Commission's entry of a final order in this case.
- 5 C. Payment shall be by money order or company check made out to the Public Utility  
6 Commission of Oregon, and the memo line of the money order or company check shall  
7 state the "NC" docket number in the caption of this stipulation.
- 8 D. Payment of the balance of the penalties (\$800) shall be permanently suspended and no  
9 further penalties shall be imposed for the violation alleged in the Complaint unless  
10 defendant fails to comply with all of the rules adopted by the Oregon Utility Notification  
11 Center (OUNC) under ORS 757.552 for a one year period following date of the  
12 Commission's entry of a final order.
- 13 E. Defendant shall contact the OUNC Speakers Bureau online at [www.digsafelyoregon.com](http://www.digsafelyoregon.com)  
14 or by calling (503) 232-1987 to arrange for and attend a training session on Oregon  
15 excavation laws within 45 days following the entry of a final order.
- 16 F. In the event that complainant contends that the defendant has not complied with all  
17 OUNC rules for that one year period, complainant may reopen this proceeding and  
18 petition for imposition of all or a portion of the suspended penalties. In such case  
19 defendant shall be entitled to a hearing and to be notified of the basis upon which  
20 complainant contends that compliance has not occurred.

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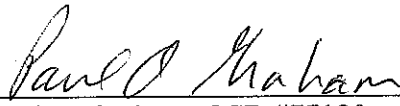
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5.

This stipulation is conditioned upon final approval of its terms by the Commission. If the stipulation is not accepted in its entirety, it shall be deemed withdrawn.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul A. Graham, OSB #77190  
Assistant Attorney General  
Of Attorneys for the Public Utility Commission  
of Oregon

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative for Defendant (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print name)