



ConnectLA

Louisiana Office of Broadband
Development & Connectivity

GUMBO 2.0

Excavation Toolkit

For Subgrantees

BEAD Excavation Decision Guide

Can excavation legally begin on this BEAD-funded project?

Use this guide to verify that all required steps are complete before beginning any BEAD-funded broadband excavation in Louisiana. Review each check in order—**all six checks must be confirmed, and ConnectLA must issue a Notice to Proceed, before excavation begins.**

CHECK 1

Is this a BEAD-funded project?

Verify the project is funded through the BEAD program (GUMBO 2.0). If not, standard Louisiana 811 rules apply and Checks 2-6 do not.

✓ YES Continue to Check 2

✗ NO Follow standard Louisiana 811 rules. Checks 2-6 do not apply to this project.

CHECK 2

Was a Large Project Ticket submitted through 811 at least 30 days before excavation?

Submit through Louisiana 811. Type of work field must read: "INSTALL FIBER LINE-BEAD." Standard locate tickets do not satisfy this requirement.

✓ YES Continue to Check 3

✗ NO Submit the required Large Project Ticket and wait 30 days before excavation begins.

CHECK 3

Do you have a signed written agreement with all utilities in the project area?

Agreement must define scope of work, mark-by times, and coordination procedures. Must be executed in good faith and **kept on site**.

✓ YES Continue to Check 4

✗ NO Complete a written coordination agreement with all utilities before proceeding.

CHECK 4

Has the signed agreement been uploaded to the Large Project Ticket?

The agreement must be uploaded and attached to the ticket in the 811 system. Having it on site alone does not satisfy this requirement.

✓ YES Continue to Check 5

✗ NO Upload and attach the signed agreement to the Large Project Ticket before proceeding.

CHECK 5

Are utilities marked or has a positive response been received?

Confirm visible marks or a positive response through 811 before breaking ground.

✓ YES Continue to Check 6

✗ NO Follow the three-hour procedure below before proceeding.

THREE-HOUR PROCEDURE IF NO MARKS AND NO RESPONSE (§1749.17)

- Notify the utility and document the notification.
- Wait three hours for the utility to respond.
- If still no response after three hours, you may proceed with due care.

CHECK 6

Has the required project signage been posted at the excavation site?

Sign must display **contractor name, ISP/service provider name, and active phone number or email**. Required at all BEAD excavation sites in the public right-of-way under Act 902 (2026 Regular Session).

✓ YES All checks complete – proceed below

✗ NO Post required signage before excavation begins. Noncompliance and enforcement exposure.



All six checks have been confirmed, and ConnectLA has issued a Notice to Proceed. You may proceed with excavation.

Keep your 811 ticket, signed utility agreement, and annual training certificate accessible on site at all times.

Understanding the Requirements

2026 Regular Session Act 902 – Why Each Check Exists

CHECK 1: BEAD-Funded Project

Requirements apply to projects funded through BEAD (GUMBO 2.0). Other projects follow standard Louisiana 811 rules.

CHECK 2: Large Project Ticket

Must be submitted at least 30 days before excavation. Use type of work: INSTALL FIBER LINE-BEAD.

CHECKS 3-4: Written Agreement

Ensures utilities can mark and protect facilities. Must be on site *and* uploaded to the 811 ticket.

CHECK 5: Positive Response

Utilities must mark facilities or confirm positive response. The three-hour rule provides a defined window before proceeding with due care.

CHECK 6: Project Signage

Helps municipalities, residents, and first responders identify who is working and how to contact them.

Applies Throughout:

ANNUAL 811 TRAINING

At least one person on site must hold a current Louisiana 811 certificate. Free at louisiana811.com. Required since August 1, 2025 (Act 192, 2025 Regular Session).

ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement may stop work for no valid ticket, expired ticket, unmarked excavation, or other visible violations.

