



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Custom Fencing

UPPAC Database Record ID: 353

Investigator: Dan Novak

Telephone: 317-232-2781

Report Date: 01-24-2012

Damage Date: 04/26/2011

Damage Address: 3401 S Packerton Road

City: Warsaw

County: Kosciusko

The Parties

Excavator: Custom Fencing

Contact: Chuck Rockhill, Owner

Address: 2844 S 450 W, Warsaw, In 46580

Telephone: (574) 491-3081

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: Custom Fencing

UPPAC Database Record ID: 353

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$305

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: No Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Auger

Type of work performed: Fencing

Synopsis: A natural gas service line stub was damaged by excavator while installing a fence.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator response received 10/04/2011. Excavator failed to ensure that the property had been marked for underground utilities.

Conclusion: There was a failure on the part of the excavator to provide notice of excavation.

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

Custom Fencing currently has 3 reports of damages in the record between 04/26/2011 and 07/29/2011.

NO

LOCATE

TICKET

PROVIDED



November 14, 2011

101 West Ohio Street
Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 353
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 353

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: 4/26/2011

Event Location: 3401 S Packerton Road, Warsaw

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Excavator: Custom Fencing

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 353

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. 353**

Date of Event	4/26/2011
Event Location	3401 S Packerton Road, Warsaw
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Custom Fencing
Date of IURC Information Request	9/23/11

EVENT LOCATION:

ADDRESS	3401
STREET	S. Packerton Road
CITY/TOWN/IN ZIP CODE	Warsaw, IN 46580
COUNTY	
TOWNSHIP	
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	
BUSINESS NAME	Custom Fencing
ADDRESS	2844
STREET	S. 450 W.
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Warsaw, IN 46580
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

No locate requested
No locate requested
04/26/11
No locate requested
1104261176
No locate requested
Unknown
No locate requested
No locate requested
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
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown

DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY

NIPSCO gas service struck and damaged during excavation by Custom Fencing.
Excavator failed to request locates prior to onset of operations.

Information Request

Pipeline Safety Division Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Case No. 353

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: Custom Fencing, Inc.
Responsible Party Personal Name: Chuck Rockhill
Title (if any): Owner
Address: 2844 S. 450 W.
City, State Zip: Warsaw, IN 46580
Preferred Telephone: 574-491-3081
Cell Phone Number: 574-551-7184
Email Address: chuckrockhill@gmail.com

RECEIVED

OCT 4 - 2011

INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Facility Information:

Business Name: Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Responsible Party Personal Name: Mary Lechowicz
Title (if any): Leader Facility Damages
Address: 801 E. 86th Avenue
City, State, Zip: Merrillville, IN 46410
Preferred Telephone: 800-884-2684
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:

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

Personal Contact:

Business/Organization Name:

Title (if any)

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Preferred Telephone:

Cell Phone Number:

Email Address:

Utility Line Impact:

Location of Damage:

Address: 3401 S. Packerton Rd.

City, State Zip: Warsaw, IN 46580

Nearest Intersection: County road 400 south

Product Type (circle one):

Natural Gas

Liquid Pipeline

Unknown/Other

Facility Type (circle one):

Distribution

Gathering

Service/Drop

Transmission

Unknown/Other

Size (Diameter/etc.): _____

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): _____

Interruption in Service: Yes / No

Number of Customers Affected: 1

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

Repair Cost (if known): \$ 305.03

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 during Excavation: 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: I have been installing fence and calling in locates for the past 30 years. This is the first time I failed to call in a locate. I went to the property and white lined what needed to be marked. I made an attempt to call 811 and had issues getting through to them on my cell phone. When I got back to the office, I marked it on the board as if I had contacted 811 and completely forgot to try the call again. When the crew got to the location, they seen that I had white lined and did not see any flags or paint markings and assumed we were clear on the lines. You can verify this with my employees and also verify that I have been diligent about calling in all locates before we dig. If you need any more information, please let us know.