



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: Tsw Utility Solutions, Inc.

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3404

Report Date: 7/17/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 7/25/2012 9:19:17 AM

Damage Address: 8401 No. Park Ave., Indianapolis, Marion

### The Parties

Excavator: **Tsw Utility Solutions, Inc.**

Address: 1970 Midwest Blvd, Indianapolis, In 46214

Facility Owner: **Citizens Gas**

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Water

### Damage Impact

Product Release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 14

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$

### Excavator Activities/Cause of Damage Information:

Excavator Request Locates: Yes

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1207123746

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

**Synopsis:** Excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas main while performing water work.

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 9/5/2012. The excavator indicates it was trying to expose the marked gas line but the ground was too hard for hand tools. Backhoe operator tried to knock the top of the bank off to expose the line and ended up pinching the distribution line.

**Conclusion:** The excavator failed to maintain clearance with mechanized equipment.

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



## DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

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

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Aug 16, 2012

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### Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Tony Chan (Citizens Gas)

Business address (*number and street*): 2150 Dr. M.L. King Jr. St.

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46202

Telephone number (*area code*): (317) 927-4619

Fax number (*area code*): (317) 927-4619

E-mail address: AChan@CitizensEnergyGroup.com

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### Excavator Information, if known

Full name: TSW UTILITY SOLUTIONS, INC

Business address (*number and street*): 1970 MIDWEST BLVD

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46214

Telephone number (*area code*): 317-557-5033

Fax number (*area code*): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Water

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## Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Jul 25, 2012

County: Marion

City: Indianapolis

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):  
8401 N PARK AVE

Nearest intersection: E 84TH ST

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - City Street

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? 0

Was there a customer service interruption? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 14

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 3

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ 0

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## Affected Facility Information

What type of pipeline was damaged? Natural Gas

What was the affected facility? Distribution

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 36

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## Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? Yes

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: 1207123746

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Yes

If locates were performed, were they done so by a contractor or pipeline employee? Contractor

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

Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation? Yes

Were facilities marked correctly? Yes

Type of markings used: Paint and Flags

If other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Was site marked by "White Lining"? No

Were special instructions part of the locate request? No

Were maps used to complete the locate request? Yes

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? Yes

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? Yes

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### **Description of Cause**

Select from the list the most accurate cause for the damage: --Failure to use hand tools where required

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### **Additional Comments**

This is Case 3404. Excavator reported this damage to IN811. MAO 8/25/2012.



**INFORMATION REQUEST**

State Form 54909 (2-12)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

**RECEIVED**

SEP 05 2012

INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

**Case Number:** 3404

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

*Upon completion of answers select email button for submission.*

**The Parties**

**Excavator Information:**

Business Name: TSW Utility Solutions Inc.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Dale Martin

Title (if any): Job site Foreman

Address (number and street): 1970 Midwest Blvd

City, State and ZIP Code: INDPLS, IN. 46214

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): 317-557-5033

Email Address: jess@tswutility.com

**Facility Information:**

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

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

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

Address (number and street): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Locator Service Information:**

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

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

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

Address (number and street): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**Cause of Damage Information**

Type of Equipment (select one): Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed (select one): Water

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

Personal Contact: Greg Scott \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Organization Name: Citizens Energy Group \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address (number and street): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 317-710-1615 \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: gscott@citizensenergygroup.com

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**Utility Line Impact**

**Location of Damage:**

Address (number and street): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Intersection: 84th and Park

**Product Type (select one):** Natural Gas

**Facility Type (select one):** Unknown/Other

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

**Pressure (PSIG/Inches):** ?

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

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

**Repair Cost (if known):** \$ ?

**Release of Product:**  Yes  No

**Ignition and/or Fire:**  Yes  No

**Excavator Notify 811:**  Yes  No

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**Locate Information**

**Excavator Request Locate:**  Yes  No

**Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number:** 1207123746

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

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### Incident Impact Information

Number of Outpatient Treated: <sup>0</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Inpatient Treated: <sup>0</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Fatalities: <sup>0</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department Response:  Yes  No

Police Department Response:  Yes  No

Ambulance Response:  Yes  No

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### Additional Information / Comments

TSW conducted a safety meeting on 7-30-12 on locating existing utilities. Topics covered: 2' dig rule, use of hydro. excavation, what to do when a line is hit/cut, & Indiana 811 rules. We also covered this topic with Safety Management Group and came up with a 100% hydro excavation policy that we have put into our safety plan. We also had an RCA meeting with Citizens Energy Group on this incident.

