

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Commissioner of Labor (hereinafter referred to as "Commissioner") and **QC Communications Inc**, (hereinafter referred to as "Employer") hereby agree as follows:

The Commissioner amends the Safety Order(s) and Notification(s) of Penalty, IOSHA Inspection No. **317459022** issued to the Employer on **April 2, 2015** in the following manner.

SAFETY ORDER 01:

Item 1a & b and Item 2a & b: Upheld; **GROUP**, penalty reduced to \$ 1,875.00.
Item 3: Upheld; penalty reduced to \$ 1,875.00.
Item 4: Upheld; penalty reduced to \$ 1,875.00.
Item 5: Upheld; penalty reduced to \$ 1,875.00.
Item 6a, b & c: Upheld; penalty reduced to \$ 1,875.00.

In exchange, The Employer agrees:

1. *The Employer has provided safety training for All employees and Supervisors.*
2. **OPTIONAL PAYMENT PLAN:** *twelve (12) installments at \$ 781.25 starting 1st April 22, 2015, 2nd May 22, 2015, 3rd June 22, 2015, 4th July 22, 2015, 5th Aug 22, 2015, 6th Sept 22, 2015, 7th Oct 22, 2015, 8th Nov 22, 2015, 9th Dec 22, 2015, 10th Jan 22, 2016, 11th Feb 22, 2016, 12th March 22, 2016.*

Respondent understands that a request must be made in writing to IOSHA for a Petition for Modification of Abatement prior to the above abatement date if abatement cannot be met by the respective dates and an extension is required.

Except for the above specified amendments all other provisions of Safety Order Number **317459022** are retained intact.

The TOTAL AGREED PENALTY is \$ 9,375.00

THE EMPLOYER IS SATISFIED WITH THE AMENDMENTS STATED ABOVE AND ACCORDINGLY WAIVES ITS RIGHT TO FILE A NOTICE OF CONTEST OF THE SAFETY ORDER(S) AND NOTIFICATION(S) OF PENALTY AS AMENDED AND AGREES TO WITHDRAW ANY PREVIOUSLY FILED NOTICES OF CONTEST IN THIS MATTER.

Upon full execution of this Settlement Agreement the Employer will post this Agreement for three (3) working days or until abatement is completed, whichever period is longer. The total AGREED PENALTY is due and payable on within fifteen (15) working days from the Employer's execution of this Agreement. The Employer further agrees that if the AGREED PENALTY is not paid within fifteen working days from the Employer's

execution of this Agreement, that the full amount of the penalty initially assessed against the Employer in the Safety Order(s) and Notification(s) of Penalty which are the subject of this Agreement is due and payable immediately. *Make your check or money order payable to: "Indiana DOL/IOSHA". Please indicate IOSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on your remittance. Please send payments to the following address:*

*Indiana Department of Labor
402 West Washington Street - Room W195
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204*

The Safety Order(s) and Notification(s) of Penalty are, and shall be, herein a final and enforceable Order of the Board of Safety Review. Except for this agreement, and matters arising out of this agreement and any other subsequent IOSHA proceedings between the parties, none of the foregoing agreements, statements, findings, and actions taken by Employer shall be deemed an admission by Employer of the allegations contained within the Safety Order(s) and Notification(s) of Penalty. The agreements, statements, findings and actions taken herein are made in order to compromise and settle this matter economically and amicably, and they shall not be used for any other purpose, except as herein stated.

QC Communications Inc

By: *[Signature]*

Title: President

Date: 3-27-15

COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

By: *[Signature]*

Title: *[Signature]*

Date: 3/27/15

Indiana Department of Labor

Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration
402 West Washington St - Room W195
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 317-232-1979 FAX: (317)233-3790



certified mail # 91 7190 0005 2720 0042 4508 3-11-15 JH

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

To:
Q C Communications
7925 W 100 S
Wabash, IN 46992

Inspection Number: 317459022
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015

Inspection Site:
Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street
Lafayette, IN 47905

The violation(s) described in this Safety Order and Notification of Penalty is (are) alleged to have occurred on or about the day(s) the inspection was made unless otherwise indicated within the description given below.

