

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

**Pipeline**

**SOP No: 008-PL**

**SOP Title: Hydro Excavation**

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	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
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<b>008</b>			<b>0</b>	

**1. PURPOSE**

- This procedure is a guideline on the proper way to safely perform hydro excavation activities. Employees at BBGCI will use this as a guide to help them perform their duty in a safe and productive manner.
- BBGCI will be in compliance with all government regulations as well as the regulations set forth by our clients.

**2. INTRODUCTION**

- BBGCI understands that all jobs are different. This SOP is set in place as a guideline to help employees understand the proper procedure to follow when performing hydro excavation activities.

**3. SCOPE**

- This procedure has been set in place for BBGCI equipment operators and support personnel who will be conducting hydro excavation activities.

**4. DEFINITIONS**

- Hydro Excavation (Hydro Vac)- a non-mechanical, non-destructive process that uses pressurized water and industrial strength vacuum to simultaneously excavate and evacuate soil.
- Line of Fire- The path of a moving object that can potentially injure or the potential path of an object that may move.
- Buffer Zone- The area where operation occurs, that is deemed not safe for unauthorized personnel or equipment.
- DOT- Department of Transportation

**5. RESPONSIBILITIES**

Hydro Excavator Operator

1. Participate in tailgate meeting and JSEA.
2. Understand the scope of work and the hazards involved in his/her specific job duty.
3. Maintain good communication with the supporting personnel at all times.
4. Ensure that the buffer zone is free of any unauthorized equipment or personnel at all times.
5. Properly inspect hydro vac truck and equipment for any non-conformities before use.
6. Ensure he/she has a valid CDL driver's license.
7. Ensure the hydro vac truck meets all DOT requirements.
8. Communicate with Line Locating Crew and Job Foreman to ensure the proper location is being hydro excavated.

Supporting Personnel

1. Participate in tailgate meeting and JSEA.
2. Understand the scope of work and the hazards involved in his/her specific job duty.
3. Maintain good communication with the Hydro Excavator Operator at all times.
4. Ensure that the buffer zone is free of any unauthorized equipment or personnel at all times.

**6. SPECIFIC PROCEDURE**

Hydro Excavation

*(Personnel Involved: Hydro Excavator Operator and Supporting Personnel)*

1. Before work can commence, properly complete all JSEA's, work permits, safety tailgate meetings, and equipment inspections.
2. Equipment inspections will be completed by qualified personnel.
3. Establish the scope of work, and ensure everyone knows their specific job duty.
4. Spotter/Supporting Personnel will maintain a safe buffer zone and inform the operator that it is safe for work to commence.
5. Hydro Excavation Operator will position the hydro vac truck in the proper location.
6. Hydro Excavation Operator and Supporting Personnel will begin to hook up the hydro vac hose onto the hydro vac truck.
7. The hydro vac hose will then be positioned over the desired location.
8. After all proper PPE is implemented, they hydro excavation process will begin.

*NOTE: At the end of the shift or if the hydro vac tank is filled, the hydro vac personnel will dump the muddy soil to a designated location.*

**7. JOB RELATED HAZARDS**

***Slips, Trips and Fall Hazards:***

- Inspecting Equipment
- Climbing on and off equipment
- Walking on uneven surface or rocks
- Working around hydro vac hoses
- Working near open hole/trenches

***Pinch Points and Line of Fire Hazards:***

- Moving Equipment
- Walking in unauthorized work areas/buffer zones
- Working with pressurized water

- Working with industrial vacuum
- Vehicles next to roadway

***Noise Hazards:***

- Working with and around hydro vac equipment

**8. REQUIRED PPE**

- Hard hat
- Safety Glasses
- Steel Toe Boots
- Gloves
- Face Shield
- Hearing Protection
- Fire Resistant Clothing (FRC's)
- Reflective Vest (When working next to roadway)
- Personal Gas Monitors (Site Specific)

**9. FORMS/TEMPLATES TO BE USED**

- JSEA
- Work Permits (If Required)
- Equipment Inspection Forms
- Client Required Forms
- Day Light Assurance Form (If Required)
- BBGCI Line Find Map
- Texas One Call

**10. INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL REFERENCES**

**10.1 Internal References**

**10.2 External References**

**11. CHANGE HISTORY**

