



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **John Finlay Jr**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3499

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 10/29/2012

Damage Date: 6/22/2012

Damage Address: 52726 Hollyhock Rd

City: South Bend

County: St Josph

The Parties

Excavator: **John Finlay Jr**

Contact:

Address: 52726 Hollyhock Rd, South Bend, In

Telephone: 574 273 4204

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: John Finlay Jr

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3499

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$115

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: No Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Fencing

Synopsis: A natural gas service was damaged during excavation to install a fence post.

Findings: Reported by NIPSCO; excavator/occupant did not respond to initial notice mailed 9/14/2012. The excavator/property owner failed 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.



101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

October 17, 2012

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 3499
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 3499

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: 6/22/2012

Event Location: 52726 Hollyhock Rd, South Bend

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: John Finlay Jr.

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 3499

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. 3499	
Date of Event	6/22/2012
Event Location	52726 Hollyhock Rd, South Bend
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	John Finlay Jr.
Date of IURC Information Request	9/18/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	John Finlay
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Same
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	52726 Hollyhock Rd
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	South Bend, IN 46637
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	574/273-4204
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	52726 Hollyhock Rd
CITY/STATE/ZIP	South Bend, 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.)	5/8 plastic
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	30
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	No
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	0
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	No
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	0
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	114.62
CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:	
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	X Post Hole Digger
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	
Bldg. Demolition	
Drainage	
Driveway	
Electric	
Engineering/Surveying	
Fencing	X
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

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, damage, or emergency repair tickets.</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820120622011 **DISTRICT:** Northern IN
DAMAGE DATE: 6/22/2012 10:30:00 PM **NOTIFICATION DATE:** 6/22/2012 8:30:05 PM
NOTIFIED BY: DONNA Facility Owner
DAMAGE ADDRESS: 52726 HOLLYHOCK RD
CITY: SOUTHBEND **ST:** IN **ZIP:**

DAMAGED CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

INVESTIGATION DATE: 06/23/2012
FROM: 07:40:00 **TO:** 08:10:00

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED: Homeowner
TYPE OF EXCAVATION: Fence post

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

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

PICTURES TAKEN BY: Kevin Fox **DATE/TIME:** 6/23/2012 7:50:00 AM
PHOTOGRAPHY TYPE: Digital **FRAME #:**

INVESTIGATOR EMP#: 116375 **INVESTIGATOR NAME:** Joe Hendrickson
BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED? No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820120622011
SELECT A CUSTOMER: NIPSCO
CUSTOMER #: *(optional)*

FACILITY DESCRIPTION: LOWPROF **FACILITY ID:** Gas Service
LOCATOR NAME & EMP #: Fox Kevin - 121882
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:

Homeowner was digging a fence post hole for a dog fence. No locates had been called in.

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

N/A

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

N/A

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:

N/A

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

WERE ANY OTHER INDICATORS OF FACILITY PRESENT IN THE AREA? No

WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS? No

EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE cut gas service

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE N/A

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO? No N/A

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED? Shovel

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS? No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S) N/A



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

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

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Aug 3, 2012

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Carrie Ludwig

Business address (number and street): 3511 East 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: John Finlay Jr

Business address (number and street): 52726 Hollyhock Rd

City, State, and ZIP code: South Bend, IN

Telephone number (area code): 574 273 4204

Fax number (area code): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Occupant

Excavation or demolition equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Fencing

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (month, day, year): Jun 22, 2012

County: St Jospeh

City: South Bend

Street address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code):
52726 Hollyhock Rd South Bend, IN

Nearest intersection: _____

Right of way where damage occurred: Private - Land Owner

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? No

If yes, how many affected? 0

Time to restore service (in hours): 1.5

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ _____

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? 16

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did 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: Stakes

If other, please specify: no locates _____

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

IURC Damage Information Request

Date 6-22-12

City South Bend

Address 52726 Hollyhock Rd

Contractor Home Owner

Type of Equipment Post Hole Digger

Work Type Fence

Locate # N/A

Locates (yes/no) NO

Accurate Locates (yes/no) N/A

Paint, flags or both NO

Release of Gas (yes/no) YES

Detailed description of Event including equipment used

Depth of line 16"

Were locates performed in 2 working days (yes/no) NO

Service or main and size of line 5/8

Pressure (PSI) 30 PSI

Outage (yes/no) NO

How many customers lost N/A

Time to restore service 1 1/2 hr

Evacuation (yes/no) NO

How many evacuated NONE

Ignition of product (yes/no) NO

Damage or leak Damage - Cut