

**From:** [Bolin, Earl](#)  
**To:** [Aaron Conklin](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Proposals  
**Date:** Monday, October 26, 2020 2:43:29 PM

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Aaron,

I was on PTO and just started looking at this in between trying to dig out of the backlog of work. I know initially it was proposed to have some language regarding the marking instructions superseding the white markings.

Not sure if that was in this proposal, again trying to dig out ha ha, but I had some concern over that initial proposal.

If the marking instruction take precedence over the white marking then why have white paint. A contractor could put white paint anywhere and the then dig somewhere else within the ticket.

Example:

Marking instruction would say mark Smith Road north from intersection for 2000'. Mark a 10" foot radius at the white stakes.

All white stakes are on the east side of the road.

We mark on the east side of the road.

The contractor could set a pole on the west side of the road where no stake is present and cause damage to an unmarked utility and he would be legal to do so.

Your thoughts?

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**From:** Aaron Conklin <Aaron.Conklin@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** Bolin, Earl <EarlBolin@usicl.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposals

**EXTERNAL SENDER - Exercise Caution.**

This is good feedback, Mr. Bolin. I will make note and do some further examination of published best practices and rules in other states. I want to avoid both unintended consequences as you have described and making a rule that is too vague to have any use. It is a delicate balancing act and your comments will help me better find the optimum balancing point.

Let me know if you find anything else that I should consider or if you have seen any other rules or regulations that are particularly useful with regard to white paint markings.

Thanks,  
Aaron

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**From:** Bolin, Earl <[EarlBolin@usidllc.com](mailto:EarlBolin@usidllc.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 1:15 PM  
**To:** Aaron Conklin <[Aaron.Conklin@tn.gov](mailto:Aaron.Conklin@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposals

Hi Aaron,

The only concern I see is the marking distance at white marks.

For example, if NES was setting a pole on a corner of a 4 way intersection, I would have to mark the entire intersection to cover that white stake, defeating the purpose of white paint intentions.

I personally feel it should be 10 or 15 foot radius at best.

If they have to move the pole due to existing utilities this would give them plenty of room to move.

The same goes with water leaks or any other scenario.

Your thoughts?