An inspection of your place of employment has revealed conditions which we believe do not comply with the provisions of the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Act (Indiana Code Chapter 22-8-1.1) or the standards or rules adopted thereunder. Accordingly, enclosed please find safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty describing such violation(s) with references to applicable standards, rules, or provisions of the statute and stating the amount of any penalty(ies).

Informal Conference - Please be advised that it may be possible to informally settle any potential dispute without initiating the more elaborate proceedings brought on by a petition for review. Prior to filing a petition for review, you may request an informal conference concerning any of the results of the inspection (safety orders, penalties, abatement dates, etc.) by contacting the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA, preferably by telephone, in a prompt manner. Please be advised that a request for an informal conference cannot extend the fifteen working day period for filing a petition for review. Informal conferences frequently resolve any possible disputes, and therefore you are urged to take advantage of this opportunity. Because of the limited time period and in order to facilitate scheduling, any requests for an informal conference should be made promptly upon your receipt of the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty.

Right to Contest - You are hereby also notified that you are entitled to seek administrative review of the safety order(s), penalty(ies), or both by filing a written petition for review at the above address postmarked within fifteen working days of your receipt of the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty. ("Working days" means Mondays through Fridays, but does not include Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays under a state statute or days on which the Indiana Department of Labor's offices are closed during regular business hours). If you do not file such a petition for review (contest), the safety order(s)

and penalty(ies) shall be deemed final orders of the Board of Safety Review and not subject to review by any court or agency. The issuance of a safety order does not constitute a finding that a violation has occurred unless no petition for review is filed, or if a petition for review (contest) is filed, it must contain a statement of its basis and should reference the above inspection number. Upon receipt of your petition for review, we will affirm, amend or dismiss the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty. If we affirm, your petition for review will be granted (unless it was not timely) and the dispute will be certified by the Board of Safety Review for further proceedings. The Board of Safety Review is an independent agency appointed by the governor with authority to conduct hearings and to issue decisions concerning disputed safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty. If we amend the safety order(s) or notification(s) of penalty, your petition for review shall be deemed moot. However, you will then be given an opportunity to file a petition for review concerning the amended safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty.

Please be advised that an employee or representative of employees may file a petition for review to contest the reasonableness of the time stated in the safety order(s) for the abatement of any violation.

Posting - Upon receipt of any safety order(s) you are required to post such safety order(s), or a copy thereof, unedited, at or near each place an alleged violation referred to in the safety order(s) occurred. However, if your operations are such that it is not practicable to post the safety order(s) at or near each place of alleged violation, such safety order(s) shall be posted, unedited, in a prominent place where it will be readily observable by all affected employees. For example, if you are engaged in activities which are physically dispersed, the safety order(s) may be posted at the location from which the employees operate to carry out their activities. You must take steps to ensure that the safety order is not altered, defaced, or covered by other material. Posting shall be until the violation is abated, or for three working days, whichever is longer.

Penalties - Penalties are due within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. Abatement does not constitute payment of penalties.

Abatement - The conditions cited in the safety order(s) must be corrected (abated) on or before the date shown for each item on the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty unless:

(1) You file a petition for review concerning the violation, in which case the full abatement period shall commence from the issuance of a final decision by the Board of Safety Review or the courts which requires compliance with the safety order; or

(2) The abatement period is extended by the granting of a petition for modification of abatement date.

PMAs - The petition for modification of abatement date is a manner in which you may seek additional time to correct (abate) a violation without having to file a petition for review concerning the safety order, or after the expiration of the time period to file such a petition for review when it becomes apparent that you need extra time to abate the violation. A petition for modification of abatement date shall be in writing and shall include the following information:

(1) All steps you have taken, and the dates of such actions, in an effort to achieve compliance

during the prescribed abatement period.

(2) The specific additional abatement time necessary in order to achieve compliance.

(3) The reasons such additional time is necessary, including the unavailability of professional or technical personnel or of materials and equipment, or because necessary construction or alteration of facilities cannot be completed by the original abatement date.

(4) All available interim steps being taken to safeguard employees against the cited hazard during the abatement period.

(5) A certification that a copy of the petition has been posted, and if appropriate, served on the authorized representative of affected employees, and a certification of the date upon which such posting and service was made.

