



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Jon D. Veatch**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2071

Investigator: Chuck Weindorf

Report Date: 5/11/2012

Damage Date: 8/21/2011

Damage Address: 97 South Lester Street

City: Bloomfield, In 47424

County: Greene

The Parties

Excavator: **Jon D. Veatch**

Contact:

Address: 93 South Lester Street, Bloomfield, In 47424

Telephone: 812-384-6000

Facility Owner: Midwest Natural Gas Corporation

Contact: Arthur Campbell

Address: 107 SE Third Street, Washington, IN 47501-0520

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Investigation regarding: Jon D. Veatch

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2071

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 2

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$108

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: No Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Drainage

Synopsis: Excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas service line.

Findings: Reported by Ted A. Williams (Midwest Natural Gas); excavator failed to respond to initial notice mailed 11/18/11. Excavator worked without benefit of underground utility locates. Excavator failed to provide a notice to Indiana 811 prior to excavation.

Conclusion: There was a failure to provide notice of excavation.

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

Jon D. Veatch currently has no other report of damage in the record.

NO

LOCATE

TICKET

PROVIDED



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
101 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1500E
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3407

<http://www.in.gov/iurc>
Office: (317) 232-2701
Facsimile: (317) 232-6758

November 18, 2011

Mr. Arthur Campbell
Midwest Natural Gas Corporation
107 SE Third Street
Washington, IN 47501-0520

Subject: Investigation Request for Information

Date of Event: 8/21/2011

Event Location: 97 South Lester Street, Bloomfield, In 47424

Facility Owner: Midwest Natural Gas Corporation

Excavator: Jon D. Veatch

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 2071

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Pursuant to Indiana Code 8-1-26, the *Indiana Damage to Underground Facilities Act*, the Pipeline Safety Division of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Pipeline Division") is required to investigate reported incidents of alleged statutory violations involving underground pipeline safety. The purpose of this statute is to promote excavation and pipeline safety and to reduce the imminent danger to life, health, property, or loss of service associated with unsafe digging practices. Please note that the investigation does not entail determining criminal liability or a civil determination of fault or damages; however, it does determine whether any statutory violations were committed regarding public safety.

The Pipeline Division received information regarding potential statutory violations regarding the date and location referenced above. You were identified as a person or entity that might have information that would assist the Pipeline Division in its investigation. Therefore, we have contacted you in order to receive the full account of information in order to make a fair determination related to the circumstances of this incident.

We have asked all involved parties, entities and witnesses to provide *written* information within *30 days* in order to meet legal deadlines to conclude our investigation. **Please consider this letter as a formal request to receive any and all information and evidence (including a narrative, documentation,**

maps, photographs or any other written information) you can access regarding anything you may know about the incident referenced above.

Please promptly provide your information to: Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 2071, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, 101 West Washington Street, # 1500E, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Also, please include the Investigation Number referenced above on your materials. In the alternative, if you would prefer to scan the materials and send them electronically, please send the documents to: PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov.

Although you are not a formal party in this investigation, please treat this request for information seriously, because the potential civil penalties for violations include: a potential civil fine up to \$10,000.00; mandatory education and training for employees regarding pipeline safety; a required development plan to avoid future violations; or a warning letter for certain homeowner/tenants who are first time offenders. Consequently, your input will assist the Pipeline Division with its determination and may have a substantial impact on the case.

After the investigation is completed, the Pipeline Division will prepare an Investigation Report with findings and forward it to the Underground Plant Protection Advisory Committee (“Advisory Committee”). This is a statutory committee, comprised of excavators, facility operators, investor and municipal utilities, the 811 Association and facility locate marking companies, whose role is to evaluate the Pipeline Division’s findings and make a recommendation for a civil penalty. In the event there is disagreement regarding the Advisory Committee’s recommendation to the Commission, parties are entitled to request a hearing before the full Commission. If there is a violation, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) will impose the penalty. Any fines imposed are statutorily required to be spent funding the Commission’s training and educational programming to promote excavation and pipeline safety.