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT**

Your Pipeline Safety Division Case Number: 3404

Your Full Name: Jess Testerman

Full Name of Business / Entity (if applicable): TSW Utility Solutions Inc.

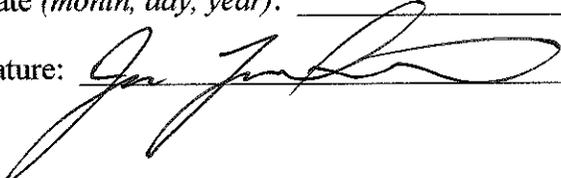
Your Business Title (if applicable): Vice President

Address (number and street): 1970 Midwest Blvd

City: INDPLS State: IN ZIP Code: 46214

Your E-mail Address: jess@tswutility.com

Today's Date (month, day, year): 9/4/12

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

Please return your Narrative Statement to:

**Pipeline Safety Division – Case Number 3404**  
**Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission**  
**101 West Washington Street, 1500E**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Or scan the statement and Email to:

[PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)



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1970 Midwest Blvd. • Indianapolis, IN 46214

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**Jess Testerman**  
Vice President  
(317) 557-5033  
jess@tswutility.com

**Terry Shirrell**  
Project Manager  
(317) 557-2901  
terry@tswutility.com

- Call or verify that a call has been made to all Local Utility Companies 48 hours before digging to locate any and all underground installations. This contact must be documented.
- Utility locations will be marked for quick visualization with paint or flags, etc.
- When excavations operations approach the estimated location of underground installations, hydro-excavation will be mandatory to locate the installations.
- While the excavation is open, underground installations shall be protected, supported or removed as necessary to safeguard employees.

## WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

Job Name: <i>#124</i>	Date: <i>7-30</i>	Supervisor: <i>TESTERMAN</i>	Safety Talk Number:
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**Special Topics For Your Project:**

*Existing utility locating.*

**Employee Recommendations:**

*See back side of this sheet*

**Meeting Attended By:**

PRINT	SIGN
<i>Jess Testerman</i>	<i>Jess Testerman</i>
<i>Kyle Kirkley</i>	<i>Kyle Kirkley</i>
<i>SHANNON FIDDLER</i>	<i>Shannon Fidler</i>
<i>Terry Shirrell</i>	<i>Terry Shirrell</i>
<i>William Nottingham</i>	<i>W. Nottingham</i>
<i>JOSHUA CAMPBELL</i>	<i>Joshua Campbell</i>
<i>Dale Martin</i>	<i>Dale Martin</i>

7-25-12

While excavating to install a new fire hydrant on the corner of 84<sup>th</sup> and Park for Citizens Energy Group a 2" gas main was pinched by a TSW operator. The crew on site had the majority of the excavation complete and were trying to install shoring at the time of the accident. The gas main was marked and covered under locate ticket #1207123746.

While trying to install the trench shore plates the onsite foreman, Dale Martin, did not like the way that the plate fit in the excavation so he asked his guys to find the gas main and then to straighten up the edge of the bank so that the plate fit in the excavation squarely against the bank. He then left to meet with Reith Riley on another part of the project. The laborers used a spade shovel to search for the gas main but were unsuccessful due to the "ground being hard as concrete". They asked the operator, Steve Wilkerson, to use the heel of his bucket to try and knock the top of the bank off exposing the gas main. The first attempt at doing this resulted in pinching the side of the gas main at approx. 9:00am.

Dale Martin followed TSW protocol and first called the fire department. He then called Jess Testerman followed by CEG and USIC. He knew that a Citizens Gas crew was onsite for Reith Riley and contacted them to shut off the gas main. When the fire department arrived they requested that the TSW crew assist them in evacuating the 4 homes at the intersection of 84<sup>th</sup> and Park. The CEG crew shut the gas off at approx. 9:20am. TSW excavated the gas main for CEG to make the repair which was complete at approx. 10:20am. The CEG crew then turned the gas back on. While CEG was making the repair a news crew arrived. Neither CEG nor TSW would comment to the reporter.

After CEG finished their work the TSW crew finished shoring the excavation and fenced the hole. Greg Scott decided it be best to complete the hydrant installation in the morning. By doing this it allowed Reith Riley to place binder down Park.