



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Tim Wilcher**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2122

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 02/08/2012

Damage Date: 09/11/2011 4:23:12 PM

Damage Address: 4504 E 145th Ave

City: Crown Point

County: Lake

The Parties

Excavator: **Tim Wilcher**

Contact: Tim Wilcher, Homeowner

Address: 4504 E 145th Ave, Crown Point, In 46307

Telephone: (219) 808-5788

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Contact: Luke Selking

Address: 1501 Hale Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Investigation regarding: Tim Wilcher

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2122

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$522

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: Yes Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1108130101

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Landscaping

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

Findings: Reported by Indiana811; homeowner's response to initial notice received on 12/16/2011. Homeowner was excavating on a ticket that had expired.

Conclusion: There was failure to provide notice.

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

Tim Wilcher currently has no other reports of damages in the record.

NO

LOCATE

TICKET

PROVIDED



101 West Ohio Street
Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

December 19, 2011

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 2122
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 2122

To Whom It May Concern:

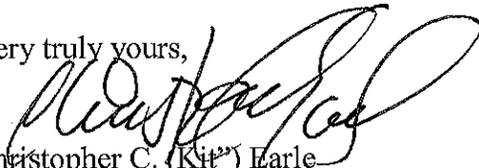
Attached please find Northern Indiana Public Service Company's ("NIPSCO") written information relating to the following event:

Date of Event: 9/11/2011
Event Location: 4504 E 145th Ave, Crown Point
Facility Owner: NIPSCO
Excavator: Tim Wilcher
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 2122

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

IURC INFORMATION REQUEST**Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 2122**

Date of Event	9/11/2011
Event Location	4504 E 145th Ave, Crown Point
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Time Wilcher
Date of IURC Information Request	11/18/2011

EVENT LOCATION:

ADDRESS	4504
STREET	E. 145th Avenue
CITY/TOWN/IN ZIP CODE	Crown Point, IN 46307
COUNTY	Lake
TOWNSHIP	Winfield
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	Timothy Wiltjer
BUSINESS NAME	
ADDRESS	4504
STREET	E. 145th Avenue
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Crown Point, IN 46307
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
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
CITY/STATE/ZIP
PREFERRED TELEPHONE
SECONDARY TELEPHONE
EMAIL ADDRESS

1501 HALE AVENUE
FORT WAYNE, IN 46802
260/439-1290

LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM

LOCATE MARKS:

DATE LOCATE REQUESTED
DATE LOCATE PERFORMED
DATE OF EVENT
LOCATE NUMBER
811 DAMAGE NOTIFICATION NUMBER
WERE LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE
DID THE EXCAVATOR WHITE LINE
WERE MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITY
WAS THERE A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM OPERATOR/HOW
WAS OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT

08/13/11
08/16/11
09/11/11
1108130101
1109110091
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
No

INJURIES:

NUMBER OF OUT-PATIENT
NUMBER OF IN-PATIENT INJURIES
WAS LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLED
FIRE DEPARTMENT NAME
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE DESCRIPTION
WAS LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLED
DEPARTMENT NAME
POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE DESCRIPTION
ANY OTHER RESPONSE - IF SO, WHO AND DESCRIBE

0
0
911 Notified
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown

DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY

NIPSCO gas service struck and damaged during excavation for the installation of a fence. Gas service had been located by NIPSCO. Locates had been disturbed by mowing. Excavation performed without the benefit of additional markings.

#2122

NIPSCO 00042 IUPPSa 08/13/2011 12:10:25 1108130101-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1108130101 Date: 08/13/2011 Time: 12:04 Oper: KLEWIS Chan:032

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: WINFIELD
Cityname: CROWN POINT Inside: N Near: Y
Subdivision:Address : 4504
Street : E 145TH AVE
Cross 1 : CLAY ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4121D8716B 4121C8716B 4121D8716A 4121C8716A 4121D8717D
Grids : 4121C8717D 4121D8717C 4121C8717C
Boundary: n 41.355114 s 41.353962 w -87.290466 e -87.276680Work type : FENCE AND DIG POND
Done for : WILCHER
Start date: 08/17/2011 Time: 07:00 Hours notice: 90/48 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 2 MONTHS Depth: 12 FEETCompany : TIM WILCHER Type: HOME
Co addr : 4504 E 145TH AVE
City : CROWN POINT State: IN Zip: 46307
Caller : TIM WILCHER Phone: (219)808-5788
Contact : TIM WILCHER Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)808-5788Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES
:Submitted date: 08/13/2011 Time: 12:04
Members: IB NIPSCO

#2122

NIPSCO 00038 IUPPSa 09/11/2011 16:23:38 1109110091-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1109110091 Date: 09/11/2011 Time: 16:19 Oper: MENGLISH Chan:086

