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Drilling damaged the fiber optic cable



Overview

City getting $110,000 from fiber company that ruptured water line. The Ocala City Council will issue a final vote on Tuesday to accept a $110,000 settlem.

Key Takeaways

A drilling-damaged fiber optic cable can be repaired by locating the break, removing the damaged section, splicing the fibers, and testing the connection to restore reliable service.

Step 1: Identify the Damage

Before any repair, perform a visual inspection to check for obvious cuts, kinks, or jacket damage. For internal or less visible breaks, use an Optical Time Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) to pinpoint the exact location of the fault, which helps avoid unnecessary cutting and ensures precise repair .

Step 2: Prepare the Cable
• Cut out the damaged section using Kevlar shears to create clean working edges .

• Strip the outer jacket and protective layers carefully with a three-hole jacket stripper to expose the internal fiber strands without nicking the core .

• Separate and clean the fibers, removing coatings and impurities with alcohol wipes to ensure a proper splice .
Step 3: Splicing the Fiber
• Fusion splicing is preferred for long-term, low-loss connections. Align the fiber ends precisely and fuse them using a splicer .

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• Mechanical splicing can be used for temporary or emergency repairs, where fibers are aligned in a sleeve with index-matching gel .

• Slide the connector boot or protective sleeve over the splice to secure it and protect against environmental damage .
Step 4: Testing the Repair
• Use a visual fault locator or fiber optic meter to verify that the fiber is properly seated and the light path is continuous .

• Measure signal loss to ensure it is within acceptable limits (ideally

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If the buffer tube (loose tube fiber) or 3mm jacket (tight buffered layered cable construction) is damaged, things are a bit more dicey.

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Cables in premises installations are unlikely to be dug up accidentally but are susceptible to damage when

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Fiber optic goes directly to the house now in a lot of places and has a media converter on the side of the house to

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Power cables are always a safety hazard. Although premises cable is called "low voltage" and fiber optic cables are non-conductive,

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