



UNDERGROUND SERVICE ALERT SOLE SOURCE FIVE-YEAR TERM

Riverside Public Utilities

Board of Public Utilities

June 8, 2026

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BACKGROUND

1. Since 1976, the State of California has had the DigAlert program
2. Per California Government Code Sections 4216 – 4216.24, excavators must contact DigAlert for underground installations at the dig site to be located and marked
3. DigAlert is administered by a non-profit mutual benefit corporation funded by utility members.
 - a. In Southern California, DigAlert is administered by a sole program provider – Underground Service Alert
4. RPU is an operator of underground installations and is required to support costs associated with DigAlert



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BACKGROUND CONT.

5. The California Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board (Dig Safe Board) was created by the Dig Safe Act of 2016 as part of Underground Service Alert
6. The Dig Safe Board coordinates the state's education, develops safety standards, investigates dig-in accidents, enforces violations of the Dig Safe Law, and makes enforcement recommendations
7. Government Code 4216.16 (b) authorizes the Board to levy this fee on California's DigAlert members
 - a. A new state regulator fee was established to fund the Dig Safe Board and RPU is now annually assessed the fee



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DISCUSSION

Historically fees for Underground Service Alert are as follows:

Year	DigAlert Program Fees	Dig Safe Board Fees	Total Annual Expenditure
2024	\$ 36,626.05	\$ 14,710.29	\$ 51,336.34
2023	\$ 35,125.75	\$ 13,219.82	\$ 45,348.57
2022	\$ 42,223.19	\$ 11,615.89	\$ 53,839.08
2021	\$ 42,452.60	\$ 16,549.81	\$ 59,002.41
2020	\$ 37,801.45	\$ 16,766.35	\$ 54,567.80



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DISCUSSION – SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

This action is pursuant to Purchasing Resolution 24101, Section 702 which states, “Exceptions. Competitive Procurement through the Informal Procurement and Formal Procurement process shall not be required in any of the following circumstances...(g) Where payment for Services is to be made to a Federal, State, and/or other public entity.”

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommended action is compliant with Purchasing Resolution No. 24101, Section 702(g)



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board of Public Utilities approves the expenditure with Underground Service Alert of Southern California, from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2031, in the amount of \$345,000.



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