

VELCO PV20 Submarine Cable Replacement Project Blasting Plan

6/19/2015

When blasting of subsurface rock is necessary on projects subject to a Vermont Certificate of Public Good, VELCO will perform blasting under the following management plan.

VELCO blasting plan provisions:

1. Blasting performed by a licensed, certified, and insured blasting technician.
2. Blasting is limited from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday, with the exception of state and federal holidays when no blasting shall occur.
3. Blasting is performed in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
4. To protect groundwater quality, blasting caps with perchlorate will not be utilized unless necessary for site specific conditions.
5. Noise and air blast effects will be limited through application of proper techniques (e.g., stemming material to reduce noise, dust, and flyrock) subject to site specific conditions.
6. Blasting mats will be used where needed to limit the occurrence of flyrock (confining it to property/ROW controlled by VELCO, and to limit dust migration.
7. Explosive materials will be transported and stored in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
8. Appropriate safety measures will be included as part of the project's safety program, including an audible advance signal system and special personal protective equipment.
9. Appropriate signage and proper warning techniques (e.g. air horns) will be used before blasting.
10. Blasting experts will define the no entry zones which will be patrolled by sentinel watchers with radios.
11. Blast vibrations will be monitored with reports provided to the site coordinator.
12. The blast site will be surveyed after blasting activities for loose or otherwise unstable material.
13. Landowners up to a 500 foot radius of the site will be invited to a public information meeting where blast survey details and concerns will be addressed. Notification will be accomplished by sending certified letters, with return receipt requested, to explain why pre- and post-blast surveys are being offered and provide the contact information for a person that is able to answer questions that property owners may have regarding the notice and surveys.
14. Upon request any landowner will be placed on the project update communication list and will be provided a blast schedule and notified in advance of blasts.

15. Pre-blast surveys will be offered on all properties, including VELCO properties and easements, within a 500 foot radius of the blast site inspecting real property (e.g., retaining walls, and structures such as water wells) to differentiate between pre-existing damage and damage potentially resulting from the blasting, should a claim arise.
16. Post-blast surveys will be performed upon all pre-blast surveyed properties within a 500 foot radius of the blast site to determine if any structural damage has occurred as a result of blasting activities, and if so, such damage will be remediated.

Site Specific Notification and Survey Radius