A petition for modification of abatement date shall be filed with the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA no later than the close of the next working day following the date on which abatement was originally required. A later-filed petition shall be accompanied by the employer's statement of exceptional circumstances explaining the delay. A copy of such petition shall be posted in a conspicuous place where all affected employees will have notice thereof or near such location where the violation occurred. The petition shall remain posted until the time period for the filing of a petition for review of the Commissioner's granting or denying the petition expires. Where affected employees are represented by an authorized representative, said representative shall be served a copy of such petition.

Notification of Corrective Action - Correction of the alleged violations which have an abatement period of thirty (30) days or less should be reported in writing to us promptly upon correction. A "Letter of Abatement" form and an "Abatement Photographs" worksheet are enclosed for your assistance in providing adequate documentation of abatement. Reports of corrections should show specific corrective action on each alleged violation and the date of such action. On alleged violations with abatement periods of more than thirty (30) days, a written progress report should be submitted, detailing what has been done, what remains to be done, and the time needed to fully abate each such violation. When the alleged violation is fully abated, we should be so advised. Timely correction of an alleged violation does not affect the initial proposed penalty.

Followup Inspections - Please be advised that a followup inspection may be made for the purpose of ascertaining that you have posted the safety order(s) and corrected the alleged violations. Failure to correct an alleged violation may result in additional penalties for each day that the violation has not been corrected.

Employer Discrimination Unlawful - The law prohibits discrimination by an employer against an employee for filing a complaint or for exercising any rights under this Act. An employee who believes that he/she has been discriminated against may file a complaint no later than 30 days after the discrimination occurred with the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA at the address shown above.

Notice to Employees - The law gives an employee or his/her representative the opportunity to object to any abatement date set for a violation if he/she believes the date to be unreasonable. The contest must

be mailed to the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA at the address shown above within fifteen (15) working days (excluding weekends and State holidays) or receipt by the employer of this safety order and penalty.

If you wish additional information, you may direct such requests to us at the address or telephone number stated above.

Indiana Department of Labor

NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

An informal conference has been scheduled with IOSHA to discuss the safety order(s) issued on 3/11/2015. The conference will be held at the IOSHA office located at 402 West Washington Street, Room W195, Indianapolis, IN 46204 on _____ at _____. Employees and/or representatives of employees have a right to attend an informal conference.

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

The alleged violations below have been grouped because they involve similar or related hazards that may increase the potential for injury or illness.

Safety Order 01 Item 001a Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.132(d)(1): The employer did not assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present, or are likely to be present, which necessitate the use of personal protective equipment (PPE):

Job Site - On or about October 7, 2014, the employer failed to assess the workplace to determine the need for personal protective equipment (PPE).

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:	Corrected During Inspection
Proposed Penalty:	\$2,500.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

Safety Order 01 Item 001b Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.132(d)(2): The employer did not verify that the required workplace hazard assessment has been performed through a written certification which included the requirements as outlined in 29 CFR 1910.132(d)(2):

Field Office- On or about October 7, 2014, the employer had not verified such assessment was performed through a written certification of any kind.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:	Corrected During Inspection
Proposed Penalty:	\$0.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

The alleged violations below have been grouped because they involve similar or related hazards that may increase the potential for injury or illness.

Safety Order 01 Item 002a Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.132(f)(1): The employer did not provide training, on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), to each employee who is required by this section to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Job Site - On or about October 7, 2014, the employer did not provide such training to employees required to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

Corrected During Inspection
\$2,500.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

Safety Order 01 Item 002b Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.132(f)(2): The employer did not require employees to demonstrate an understanding of the training specified in paragraph (f)(1) of this section, and the ability to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) properly, before being allowed to perform work requiring the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Job Site - On or about October 7, 2014, the employer failed to verify, through a written certification, that employees required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), had such training and understanding.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

Corrected During Inspection
\$0.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
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Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

Safety Order 01 Item 003 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.333(c)(6): Conductive materials and equipment that were in contact with an employee's body were not handled in a manner that would prevent them from contacting exposed energized conductors or circuit parts:

