

Advisory Committee on Construction Safety & Health  
Health Hazard, Emerging Issues & Prevention through Design

Work Group Report

December 3, 2014

USDOL Washington, DC

1-3:00PM

ACCSH Members Present:

Dr. Christine Branche

Director, Office of Construction Safety & Health

NIOSH

Charles Stribling

OSH Federal State Coordinator

Kentucky Labor Cabinet

Donald Pratt

President & CEO

Construction Education & Consultation

Services of Michigan

Steven Hawkins

Administrator

Tennessee OSHA

- A) George Kennedy, of the National Utility Contractors Assoc., described the hazards associated with horizontal directional drilling. The presentation was requested, given that problems experienced with directional drilling seem to be outpacing regulations (standards?)

During our discussion, key issues emerged concerning the locator (e.g., the contractor tasked with locating existing utility lines before drilling or digging commences).

The discussion closed with the work group and guests agreeing on the following:

- Locaters need better training
- Better and more detailed maps are needed for existing utility lines
- Utility companies should step up to their responsibilities

Best practices are available at [www.commongroundalliance.com](http://www.commongroundalliance.com)

- B) The work group had a brief discussion on construction focus for health hazards.

Questions emerged on how focus for health could become confused with construction focus for safety. We agreed that marketing this will need to proceed carefully. We discussed briefly also what the four health topics would be, but no decisions were made.