

Continuation to Dig Regulation FAQs

1) What does the regulation entail?

The regulation allows excavators to continue digging beyond the locate expiry without a re-locate if they are the locate requestors and their project meets the following criteria, among others:

- a) The dig site does **not** contain any transmission infrastructure.
- b) Digging is happening **at least 1 metre below** the lowest identified underground infrastructure.
- c) The excavator continues to have **care and control** of the dig site.
- d) The excavator submits a written statement (between **15–10 days** before locate expiry) confirming **no changes** to:
 - The dig site location
 - The dig site description from the locate request
 - The located area and identified infrastructure
 - Any conditions in the locate document
 - The excavation details (depth, work type, excavation method)
- e) The excavator provides another written statement (also within the 15–10 day window) agreeing to notify Ontario One Call if the conditions have changed.
- f) The excavator keeps the **original locate document** on site.
- g) No more than **180 days** have passed since the last locate document was provided by an affected Underground Infrastructure Owner (UIO).

Additional rules apply when locates are shared.

2) When will the regulation take effect?

It will take effect on November 1, 2026.

3) What is the intent of the regulation?

This regulation allows **excavators to continue digging safely after a locate expires**, *but only when very strict conditions are met*, preventing unnecessary delays while still protecting underground infrastructure.



The regulation:

- **Improve safety** by ensuring underground infrastructure is still accurately marked and unaltered before allowing work to continue.
- **Reduce unnecessary repeat locates**, which are often a cause of delays in construction across Ontario. This supports OOC's and the government's commitment to improve locate delivery timelines.
- **Support construction efficiency** by enabling work to proceed when conditions are stable and risks to underground infrastructure are low, helping reduce project slowdowns caused by expired locates.

4) Who can I contact if I have questions?

Please email our team at DigSafety@OntarioOneCall.ca

