



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Ryan Vaught**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3481

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 11/1/2012

Damage Date: 7/14/2012

Damage Address: 3501 County Road 40a

City: Auburn

County: Dekalb

The Parties

Excavator: **Ryan Vaught**

Contact:

Address: 1613-1/2 Sprott St, Auburn, In 46706

Telephone: 260-579-3580

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: Ryan Vaught

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3481

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$481

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: No Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Drainage

Synopsis: A ¾” plastic gas service was damaged during excavation to install a drain line.

Findings: Reported by NIPSCO; excavator responded to initial notice on 9/26/2012. There was a failure to provide notice of excavation.

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

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



INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (2-12)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

RECEIVED

SEP 26 2012

INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Case Number: 3481

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: Not applicable.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Ryan David Vaught

Title (if any): Friend of homeowner.

Address (number and street): 1613 1/2 Sprott Street

City, State and ZIP Code: Auburn, IN 46706

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): (260) 579-3580

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): (260) 579-3580

Email Address: rvaught2005@yahoo.com

Facility Information:

Business Name: Not Applicable.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Ryan David Vaught

Title (if any): Friend of homeowner.

Address (number and street): Private residence: 3501 County Road 40a

City, State and ZIP Code: Auburn, IN 46706

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): _____

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): _____

Email Address: _____

Locator Service Information:

Business Name: Unknown.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Unknown.

Title (if any): _____

Address (number and street): Unknown.

City, State and ZIP Code: _____

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): _____

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): _____

Email Address: _____

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (select one): Hand Tools

Type of Work Performed (select one): Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

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

Personal Contact: _____

Business/Organization Name: _____

Title (if any): _____

Address (number and street): _____

City, State and ZIP Code: _____

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): _____

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

My friend was behind on his garage construction project. I volunteered to help dig, by hand tools, part of the septic line trench. My friend was unable to be home on 7/14/12 because of prior arrangements, therefore I was digging alone. Before digging he showed me the approximate underground location of the pipeline. I dug two sections of the trench using the existing open trench height and a pilot hole at the proper transit measurement; removing material between the two points at the resulting slope. Unfortunately, on the third section of my trench digging I cut into the gas pipeline when making my pilot hole for the transit stick. I stopped digging immediately and called the phone number on the nearest pipeline yellow marker flag. I do not have the name of the locator company nor do I know if service was interrupted for anyone besides the residence of my friend. No one was injured.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Your Pipeline Safety Division Case Number: 3481

Your Full Name: Ryan David Vaught

Full Name of Business / Entity (if applicable): Not applicable.

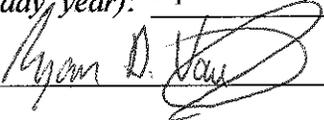
Your Business Title (if applicable): _____

Address (number and street): 1613 1/2 Sprott Street

City: Auburn State: IN ZIP Code: 46706

Your E-mail Address: rvaught2005@yahoo.com

Today's Date (month, day, year): September 20, 2012

Your Signature:  Title (if any) _____

Please return your Narrative Statement to:

Pipeline Safety Division – Case Number 3481
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or scan the statement and Email to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov



101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

October 17, 2012

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 3481
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 3481

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Date of Event: 7/14/2012

Event Location: 3501 County Road 40a, Auburn

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Ryan Vaught

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 3481

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. To the extent available, NIPSCO is also providing a copy of the Damage Information Report – Pipeline Safety Division previously submitted by NIPSCO to IURC Pipeline Safety as well as additional documentation relating to this Event Location.

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. 3481	
Date of Event	7/14/2012
Event Location	3501 County Road 40a, Auburn
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Ryan Vaught
Date of IURC Information Request	9/18/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Ryan Vaught
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Same
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	1613 ½ Sprott St
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Auburn, IN 46706
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
FACILITY INFORMATION - OWNER/OPERATOR OF UTILITY LINE:	
BUSINESS NAME	NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	LUKE SELKING
TITLE	
ADDRESS	1501 HALE AVENUE
CITY/STATE/ZIP	FORT WAYNE, IN 46802
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	260/439-1290
SECONDARY TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM
LOCATOR SERVICE INFORMATION	
BUSINESS NAME	USIC
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Morgan Thompson
TITLE (IF ANY)	Claims Coordinator
ADDRESS	9045 N. River Rd. Suite 300
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Indianapolis, IN 46240
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	1-317-538-7301
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	morganthompson@usicinc.com
OTHER (WITNESS, POLICE, FIRE, OTHER) INFORMATION	
PERSONAL CONTACT	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	