Thank you for your *prompt* assistance in providing written information to the Pipeline Division regarding the previously referenced incident. Any information received after the deadlines will not be considered in the investigation, will be unavailable to the Advisory Committee and will result in a lack of full information being made available; hence, your participation is vital to serving the interests of justice and enhancing the public’s safety. In an effort to assist you, please find an enclosure entitled “Information Request.” Should you have procedural or legal questions regarding the Underground Plant Protection Advisory Committee or the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, please contact David L. Welch, Assistant General Counsel, at (317) 234-4715. Should you have questions regarding the pipeline damage identified above, or our investigation, please contact me at (317) 232-2718. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



William Boyd
Director, Pipeline Safety Division

Enclosure: Information Request

INFORMATION REQUEST

Pipeline Safety Division Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Case No. 2071

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: Jon D. Veatch
Title (if any): _____
Address: 93 South Lester Street
City, State, Zip: Bloomfield, IN 47424
Preferred Telephone: 812-384-6000
Cell Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

Facility Information:

Business Name: Midwest Natural Gas Corp.
Responsible Party Personal Name: Ted A. Williams
Title (if any): Bloomfield Regional Manager
Address: PO Box 66
City, State, Zip: Bloomfield, IN 47424
Preferred Telephone: 812-384-4150
Cell Phone Number: 812-259-9236
Email Address: twilliams@midnatgas.com

Locator Service Information:

Business Name: Midwest Natural Gas Corp.
Responsible Party Personal Name: _____
Title (if any): _____
Address: Bloomfield Regional Manager
City, State, Zip: PO Box 66
Preferred Telephone: Bloomfield, IN 47424
Cell Phone Number: 812-384-4150
Email Address: _____

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

Personal Contact: _____
Business/Organization Name: _____
Title (if any) _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Preferred Telephone: _____
Secondary Telephone: _____
Email Address: _____

Utility Line Impact:

Location of Damage:

Address: 97 South Lester Street
City, State, Zip: Bloomfield, IN 47424
Nearest Intersection: East Spring Street

Product Type (circle one):

- Natural Gas
- Liquid Pipeline
- Unknown/Other

Facility Type (Circle One):

- Distribution
- Gathering
- Service/Drop
- Transmission
- Unknown/ Other

Size (Diameter/etc.): 5/8"

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): 32 PSI

Interruption in Service: Yes No **Number of Customers Affected:** 2

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

Repair Cost (if know): \$ \$107.80

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 at time of incident? Yes No

Incident Impact Information:

Number of Outpatient Treated: _____
Number of Inpatient Treated: _____
Number of Fatalities: _____
Fire Department Response: Yes No
Police Department Response: Yes No
Ambulance Response: Yes No

Additional Information/Comments: _____

YOUR PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION CASE NO. 2071
YOUR FULL NAME: Ted Aaron Williams
FULL NAME OF BUSINESS/ENTITY (if applicable): Midwest Natural Gas Corp.
YOUR BUSINESS TITLE (if applicable): Bloomfield Regional Manager
ADDRESS: Po Box 66 2244 West State Road 54
CITY: Bloomfield STATE: IN ZIP CODE: 47424
YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: (812) 384-4150 SECOND NO. (812) 259-9236
YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: twilliams@midnatgas.com

TODAY'S DATE: 11/30/2011

YOUR SIGNATURE  TITLE Bloomfield Regional Manager

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

Pipeline Safety Division-Case No. 2071
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, #1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or scan document(s) and Email to:
PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)
INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Aug 22, 2011

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Ted A. Williams

Business address (*number and street*): 2244 West State Road 54

City, State, and ZIP code: Bloomfield, IN 47424

Telephone number (*area code*): 812-384-4150

Fax number (*area code*): 812-384-4895

E-mail address: twilliams@midnatgas.com

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Jon D. Veatch

Business address (*number and street*): 93 South Lester Street

City, State, and ZIP code: Bloomfield, IN 47424

Telephone number (*area code*): 812-384-6000

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Drainage

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (month, day, year): Aug 21, 2011

County: Greene

City: Bloomfield, IN 47424

Street address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code):
97 South Lester Street

Nearest intersection: East Spring Street

Right of way where damage occurred: Private Easement

Was there a release of product? Yes

If yes, was there an ignition of product? No

Were evacuations necessary as a result of release? No

If yes, how many evacuated? _____

Was there a customer service interruption? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 2

Time to restore service (in hours): 0

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ 0

Affected Facility Information

What type of pipeline was damaged? Natural Gas

What was the affected facility? Service/Drop

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 18

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? No

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: None

Was the locate request completed within two working days?

If locates were performed, were they done so by a contractor or pipeline employee? Unknown/Other

If a contractor locator, enter the company name, if known: _____

Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation? No

Were facilities marked correctly? Unknown/Other

Type of markings used:

If other, please specify: _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"? No

Were special instructions part of the locate request?

Were maps used to complete the locate request?

Were pipeline company representatives on site during excavation? No

Did the excavator notify the operator in the event of this damage? Yes

Did the excavator notify Indiana 811 in the event of this damage? No

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? No

Description of Cause

Select from the list the most accurate cause for the damage: --No notification made to the one-call center

Additional Comments

NO
EXCAVATOR
RESPONSE
PROVIDED