

**318.9 Utility structures.**

1. *a.* A utility structure in a highway right-of-way used for telephone, electric, natural gas, or other distribution or transmission purposes shall be removed by the owner or operator of the transmission lines upon written notice from the highway authority of not less than ninety days, to the owner and operator. The notice shall, with reasonable certainty, specify the utility structure to be removed and shall be served in the same manner that original notices are required to be served. If the owner or operator of the transmission line is unable to remove the utility structure within the required time due to circumstances beyond the control of the owner or operator, the owner or operator shall file a request with the highway authority for an extension of time to complete the work.

*b.* If the owner or operator of a transmission line needs authorization from the utilities commission or other governmental authority to relocate a utility structure or to obtain a new private easement right for relocation of the utility structure, the owner or operator shall request an extension of time within which to remove the utility structure. The highway authority shall grant an extension of time for at least ninety days following the date authorization is granted or the easement right is obtained.

2. Upon written application, the highway authority shall locate the construction of new telephone, electric, or transmission lines or parts of lines, including natural gas pipeline, for the roads within the highway authority's jurisdiction, subject to the jurisdiction of the utilities commission under [chapters 476, 478, and 479](#), as follows:

*a.* The county engineer, or the board of supervisors if a county engineer is not available, shall locate the lines for secondary roads.

*b.* The department shall locate the lines for primary roads.

3. The department and the county engineer, or the board of supervisors if a county engineer is not available, may designate the location of a utility structure within a highway right-of-way. A utility structure that is not properly located within the highway right-of-way shall be removed within a time prescribed to a designated location. If not so removed, the highway authority may remove the utility structure and recover costs as provided in [section 318.5](#).

[2006 Acts, ch 1097, §9](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1170, §369](#)

Referred to in [§306.46](#)

Manner of service, [R.C.P. 1.302 - 1.315](#)