



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*Driving Indiana's Economic Growth*

## Memorandum

September 10, 2007

### CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM 07-21

TO: District Deputy Commissioners  
District Highway Operation Directors  
District Construction Engineers  
District Testing Engineers  
District Area Engineers  
Project Engineers/Supervisors

FROM: Mark A. Miller, Director *MAM*  
Division of Construction Management

SUBJECT: Payment for Hand Dig Holes for Guardrail Post Installation

It has come to our attention that there is a need to clarify payment procedures for extra work relating to hand digging (and/or vacuum excavation) holes that are necessary for guardrail post installation. Hand digging is required when existing utilities conflicts occur in the field and the typical post driver machine/equipment cannot be used.

Indiana Law IC-8-1-26-2 states that when the Indiana Underground Plant Protection Service (IUPPS) locates an underground utility within an approximate location (established Tolerance Zone) on the project job site hand digging is required. The Zone is a strip of land not less than 48" (4 feet) wide along the path of the located underground facility (See enclosed Exhibit 'A' for details).

The law also requires that Excavators use only hand tools or vacuum excavation within a Tolerance Zone. If the existing underground utilities can not be relocated and/or the guardrail run is not rerouted outside the established Tolerance Zone, the PE/PS will need to generate a Change Order to add the following item and quantity of required holes.

Pay Item	Pay Units Symbol
601-09238 Hand Dig Guardrail Post Hole.....	EACH

Questions concerning this subject may initially be directed to the appropriate District Construction personnel (AE-DCE) then the Central Office - Division of Construction Management.

MAM:SAT  
Attachment

## The Hand Dig Tolerance Zone

Indiana Law requires that Excavators use only hand tools or vacuum excavation within the Tolerance Zone. The Zone is a strip of land not less than 48" (4 Feet) wide along the path of the located underground facility. The Zone will be greater than 48" (4 Feet) if the size of the underground facility is indicated. For example if a 12" facility is indicated then the Zone will be 30" (2 ½ Feet) on either side of the markings.