ADDRESS	
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
UTILITY LINE IMPACT	
LOCATION OF DAMAGE	
ADDRESS	3501 CR 40A
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Auburn, IN
NEAREST INTERSECTION	
PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
FACILITY TYPE (Select One)	
DISTRIBUTION	
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	X
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	¾" plastic
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	50
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Yes
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	No
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	0
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	480.58
CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:	
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	X
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	
Bldg. Demolition	
Drainage	X
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)	Yes
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	No
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	No
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	No – expired

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N/A
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	N/A
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	N/A
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N/A
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	No
INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION	
NUMBER OF OUTPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF INPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF FATALITIES	0
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
AMBULANCE RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS	
<p>Compensation has been received from the excavator.</p> <p>No notification made to the one-call center.</p> <p>No original ticket or damage ticket.</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

01820120714003

Northern IN

7/14/2012 12:00:00 AM

7/14/2012 1:59:02 PM

JEREMY Facility Owner

3501 COUNTY RD 40A X PORTAGE PASS

AUBURN

ST: IN ZIP:

NOTIFICATION ID:

DISTRICT:

DAMAGE DATE:

NOTIFICATION DATE:

NOTIFIED BY:

DAMAGE ADDRESS:

CITY:

NIPSCO

DAMAGED CUSTOMER:

07/14/2012

INVESTIGATION DATE:

15:30:00

FROM:

16:00:00

TO:

Homeowner

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED:

TRENCH

TYPE OF EXCAVATION:

Yes

ORIG. LOCATE REQ.:
START DATE/TIME:
TYPE OF TICKET:
LOCATE REQ. INFO N/A:

M56728364

DIG UP/DAMAGE REQ.:
START DATE/TIME:

RON MEEKS

PICTURES TAKEN BY:

7/14/2012 3:30:00 PM

DATE/TIME:

Digital

PHOTOGRAPHY TYPE:

FRAME #:

113397

INVESTIGATOR EMP#:

MIKEOBERLIN

INVESTIGATOR NAME:

BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?

No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

01820120714003

NIPSCO

(optional)

NOTIFICATION ID:

SELECT A CUSTOMER:

CUSTOMER #:

LOWPROF

Gas Service

Yes

FACILITY DESCRIPTION:

FACILITY ID:

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #:

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO INVESTIGATION:

No Locate Req. By Contractor

Other:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO METHOD OF INVESTIGATION (at least one must be checked):

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:

NO TICKET

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

U/K

NAMES OF EXCAVATOR'S REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

U/K

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:

U/K

No **WERE ANY MARKINGS VISIBLE ON THE DAMAGE SITE UPON ARRIVAL?**

Yes **WERE ANY OTHER INDICATORS OF FACILITY PRESENT IN THE AREA?**

No **WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS?**

SERVICE **EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE**

U/K **REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE**

No **WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO?**

No **WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?**

No **IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS?**

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Aug 23, 2012

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Robert A. Hayward

Business address (number and street): 3511 E. 15th Ave

City, State, and ZIP code: Gary, IN 46403

Telephone number (area code): 219-962-0422

Fax number (area code): 219-962-0404

E-mail address: cludwig@NiSource.com

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Ryan Vaught

Business address (number and street): 1613-1/2 Sprott St

City, State, and ZIP code: Auburn, IN 46706

Telephone number (area code): 260-579-3580

Fax number (area code): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Drainage

Date and Location of DamageDate of damage (*month, day, year*): Jul 14, 2012County: DekalbCity: AuburnStreet address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
3501 County Road 40A Auburn, INNearest intersection: Portage PassRight of way where damage occurred: Private - Land OwnerWas there a release of product? YesIf yes, was there an ignition of product? NoWere evacuations necessary as a result of release? No

If yes, how many evacuated? _____

Was there a customer service interruption? YesIf yes, how many affected? 1Time to restore service (*in hours*): 2.25Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ _____

Affected Facility InformationWhat type of pipeline was damaged? Natural GasWhat was the affected facility? Service/DropWhat was the depth of the facility, in inches? 20

Notification, Locating, MarkingDid excavator request locates prior to commencing work? No

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: _____

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Unknown/Other

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: Other

If other, please specify: No Locate Request _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"?

Were special instructions part of the locate request? Unknown/Other

Were maps used to complete the locate request? Unknown/Other

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? Unknown/Other

Description of Cause

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

Additional Comments

Was noted locate was expired, found old tkt # 1205141697 for a different contractor building a garage, this is for drainage.
Nipsco Emergency Repair Ticket # 1207140194