



# NUCA

*We Dig America*

## America's Utility Construction Industry

America's utility and excavation construction contractors build and maintain our nation's network of underground and environmental infrastructure. The U.S. industry is made up of small and large businesses that build and repair our nation's underground infrastructure for drinking water, sewer, natural gas, electric power, and communications systems. This massive infrastructure responsibility also includes building and repairing their secondary distribution lines and other integral components like pumping stations and water treatment facilities. The industry provides to hundreds of thousands of Americans well-paying jobs that support families and communities in every U.S. state.



Throughout the United States, there are **18,877** businesses in the utility construction industry that **employ 570,952** people.

According to the most recent **economic census**, the utility construction industry performed over **\$152 billion** in **construction work** in 2017.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 Economic Census, NAICS Code 2371.

## The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA)

Founded in 1964, NUCA represents over 1,800 U.S. utility and excavation contractors, manufacturers, and suppliers who provide the materials and workforce to build and maintain our nation's network of water, sewer, gas, telecommunications, and electric infrastructure.

We provide to our members safety and training education, business benefits, industry events, and representation on Capitol Hill and in federal regulatory agencies.

## NUCA Chapters

NUCA has **35 active chapters** across the United States, in states and local regions. Our chapters provide to our member's employees a selection of local training programs and networking events, promote industry safety and workforce development programs, and advocate for more favorable state/municipal laws and regulations impacting the industry.

## NUCA Advocacy Issues

NUCA's focus begins with traditional small business issues (taxes, benefits, labor, and regulatory costs), but includes proactive advocacy to encourage increased financing of critical industry markets (water/sewer/stormwater, transportation, broadband/electric power).

NUCA's priority issues include:

### LEGISLATION

#### *Water Infrastructure Funding*

- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
- Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)
- USDA Rural Utility Services (RUS)
- Private Activity Bonds (tax-exempt bonds issued by state and local governments)
- Funding for public-private partnerships

#### *Surface Transportation Reauthorization*

- Robust federal funding for surface transportation projects
- Sustainability of the Highway Trust Fund
- Innovative funding for transportation projects

#### *Expansion of Energy Infrastructure*

- Reform and streamlining of pipeline permitting process (natural gas and electric power)

#### *Workforce Development*

- Legislative action to support and encourage retaining and recruiting workers in today's utility construction industry

### REGULATIONS

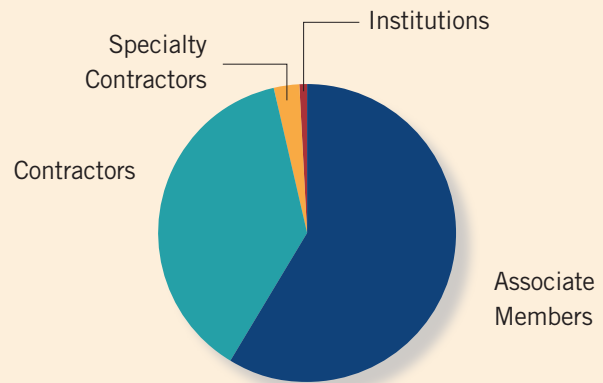
#### *Environmental Issues*

- Clarification of scope of the Clean Water Act (CWA)
- Stemming abuse of CWA 401 authority
- EPA regulations regarding horizontal directional drilling

#### *Pipeline Safety*

- USDOT/PHMSA regulations related to natural gas distribution system construction
- Protection of excavator interests in federal pipeline safety legislation

## NUCA Membership in 2022



#### *Workplace Safety*

- OSHA jobsite regulations
- USDOT/FMCSA "Hours-of-Service" requirements
- Other FMCSA regulations

#### *Taxes*

- Estate tax reform
- Capital gains taxes

### CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COALITION PARTICIPATION

- Clean Water Council (*NUCA Chair*)
- Common Ground Alliance
- Transportation Construction Coalition
- Construction Industry Safety Coalition
- Family Business Coalition
- Coalition for a Democratic Workplace
- Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance
- Energy Access Group
- *Ad hoc* coalition working on FMCSA HOS regulations

### National Utility Contractors Association

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