



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: **James Harrell**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 1353

Investigator: John McLaughlin

Report Date: 02/13/2012

Damage Date: 10/11/2010 12:14:00 PM

Damage Address: 1205 S Michigan St

City: Burlington

County: Carroll

### The Parties

Excavator: **James Harrell**

Contact: James Harrell, Homeowner

Address: 1205 Michigan Road, Burlington, In 46915

Telephone: 765-566-3809

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Contact: Kit Earle

Address: 101 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

**Investigation regarding: James Harrell**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 1353

**Damage Impact**

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$77

**Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:**

Excavator request locates: No    Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

**Synopsis:** Damage to a natural gas service occurred during work on homeowner's sewer line.

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; homeowner's response to initial notice received on 11/15/2011. Homeowner failed to call to request that his gas service be located and marked. The gas service had been dug out and exposed, but one too many buckets with the backhoe resulted in damage to the service.

**Conclusion:** There was a failure to request locates.

**Violation: IC 8-1-26-16(g): Failure to provide notice of excavation.**

**James Harrell** currently has no other reports of damages in the record.

NO

LOCATE

TICKET

PROVIDED

December 2, 2011

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 1353  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 1353

To Whom It May Concern:

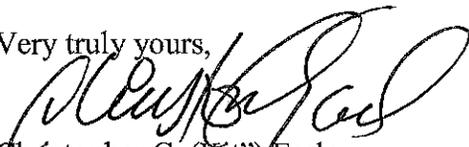
Attached please find Northern Indiana Public Service Company's ("NIPSCO") written information relating to the following event:

Date of Event: 10/11/2010  
Event Location: 1205 S Michigan St, Burlington  
Facility Owner: Kokomo Gas & Fuel  
Excavator: James Harrell  
Other Party: N/A  
Pipeline Division Case No. 1353

NIPSCO has reviewed its recovery and damage prevention files for this matter and has provided answers, when known, to the list of questions set forth in the Information Request.

Upon completion of the investigation, NIPSCO requests that it be provided with a copy of the Pipeline Division's Investigation Report with findings that will be forwarded to the Underground Plant Protection Advisory Committee. If there are any additional questions, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



Christopher C. (Kit) Earle  
NiSource Corporate Services - Legal  
Phone: 317-684-4904  
Fax: 317-684-4918  
Email: [cearle@nisource.com](mailto:cearle@nisource.com)

**IURC INFORMATION REQUEST**

NIPSCO CLAIM # (INTERNAL USE ONLY)

K10-1014

NIPSCO JOB ORDER # (INTERNAL USE ONLY)

528328

FIELD SUPERVISOR

John Daily

**Pipeline Safety Division Case No.**

1353

Date of Event

10/11/2010

Event Location

1205 S Michigan St, Burlington

Facility Owner

Kokomo Gas &amp; Fuel

Excavator

James Harrell

Date of IURC Information Request

9/2/2011

**EVENT LOCATION:**

ADDRESS

1205

STREET

S. Michigan

CITY/TOWN/IN ZIP CODE

Burlington, IN 46915

COUNTY

TOWNSHIP

PROPERTY OWNER

USE - COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

TENANT'S NAME

IF COMMERCIAL USE, TENANT OR OWNER OCCUPIED

IF TENANT OCCUPIED, TENANT'S FULL NAME

**EXCAVATOR:**

NON BUSINESS FULL PERSONAL NAME

Fred Harrell

BUSINESS NAME

ADDRESS

1205

STREET

S. Michigan Street

CITY/ STATE/ZIP

Brulington, IN 46915

PREFERRED TELPHONE

SECONDARY TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

<b>FACILITY INFORMATION - OWNER/OPERATOR OF UTILITY LINE:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS PERSON NAME AND TITLE	LUKE SELKING
ADDRESS	1501 HALE AVENUE
CITY/STATE/ZIP	FORT WAYNE, IN 46802
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	260/439-1290
SECONDARY TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	<a href="mailto:LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM">LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM</a>
<b>LOCATE MARKS:</b>	
DATE LOCATE REQUESTED	No locates requested
DATE LOCATE PERFORMED	No locates requested
DATE OF EVENT	10/11/10
LOCATE NUMBER	No locates requested
811 DAMAGE NOTIFICATION NUMBER	Unknown
WERE LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE	No locates requested
DID THE EXCAVATOR WHITE LINE	Unknown
WERE MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITY	No locates requested
WAS THERE A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM OPERATOR/HOW	No locates requested
WAS OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT	No
<b>INJURIES:</b>	
NUMBER OF OUT-PATIENT	0
NUMBER OF IN-PATIENT INJURIES	0
WAS LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLED	Unknown
FIRE DEPARTMENT NAME	Unknown
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE DESCRIPTION	Unknown
WAS LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLED	Unknown
DEPARTMENT NAME	Unknown
POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE DESCRIPTION	Unknown
ANY OTHER RESPONSE - IF SO, WHO AND DESCRIBE	Unknown
DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY	Kokomo Gas service line struck and damaged during excavation. Excavation was performed without the benefit of locates.

