

Quality Level “D” is the most basic level of subsurface locating information. All QL “D” information is derived from a review of available existing records and utility as-built records. The application of this level is for planning purposes such as route selection and utility relocation costs. Quality level “D” information does provide one with the overall concept of potential underground structure location, but, for design purposes, is limited in terms of the detail, accuracy, and comprehensiveness required to eliminate the risks and dangers of conflict with underground structures.

Quality Level “C” information is the most common type used for design purposes. This level involves adding to and adjusting Quality Level “D” as-built information with an above-ground inventory of all visible features and evidences of utilities or structures. Level “C” information is still not accurate enough to prevent conflicts or eliminate damage.

Quality Level “B” involves the actual use of technology that supplements Quality Level “D,” as-built information, with “designating.” Designating requires the use of surface geophysical techniques and methods to determine the existence and horizontal location in two dimensions of underground structures and utility features. This designating, or horizontal mapping information, permits sound decisions to be made during the excavation phase of a project in regards to digging or trenching. Adjustments in excavation can be made that yield cost savings by eliminating utility line damage.

Quality level “A” represents the highest accuracy level of presenting subsurface features by adding actual physical exposure to Quality Level “B” information. Information can now be mapped horizontally and vertically in three dimensions. Locations are determined by nondestructive excavation methods at critical conflict points to expose the underground features. Exact determinations of horizontal and vertical positions are now made in three dimensions. The resulting highly accurate information is used during excavation to virtually eliminate damage to any underground structures.

Radio Frequency (RF) locating is a non-destructive testing method used to locate metallic materials such as steel, aluminum, and copper. Code Electric uses this RF technology to provide critical information on utilities, structural elements and other potential obstructions underground. The result is markings placed on the ground referencing the approximate location of the utility.

Because locating is dependent upon the electrical properties of material(s) involved and interpretations are opinions based on judgments made from those acquired signals and/or other data, Code Electric does **not** guarantee the accuracy or correctness of interpretations and Code Electric will **not** accept liability or responsibility for any loss, damage or expense, either direct or consequential, that may be incurred or sustained.

Despite using modern technology to locate buried utilities, it is not an exact science. In some cases, we cannot detect every buried utility. A buried line or pipe must conduct an **electronic signal**, transmitted by our equipment, to be accurately detected. At excavation sites, there may be subsurface utilities that cannot be detected, and many times utilities pass through a site without an above ground access point, or giving any other indication that they are present.

There are four levels of quality, or ‘confidence’, that are used in the locating field. They are explained on the back of this document. Suffice it to say, **the only method that can attain 100% reliability is actually exposing the utility line or structure itself.**

Contractor/Client is responsible for providing access to the excavation areas by removing all obstructions from the area. A representative from client’s company should be present to review results once scanning is complete.

If the locating takes longer because of extended coverage or as a result of the area not being prepared for locating, an **additional charge** at our normal billing rate will be applied for each additional hour per man/machine. All payments of invoices are due within **30 days** from the date of the job performed.

Code Electric is not responsible for any loss or damage arising out of the use of, or reliance on marking posted at the excavation site. Releaser further agrees that he/she has carefully read the forgoing release agreement, knows and understands the contents of the same, and signs this release agreement as his/her own free act.

Signed & accepted by : _____

Date: _____ Print name: _____