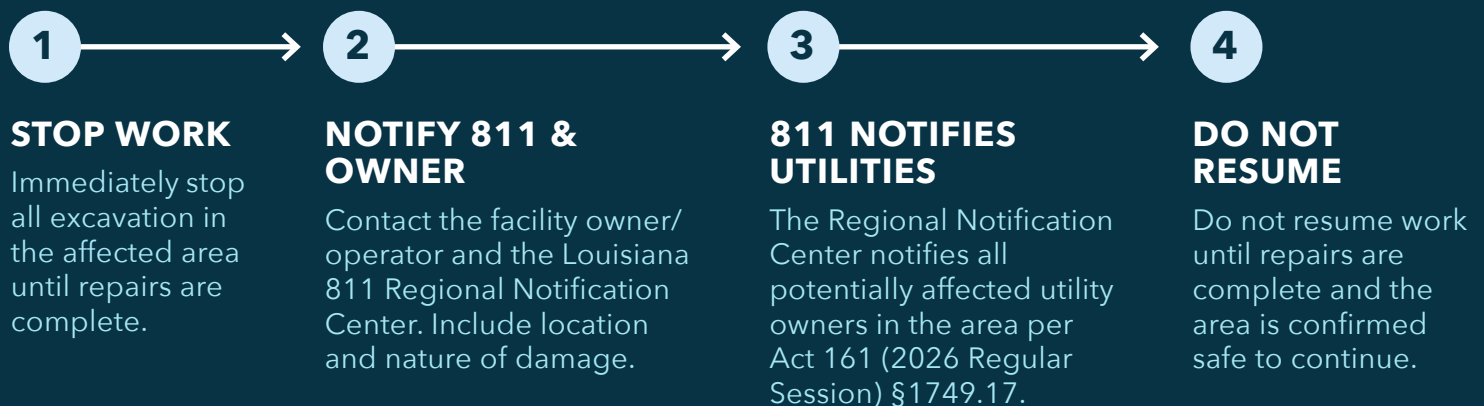
KNOW THE LAW

Acts 902 and 161 (2026 Regular Session), effective August 1, 2026.



IF DAMAGE OCCURS DURING EXCAVATION

Call 911 first if there is an immediate safety hazard – gas line rupture, electrical contact, fire, or injury. **Do not wait.** Then follow the steps below.



Construction Site Signage Guide

ConnectLA recommends using this sign format for all BEAD-funded excavation sites. To simplify compliance, this fillable template is provided as a ready-to-use resource reflecting ConnectLA's recommended implementation of Act 902 (2026 Regular Session). Contractors may use this template or an alternative sign design, provided all information required under Act 902 (2026 Regular Session) remains clearly visible.

Download Fillable Sign Template

Replace the gray placeholder with your ISP logo.

ISP LOGO

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER:

CONNECTLA PROJECT ID:

Enter the ISP name as it should appear to municipalities, residents, and project partners.

Enter the ConnectLA Project ID number.

GUMBO 2.0 Construction In Progress

Project funded through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program

Enter the name of the contractor responsible for construction at this location.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR:

ESTIMATED COMPLETION:

Enter the anticipated month and year construction activities are expected to be complete.

SUBCONTRACTOR/EXCAVATOR:
IF APPLICABLE

Enter the name of the subcontractor or excavation contractor performing work on site, if different from the contractor listed above.

CONTACT PHONE:

CONTACT EMAIL:

Enter a phone number monitored during active construction for questions about the project.

Enter an email address monitored during active construction for questions about the project.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROJECT?
Use the contact information above or visit connect.la.gov.
This project is funded through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program and administered by ConnectLA to expand reliable high-speed broadband service throughout Louisiana.

ConnectLA Best Practice: Place the sign adjacent to the active work area where it is clearly visible from the nearest public roadway. Maintain the sign throughout active construction and relocate it as work progresses, as needed.

Recommended Size: 18 × 24 inches. While Act 902 (2026 Regular Session) does not prescribe sign dimensions, this size is recommended by ConnectLA as a practical minimum to promote visibility from the adjacent public roadway and aligns with common roadway sign dimensions used under the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. (<https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/hm/2003r1/part2/part2b1.htm>)

