



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: **Olthoff Company Inc**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4057

Report Date: 03/15/2013

Investigator: Howard Friend

Damage Date: 10/25/2012 9:22:44 AM

Damage Address: S Ash St, Hobart, Lake

### The Parties

Excavator: **Olthoff Company Inc**

Address: 1800 East Joe Orr Road, Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Sewer

### 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: 1210240216

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: From the intersection - locate the road bed of south ash street including 25 feet east and west of the edge of the road - going south for 750 feet

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

**Synopsis:** A natural gas line was damaged during excavation for a sewer line.

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 1/7/2013. The excavator had a valid locate request and the operator provided accurate locate markings. The excavator had the facility exposed and tried to slide a trench box under the facility. The trench box hit the line causing the damage.

**Conclusion:** There was a failure to plan excavation to avoid damage or interference.

**Violation: 8-1-26-20(a)(1) Failure to plan excavation to avoid damage or interference with underground facilities.**



150 West Market Street, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

January 31, 2013

*Via Electronic Transmission – [PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)*

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4057  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4057

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: 10/25/2012

Event Location: S Ash St

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Olthoff Company Inc

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 4057

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](mailto:cearle@nisource.com)

<b>IURC INFORMATION REQUEST</b>	
<b>Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 4057</b>	
Date of Event	10/25/2012
Event Location	S Ash St
Event City	Hobart
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Olthoff Company Inc
Date of IURC Information Request	12/5/2012
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	Olthoft Company Inc
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	1800 East Joe Orr Rd
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Chicago Heights, IL 60411
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	708-758-6540
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	708-878-0653
EMAIL ADDRESS	DALE@OLTHOFFINC.COM
<b>FACILITY INFORMATION - OWNER/OPERATOR OF UTILITY LINE:</b>	
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
<b>LOCATOR SERVICE INFORMATION</b>	
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	Same
EMAIL ADDRESS	<a href="mailto:morganthompson@usicinc.com">morganthompson@usicinc.com</a>
<b>OTHER (WITNESS, POLICE, FIRE, OTHER) INFORMATION</b>	
PERSONAL CONTACT	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	

ADDRESS	
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<b>UTILITY LINE IMPACT</b>	
<b>LOCATION OF DAMAGE</b>	
ADDRESS	1023 S Ash St
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Hobart, IN 46342
NEAREST INTERSECTION	W10th St
<b>PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)</b>	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
<b>FACILITY TYPE (Select One)</b>	
DISTRIBUTION	
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	X
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	5/8"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	N
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	0
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	
<b>CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:</b>	
<b>TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)</b>	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	X
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
<b>TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)</b>	
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	X
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)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y- 1210250676
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1210240216
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	Y
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	Y
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	Y
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	Y
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	N
<b>INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION</b>	
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)	
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS</b>	
<p>Failure to support exposed facilities.  Nipsco emergency repair ticket 1210250783</p>	



**NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:**

Nipsco called to site and made repairs as needed.

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

Contractor on site stated that wall caved in.

**LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:**

N/A

**WERE ANY MARKINGS VISIBLE ON THE DAMAGE SITE UPON ARRIVAL?** Yes

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

**WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS?** Yes

**EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE** Plastic gas line snapped

**REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE** N/A

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

**WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?** N/A

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

**IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)**

NIPSCO 00041 IUPPSa 10/24/2012 08:19:19 1210240216-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1210240216 Date: 10/24/2012 Time: 08:14 Oper: JSMITH Chan:088

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: HOBART  
Cityname: HOBART Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address :

Street : S ASH ST

Cross 1 : W 10TH ST Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: FROM THE INTERSECTION - LOCATE THE ROAD BED OF SOUTH ASH STREET  
INCLUDING 25 FEET EAST AND WEST OF THE EDGE OF THE ROAD - GOING SOUTH FOR 750  
FEET

:

Grids : 4131D8715A 4131C8715A

Boundary: n 41.522385 s 41.518349 w -87.264748 e -87.263260

Work type : INSTALLING SANITARY SEWER

Done for : US ARMY CORE OF ENGINEERS

Start date: 10/26/2012 Time: 08:30 Hours notice: 48/48 Priority: NORM

Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N

Duration : 2 MONTHS Depth: 6 FEET

Company : OLTHOFF COMPANY INC Type: CONT

Co addr : 1800 EAST JOE ORR ROAD

City : CHICAGO HEIGHTS State: IL Zip: 60411

Caller : STEVE FRIELING Phone: (708)758-6540

Contact : STEVE FRIELING--CELL Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (708)878-0653

Fax : (708)758-1087

Email : DALE@OLTHOFFINC.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES

:

