



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Michael Hinen**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 1396

Investigator: Mike Enlow

Report Date: 02/14/2012

Damage Date: 11/10/2010 4:54:59 PM

Damage Address: 6336 E 500 S

City: Columbia City

County: Whitley

The Parties

Excavator: **Michael Hinen**

Contact: Michael Hinen, Partner with Hinen Bros II Farms

Address: 6336 East 500 South, Columbia City, In 46725

Telephone: (260) 396-2255

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: Michael Hinen

UPPAC Database Record ID: 1396

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: No Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Natural Gas

Synopsis: Damage to a natural gas service occurred during unspecified excavation.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator responded to initial notice on 11/29/2011. Excavator chose not to call to request locates because the trench from the recently installed gas service was still visible. Excavator hand dug and exposed the service, but failed to keep backhoe bucket away.

Conclusion: There was a failure to maintain required clearance from the facility with the backhoe.

Violation: IC 8-1-26-20(b): Failure to maintain two (2) feet clearance with mechanized equipment.

Michael Hinen 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. 1396
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 1396

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: 11/10/2010

Event Location: 6336 E 500 S, Columbia City

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Excavator: Michael Hinen

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 1396

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher C. Earle".

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

IURC INFORMATION REQUEST

NIPSCO CLAIM # (INTERNAL USE ONLY) 10-2498
NIPSCO JOB ORDER # (INTERNAL USE ONLY) 536764
FIELD SUPERVISOR Dwight Wagner

Pipeline Safety Division Case No.

1396

Date of Event 11/10/2010
Event Location 6336 E 500 S, Columbia City
Facility Owner Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator Michael Hinen
Date of IURC Information Request 9/2/2011

EVENT LOCATION:

ADDRESS 6336
STREET E 500 S.
CITY/TOWN/IN ZIP CODE Columbia City, IN 46725
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
BUSINESS NAME Hinen Brothers II
ADDRESS 5659
STREET S. 200 W.
CITY/ STATE/ZIP Columbia City, IN 46725
PREFERRED TELPHONE
SECONDARY TELEPHONE
EMAIL ADDRESS

FACILITY INFORMATION - OWNER/OPERATOR OF UTILITY LINE:	
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	LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM
LOCATE MARKS:	
DATE LOCATE REQUESTED	No locate requested
DATE LOCATE PERFORMED	No locate requested
DATE OF EVENT	11/10/10
LOCATE NUMBER	No locate requested
811 DAMAGE NOTIFICATION NUMBER	1011102746
WERE LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE	No locate requested
DID THE EXCAVATOR WHITE LINE	Unknown
WERE MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITY	No locate requested
WAS THERE A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM OPERATOR/HOW	No locate requested
WAS OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT	No
INJURIES:	
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	NIPSCO gas service struck and damaged during excavation. Excavation was performed without the benefit of locates.





Information Request

Pipeline Safety Division Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Case No. 1396

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: Hinen Bros # FARMS

Responsible Party Personal Name: MIKE HINEN

Title (if any): PARTNER

Address: 3823 E. 900 South

City, State Zip: COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

Preferred Telephone: 260-609-3941

Cell Phone Number: 260-609-3941

Email Address:

Facility Information:

Business Name: NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

Responsible Party Personal Name:

Title (if any):

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Preferred Telephone: 800-464-7726

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: Jefferson Twp. Fire Dept.

Title (if any)

Address: 5090 E. 800 South

City, State, Zip: Columbia City, IN 46725

Preferred Telephone: 260-248-8911 / 260-396-2112

Cell Phone Number:

Email Address:

Utility Line Impact:

Location of Damage:

Address: 6336 E 500 South

City, State Zip: Columbia City, IN 46725

Nearest Intersection: 600 E

Product Type (circle one):

Natural Gas

Liquid Pipeline

Unknown/Other

Facility Type (circle one):

Distribution

Gathering

Service/Drop

Transmission

Unknown/Other

Size (Diameter/etc.): 1"

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): _____

Interruption in Service: Yes No

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Evacuation: Yes No If yes, How Many Evacuated? _____

Repair Cost (if known): \$ _____

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 - Trench was still visible from when originally installed

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:

I was present when original line service was installed to the shop. I knew exactly where the line was before digging. The line trench was still visible from original installation. Plus I have pictures showing me where the line is at. I hand dug to expose the line, so I knew exact location. The backhoe bucket then accidentally hit the edge of gas line. Repair person had to put in splice. Pictures are attached.

YOUR PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION CASE NO. 1396

YOUR FULL NAME: Michael Anthony Hinen

FULL NAME OF BUSINESS/ENTITY (if applicable): Hinen Brothers II Farms

YOUR BUSINESS TITLE (if applicable): Partner

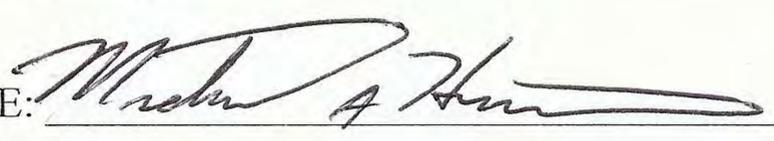
ADDRESS: 3823 E. 900 South

CITY: Columbia City STATE: IN ZIP CODE: 46725

YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: (260) 396 2255 SECOND NO. (260) 609 3941

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TODAY'S DATE: 11/20/11

YOUR SIGNATURE:  TITLE (if any) Partner

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

**Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 1396
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, # 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Or scan document(s) and Email to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov



