



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: **Joel Riffel Contracting**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3722

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 1/16/2013

Damage Date: 9/12/2012

Damage Address: 8088 N Stinesville Rd

City: Stinesville

County: Monroe

### The Parties

Excavator: **Joel Riffel Contracting**

Contact: Joel Riffel

Address: 2229 N County Line Rd E, Gosport, In 47433

Telephone: (812) 879-4153

Facility Owner: Community Natural Gas, Inc.

Contact: Donald Kieffer

Address: 118 N Division Street, Mt Carmel, IL 62863

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

**Investigation regarding: Joel Riffel Contracting**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3722

**Damage Impact**

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$137.34

**Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:**

Excavator request locates: No     Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Trencher

Type of work performed: Water

**Synopsis:** Damage to a natural gas service occurred during excavation to install a water line.

**Findings:** Reported by Community Natural Gas, Inc.; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 1/11/2013. The excavator failed to provide notice of excavation. He reports the property owner is to blame because he said "nothing was in the ground."

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

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



## DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Sep 14, 2012

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### Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Bill Herrington (Community Natural Gas)

Business address (*number and street*): 261 W Clay St.

City, State, and ZIP code: Spencer, IN 47460

Telephone number (*area code*): (812) 829-3505

Fax number (*area code*): (812) 829-4033

E-mail address: commgas@sbcglobal.net

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### Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Joel Riffel Contracting

Business address (*number and street*): 2229 N County Line Rd E

City, State, and ZIP code: Gosport, IN 47433

Telephone number (*area code*): (812) 879-4153

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

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

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### Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Trencher

Type of work performed: Water

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**Date and Location of Damage**

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Sep 12, 2012

County: Monroe

City: Stinesville

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):  
8088 N Stinesville Rd Gosport, IN 47433

Nearest intersection: Hedrick Rd

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? \_\_\_\_\_

Was there a customer service interruption? No

If yes, how many affected? \_\_\_\_\_

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 1

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ 137.34

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**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? 18

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**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? No

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:

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? No

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? No

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### **Description of Cause**

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

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### **Additional Comments**

From Joel Riffel - Case NO. 3722

I was putting in a water line for  
a friend - Bill Duckworth

1398 S Duckworth Rd  
Paragon, Ind. 46166

Ph - 812-327-7685

He said there was not anything in the  
ground. He said to install water line.

He said he would take full responsibility  
for the dig and you could call at. -

812-327-7685

he is the owner at 8088 N Stinesville  
Rd. Stinesville, Monroe County

thanks

Joel Riffel