

responsible or liable, explain for me how my amendment, the committee amendment and the green copy and now your amendment will flow together, what will be the standard that the excavator will know that it's safe to dig and where it's not safe to dig. As an excavator, how will I know when I get out there?

SENATOR COORDSEN: Well, thank you, Senator Withem. It's my interpretation that with the inclusion of your language in your amendment, which is now part of the committee amendment, that if the reading in your...if, in the opinion of the operator of the precise location of a facility cannot be determined and marked as required, the first part of Section 25 said approximate location. Your amendment further modifies that by saying if, in the opinion of the operator, the precise location has not been identified, precise location...

SENATOR WITHEM: But, let me...let me get to my question, because I think you're confusing two parts of the issue. This language is after the locator has given the approximate or the precise location and they painted a strip of red dye, red paint on the ground and said this is where the electrical line, if red is an electrical line, is located. The other amendment said when they get out there and say, we can't paint anything on the ground because we don't know. What I'm asking is once that line is painted on the ground, under this language, the contractor will know they can't dig up to 18 inches on either of that particular line, what kind of standards, if we strike this out of the bill, what kind of standards, or are there any standards for the contractor on how close they can dig and what's a safe zone to dig and what isn't?

SENATOR COORDSEN: The standards would be as in your...it would be then, I guess, the...

SENATOR WITHEM: No, no, let me get back, I guess, the answer to my question is there would be no standards.

SENATOR COORDSEN: The...well, the...

SENATOR WITHEM: And, for that reason, I am going to not support the Coordsen amendment in this particular area nor in the provision as it deals with damages. My amendment dealt only with when the locator comes out, shrugs his shoulders and says, I don't know where it is. In this case, we're talking about...this language talks about when the locator comes out and