Utility Pole #691-995 - On or about October 7, 2014, three employees holding the handle while operating an earth auger made contact with an underground energized 3 phase conductor.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:	Corrected During Inspection
Proposed Penalty:	\$2,500.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
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Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
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Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

Safety Order 01 Item 004 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.20(b)(1): The employer did not initiate and maintain such programs as may be necessary to comply with this part:

Job Site - On or about October 7, 2014, the employers safety and health program was not effective and/or enforced in the area of safe electrical practices during the process of setting anchors which is not covered within the program omitting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be worn while handling conductive objects around live electrical circuits, plus safe electrical practices as evidenced by the number and / or type of hazards observed during the inspection.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:	Corrected During Inspection
Proposed Penalty:	\$2,500.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

Safety Order 01 Item 005 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.21(b)(2): The employer did not instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his/her environment to control or eliminate any hazards or other exposure to illness or injury:

Job Site - On or about October 7, 2014, employees were not instructed in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions applicable to their work environment such as but not limited to those connected with electricity.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

Corrected During Inspection
\$2,500.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

The alleged violations below have been grouped because they involve similar or related hazards that may increase the potential for injury or illness.

Safety Order 01 Item 006a Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.416(a)(1): Employees were permitted to work in proximity to electric power circuits and were not protected against electric shock by de-energizing and grounding the circuits or effectively guarding the circuits by insulation or other means:

Utility Pole 691-995 - On or about October 7, 2014, employees were not prohibited from working in such proximity to part of an electrical 3 phase power circuit, that the employee could contact the electrical power circuit in the course of work and the employee was not protected by de-energizing and grounding the circuit, insulation, or any other means.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:	Corrected During Inspection
Proposed Penalty:	\$2,500.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015
CSHO ID: U8836
Optional Report No.: 00515

Safety Order and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

Safety Order 01 Item 006b Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.416(a)(2): In work areas where the exact location of underground electric power lines was unknown, employees using jackhammers, bars, or other hand tools which may contact a line were not provided with insulated protective gloves:

Utility Pole 691-995 - On or about October 7, 2014, employees were not prohibited from working with an auger in an area where the exact location of an electrical 3 phase power circuit was not known without having been provided with insulated protective gloves.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

Corrected During Inspection
\$0.00

Indiana Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 317459022
Inspection Date(s): 10/8/2014 - 2/9/2015
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Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

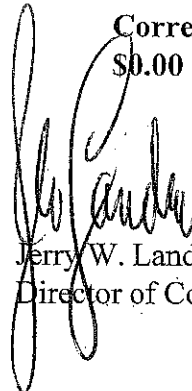
Safety Order 01 Item 006c Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.416(a)(3): Before work began, the employer did not ascertain by inquiry, direct observation, or by instruments, whether any part of an energized electric power circuit, exposed or concealed, was so located that the performance of the work could bring any person, tool, or machine into physical or electrical contact with the electric power circuit:

Utility Pole #691-995 - On or about October 7, 2014, three employees did not ascertain by inquiry, direct observation or by instruments the precise location of the concealed 3 phase power circuit while setting an anchor and the auger did make physical and electrical contact with the electric power circuit.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

Corrected During Inspection
\$0.00



Jerry W. Lander
Director of Construction Safety

Indiana Department of Labor

Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration
402 West Washington St - Room W195
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317)232-1979 FAX: (317)233-3790



INVOICE/DEBT COLLECTION NOTICE

Company Name: Q C Communications
Inspection Site: Fire Station #5 3745 Union Street, Lafayette, IN 47905
Issuance Date: 3/11/2015

Summary of Penalties for Inspection Number: 317459022

Safety Order 1, Serious = \$15,000.00
TOTAL PENALTIES = \$15,000.00

Penalties are due within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. Make your check or money order payable to: "Indiana DOL/IOSHA". Please indicate IOSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on the remittance.

IOSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check or money order for less than full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions, conditions, or endorsements do not exist.

Corrective action, taken by you for each alleged violation should be submitted to this office on or about the abatement dates indicated on the Safety Order and Notification of Penalty.

A work sheet has been provided to assist in providing the required abatement information. A completed copy of this work sheet should be posted at the worksite with the safety order(s).



Jerry W. Lander
Director of Construction Safety

3/11/15

Date