

480.6 Civil penalties.

1. A person who violates a provision of [this chapter](#) is subject to a civil penalty as follows:

a. For a violation related to natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines, an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars for each violation for each day the violation continues, up to a maximum of five hundred thousand dollars.

b. For a violation related to any other underground facility, an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation for each day the violation continues, up to a maximum of twenty thousand dollars.

c. If a locator violates a time limit set forth in [this chapter](#) and a complaint relating to the violation is filed with the utilities commission, the locator is subject to a civil penalty in an amount determined by the attorney general. If a locator employed by an operator violates this paragraph, the operator employing the locator shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount determined by the attorney general, which shall be the same as though assessed against the locator. A civil penalty imposed by the attorney general under this paragraph shall not exceed one hundred dollars for each violation for each day the violation continues, up to a maximum of five thousand dollars.

2. a. The attorney general, upon the receipt of a complaint, may institute any legal proceedings necessary to enforce the penalty provisions of [this chapter](#).

b. At the direction of the attorney general, the utilities commission shall investigate a violation of [this chapter](#). Upon completion of the investigation, the utilities commission shall submit to the attorney general a written summary of the investigation and all evidence acquired during the investigation, except as set forth in [subsection 2](#), paragraph “c”.

c. The utilities commission may independently receive and investigate complaints alleging a violation of [this chapter](#) by a locator.

3. All amounts collected pursuant to [this section](#) shall be remitted to the treasurer of state, who shall deposit the amount in the general fund of the state.

[92 Acts, ch 1103, §6](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1120, §8, 9](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1170, §369](#)

Referred to in [§480.3](#), [480.11](#)