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News Release

Dated: April 4, 2011

Arkansas Public Service Commission
Announces National Safe Digging Month

The Arkansas Public Service Commission announces that April has been designated as "National Safe Digging Month". Governor Mike Beebe issued a proclamation on April 4, 2011 recognizing April as National Safe Digging Month. This designation acknowledges the significance of calling 811 before you dig. Along with the Governor, the Arkansas Public Service Commission's Pipeline Safety Office, Arkansas One Call, and the Common Ground Alliance encourage excavators and homeowners to always call 811 before digging to prevent unintended consequences such as service interruption, environmental damage, personal injury, and even death.

The National Safe Digging Month campaign is intended to increase awareness of the national call-before-you-dig number, 811, in order to prevent damage of underground utility facilities. Dialing 811 provides a simple means to contact the Arkansas One Call Center to request utility line locations at the intended dig site. Through education of safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money by calling 811 in advance of any digging project; waiting the required amount of time; respecting the marked lines; and digging with care around the marks.

For any questions concerning this release, please contact Colette D. Honorable, Chairman, at 501-682-1455 or John P. Bethel, Executive Director, at 501-682-1794.

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