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: WINFIELD
Cityname: CROWN POINT Inside: N Near: Y
Subdivision:Address : 4504
Street : E 145TH AVE
Cross 1 : CLAY ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4121D8716B 4121C8716B 4121D8716A 4121C8716A 4121D8717D
Grids : 4121C8717D 4121D8717C 4121C8717C
Boundary: n 41.355114 s 41.353962 w -87.290466 e -87.276680Work type : FENCE AND DIG POND
Done for : WILCHER
Start date: 09/11/2011 Time: 16:19 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 2 MONTHS Depth: 12 FEETCompany : TIM WILCHER Type: HOME
Co addr : 4504 E 145TH AVE
City : CROWN POINT State: IN Zip: 46307
Caller : TIM WILCHER Phone: (219)808-5788
Contact : TIM WILCHER Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)808-5788Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
PROPERTY OWNER HAS HIT A GAS LINE - HE HAS CALLED 911 AND NIPSCO - THEY ARE EN
ROUTE- - PREVIOUS TICET NUMBER 1108130101 - ON RIGHT WEST SIDE OF PROPERTY -
THANKYOU

Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES

:

Submitted date: 09/11/2011 Time: 16:19
Members: IB NIPSCO

From: [V.W](#)
To: [IURC PipelineDamageCase](#)
Subject: Case 2122
Date: Friday, December 16, 2011 4:32:24 PM
Attachments: [scan0009.jpg](#)
[scan0003.jpg](#)
[scan0005.jpg](#)
[scan0006.jpg](#)
[scan0007.jpg](#)
[scan0008.jpg](#)

December 16, 2011

Pipeline Safety Division-Case No 2122
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 E
Indianapolis , IN 46204

EMAIL: PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

This letter and its attachments are in regards to case #2122.

I had called 811 in regards to locating gas, att, cable, and electric lines so I would be fully prepared to continue landscaping at my home.

They did come out to my home located at 4504 E 145th Ave. , Crown Point, IN 46307 and located the necessary lines they had thought.

I then began to do my landscaping and come to find out **they did not locate a line that was there**. 10 feet away from the locator mark they had made was another line **they did not mark**, so the line was cut by the excavator I was using.

Immediately I called it in on September 11, 2011 .

I have filled out the necessary paperwork that is scanned and attached to this email. Please look at this case and let me know where we stand in obviously their mistake.

I feel I have done everything proper in this whole procedure. I feel i do not need to pay this bill. lease look at all information regarding this whole procedure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Tim Wiltjer

Information Request

Pipeline Safety Division Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Case No. 2122

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: *Tim Wiltjer*

Title (if any):

Address: *4504 E. 145th Ave*

City, State Zip: *Crown Pt, IN 46307*

Preferred Telephone:

Cell Phone Number:

Email Address:

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:

Utility Line Impact:

Location of Damage:

Address:

City, State Zip:

Nearest Intersection: (145th & Clay)

Product Type (circle one):

Natural Gas

Liquid Pipeline

Unknown/Other

Facility Type (circle one):

Distribution

Gathering

Service/Drop

Transmission

Unknown/Other

Size (Diameter/etc.): 1/2"

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): 6 lbs

Interruption in Service: Yes No

Number of Customers Affected: Homeowner

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

Repair Cost (if known): \$ 522.22

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: 1109110091
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:

YOUR PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION CASE NO. 2122

YOUR FULL NAME: Tim Wiltjer

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

YOUR BUSINESS TITLE (if applicable): _____

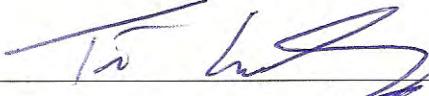
ADDRESS: 4504 E 145th Avenue

CITY: Crown Pt STATE: IN ZIP CODE: 46307

YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: (219) 808-5788 SECOND NO. () - _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TODAY'S DATE: 12-14-11

YOUR SIGNATURE:  TITLE (if any) _____

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

**Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 2122
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, # 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Or scan document(s) and Email to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

**Northern Indiana Public Service Company
DAMAGE CLAIM BILL**

CLAIM NO.: 11 1947

JOB ORDER NO.: 555437

DATE: October 26, 2011

Timothy Wiltjer
4504 E. 145th Avenue
Crown Point, IN 46307

PAYMENT DUE 28 DAYS FROM ABOVE DATE.
PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO:
NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
801 E. 86TH AVENUE
MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA 46410-6271
ATTENTION: FACILITY DAMAGES RECOVERY

PLEASE DETACH HERE AND RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT

AMOUNT REMITTED	AMOUNT DUE
	\$522.22

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
9/11/2011	Expense incurred as the result of damage to NIPSCO facilities located in the vicinity of 4504 E. 145th Avenue, Crown Point, Indiana, by the above.	
	LABOR:	\$ 481.57
	MATERIAL:	3.79
	EQUIPMENT:	<u>36.86</u>
	TOTAL EXPENSE:	\$ 522.22

If you have any questions regarding this bill, please contact Mary Lechowicz, Leader Facility Damages, at 219-647-4033 or 1-800-884-2684



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

**Northern Indiana Public Service Company
DAMAGE CLAIM BILL**

CLAIM NO.: 1

JOB ORDER NO.: 555437

DATE: October 26, 2011