**Information Request**

RECEIVED

**Pipeline Safety Division  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission**

NOV 15 2011

INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Case No. 1353

The Pipeline Safety Division of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission requests any and all information you can provide regarding the following criteria:

**The Parties:**

**Excavator Information:**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Personal Name: JAMES HAYBELL

Title (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 1205 MICHIGAN RD, BURLINGTON IN, 46915

City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone: 765 566 3409

Cell Phone Number: 765-210-2779

Email Address: FRED120@AOL.COM

**Facility Information:**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Personal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Locator Service Information:**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Personal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other (Witness, Police, Fire, Other) Information:**

Personal Contact:

Business/Organization Name:

Title (if any)

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Preferred Telephone:

Cell Phone Number:

Email Address:

**Utility Line Impact:**

**Location of Damage:**

Address: 1205 MICHIGAN RD

City, State Zip: BUTLINGTON, IN, 46915

Nearest Intersection: COLLAGE - MICHIGAN RD

**Product Type (circle one):**

Natural Gas

Liquid Pipeline

Unknown/Other

**Facility Type (circle one):**

Distribution

Gathering

Service/Drop

Transmission

Unknown/Other

Size (Diameter/etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Interruption in Service: Yes / No

Number of Customers Affected: 1 (SELF)

Evacuation: Yes No If yes, How Many Evacuated? \_\_\_\_\_

Repair Cost (if known): \$ 176.179

**Cause of Damage Information:**

**Type of Equipment (circle one):**

Auger

Backhoe/Trackhoe

Boring /Drilling

Directional Drilling

Explosives

Farm Equipment

Grader/Scraper

Hand Tools

Milling Equipment

Probing Device

Trencher

Vacuum Equipment

Unknown/Other

**Type of Work Performed (circle one):**

Agriculture

Cable TV

Curb/Sidewalk

Bldg. Construction

Bldg. Demolition

Drainage

Driveway

Electric

Engineering/Surveying

Fencing

Grading

Irrigation

Landscaping

Liquid Pipeline

Milling

Natural Gas

Pole

Public Transit Authority

Railroad Maintenance

Road Work

Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

Site Development

Steam

Storm Drain/Culvert

Street Light

Telecommunications

Traffic Signal

Traffic Sign

Water

Waterway Improvement

Unknown/Other

Release of Product:  Yes /  No

Ignition and/or Fire: Yes /  No

Excavator Notify 811: Yes /  No

**Locate Information:**

Excavator Request Locate: Yes /  No

Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Locate Marks Visible: Yes / No

Locate Marks Correct: Yes/No

Excavator "White Lined": Yes / No

Maps Used to Mark Facilities: Yes / No

Was Locate Provided within Two (2) Working Days: Yes / No

Operator Employees On-site during Excavation: Yes / No

**Incident Impact Information:**

Number of Outpatient Treated: 0

Number of Inpatient Treated: 0

Number of Fatalities: 0

Fire Department Response:  Yes /  No

Police Department Response:  Yes /  No

Ambulance Response: Yes /  No

**Additional Information/Comments:**

SEE ATTACHMENT

YOUR PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION CASE NO. 1353

YOUR FULL NAME: JAMES F. HARRELL

FULL NAME OF BUSINESS/ENTITY (if applicable): —

YOUR BUSINESS TITLE (if applicable): —

ADDRESS: 1205 MICHIGAN RD

CITY: BURLINGTON STATE: IN ZIP CODE: 46915

YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: (765) 566-3807 SECOND NO. ( ) —

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: HFRE01205@AOL.COM

TODAY'S DATE: 11-14-2011

YOUR SIGNATURE: James F Harrell TITLE (if any) —

Please return your Narrative Statement and Answers to the above questions to:

**Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 1353  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, # 1500E  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Or scan document(s) and Email to:

**PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov**

In the fall of 2010 work was performed on the sewer line at my home in Burlington In. A backhoe was used to dig a hole to expose the sewer line. During the excavation care was given to expose and dig around the natural gas line that supplied the house. We found the line without any trouble and used a shovel to clear dirt from around the line. Approximately 5 feet of line was exposed and dirt cleared away from it. Upon the need to dig deeper to reach the sewer line we accidentally snagged the gas line with the backhoe and broke the line.

We first called Kokomo Gas to report a broken line and request emergency service to repair it. They strongly suggested we also call 911 and 811 to report the break in the line.

911 dispatch sent the local fire department and town marshal to the site. When the fire department arrived they took gas readings with a meter and determined that no evacuation of the area was needed. Wind on this day was enough to dissipate the escaping gas. The fire department remained at the house taking readings until the gas company service tech arrived and completed the repair.

811 was called right after 911. By the time they arrived the repair to the gas line had been made. They did go ahead and mark the line with paint to the main line so we would know exactly where it was located.

Approximately one hour after Kokomo Gas was notified, the service tech had arrived, checked the damage to the line, and spliced in a repair. From time of accident to repair was about 90 minutes

In summary

No injuries

No evacuation

No loss of service to other customers

Damage cost less than hundred dollars.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
10/11/2010	<p>Expense incurred as the result of damage to Kokomo Gas and Fuel Company facilities located in the vicinity of 1205 S. Michigan, Burlington, Indiana, by the above.</p> <p>LABOR: \$ 46.24</p> <p>MATERIAL: 15.55</p> <p>EQUIPMENT: <u>15.00</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>TOTAL EXPENSE:</b> \$ <b>76.79</b></p> <p><i>PA 11-8-10 CR# 7601</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>If you have any questions regarding this bill, please contact Mary Lechowicz, Leader Facility Damages, 1-866-680-2009</b></p>	

**Kokomo Gas & Fuel Company  
DAMAGE CLAIM BILL**

CLAIM NO.: K101014

JOB ORDER NO.: 528328

DATE: November 04, 2010