



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: **Rothenberger Company, Inc.**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3734

Investigator: Mike Orr

Report Date: 1/31/2013

Damage Date: 8/8/2012

Damage Address: 5541 E Bass Center Rd

City: Monticello

County: White

### The Parties

Excavator: **Rothenberger Company, Inc.**

Contact:

Address: 13380 Spring Arbor Rd, Concord, Mi 49237

Telephone: 260-437-6051

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Contact: Kit Earle

Address: 150 W Market Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

**Investigation regarding: Rothenberger Company, Inc.**

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**Damage Impact**

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$

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

Excavator request locates: Yes Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1207243125

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Sewer

**Synopsis:** Damage to a natural gas service occurred during a procedure to install a sewer line.

**Findings:** Reported by NIPSCO; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 11/30/2012. The excavator had a valid locate ticket and the gas operator reports the facility was accurately marked; however, the gas operator reports the facility was damaged with the backhoe bucket.

**Conclusion:** Excavator failed to maintain the required clearance with mechanized equipment.

**Violation: IC 8-1-26-20(b): Failure to plan excavation to avoid damage or interference with underground facilities; 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 28, 2012

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### Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Tommy Buher (NIPSCo)

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

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### Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Rothenberger Company Inc

Business address (*number and street*): 13380 Spring Arbor Rd

City, State, and ZIP code: Concord, MI 49237

Telephone number (*area code*): 260-437-6051

Fax number (*area code*): 517-524-6287

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

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### Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

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**Date and Location of Damage**

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Aug 8, 2012

County: White

City: Monticello

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):  
5541 E Bass Center Rd

Nearest intersection: Pondrosa Rd

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - County Road

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? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 1

Time to restore service (*in hours*): \_\_\_\_\_

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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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? Yes

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: 1207243125

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Yes

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

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? No

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? Unknown/Other

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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**