Submitted date: 10/24/2012 Time: 08:14

Members: COMCN ID2227 ID3407 ID6121 ID8000 NIPSCO SM

CASE #  
4057

NIPSCO 00208 IUPPSa 10/25/2012 09:22:56 1210250676-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1210250676 Date: 10/25/2012 Time: 09:21 Oper: SPOPE Chan:044

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: HOBART  
Cityname: HOBART Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address :

Street : S ASH ST

Cross 1 : W 10TH ST Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: FROM THE INTERSECTION - LOCATE THE ROAD BED OF SOUTH ASH STREET  
INCLUDING 25 FEET EAST AND WEST OF THE EDGE OF THE ROAD - GOING SOUTH FOR 750  
FEET

:

Grids : 4131D8715A 4131C8715A

Boundary: n 41.522385 s 41.518349 w -87.264748 e -87.263260

Work type : INSTALLING SANITARY SEWER

Done for : US ARMY CORE OF ENGINEERS

Start date: 10/25/2012 Time: 09:21 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER

Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y

Duration : 2 MONTHS Depth: 6 FEET

Company : OLTHOFF COMPANY INC Type: CONT

Co addr : 1800 EAST JOE ORR ROAD

City : CHICAGO HEIGHTS State: IL Zip: 60411

Caller : STEVE FRIELING Phone: (708)758-6540

Contact : STEVE FRIELING--CELL Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (708)878-0653

Fax : (708)758-1087

Email : DALE@OLTHOFFINC.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
NIPSCO GAS LINE HAS BEEN DAMAGED BY COLLAPSING BANK--LINE IS NOT BLOWING--NIPSCO  
AND FIRE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED--LINE WAS CUT IN FRONT OF 1023 S ASH ST--GRAY 1/2  
INCH--CREW ON SITE--PREV TICKET 1210240216--THANK YOU  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES

:

Submitted date: 10/25/2012 Time: 09:21

Members: COMCN ID2227 ID3407 ID6121 ID8000 NIPSCO SM

CASE #  
4057

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

\*\* COMPLETE FORM FOR ALL DAMAGES TO NIPSCO FACILITIES \*\*

REPORTING OPERATING AREA GARY 150 MAXIMO WO # 367615206

OPERATING AREA CONTACT JOB ORDER # 475886

TRACKING NUMBER LOCATE REF #

Locate Performed By:

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 10-25-2012 8:15AM DATE OF REPORT 10/25/12

PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 1023 S. ASH, Hobart

DAMAGE WAS TO:

ELECTRIC - POLE / TRANSFORMER: # SIZE YEAR INSTALLED BROKEN YES ( ) NO ( )

OTHER (DESCRIBE)

GAS: SERVICE ( ) MAIN ( ) SIZE 5/8 MATERIAL: PLASTIC ( ) STEEL ( ) METER ( ) REG STATION ( ) STUB ( )

OTHER (DESCRIBE)

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 24" PRESSURE (PSI) 42 Lbs.

RELEASE OF GAS: YES ( ) NO ( ) IGNITION OF GAS: YES ( ) NO ( ) EVACUATION REQUIRED: YES ( ) # NO ( )

INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE: YES ( ) NO ( ) NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOST: 1

DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 8:00 TIME RESTORED 10:00

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: CUT IN HALF

LOCATE MARKS ON SITE: YES ( ) DISTANCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND LOCATE MARKS NO ( )

HOW LOCATED: PAINT ( ) FLAGS ( ) BOTH ( ) WHITE LINED ( )

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) OLTHOPT INC (708) 878-0653

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY)

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Steve FRIHWIG

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS

WITNESS REMARKS

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE ( ) AGENCY REPORT #

FIRE ( ) AGENCY REPORT #

OTHER ( ) Any Injuries? ( ) YES # ( ) NO

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES ( ) NO ( ) TAKEN BY: (ATTACH PHOTOS TO REPORT)

MEDIA ON SITE YES ( ) NO ( )

WORK IN PROGRESS WHEN FACILITY DAMAGED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- ( ) AGRICULTURE/FARMING ( ) CABLE TV ( ) CURB/SIDEWALK ( ) TELECOMMUNICATIONS
( ) BLDG CONSTRUCTION ( ) DEMOLITION ( ) DRAINAGE ( ) WATER
( ) DRIVEWAY ( ) ELECTRIC ( ) SURVEYING ( ) DRAINS/CULVERTS
( ) FENCING ( ) GRADING ( ) IRRIGATION ( ) MOWING
( ) LANDSCAPING ( ) PIPELINE ( ) MILLING ( ) OTHER
( ) POLE/SIGN POST ( ) ROAD WORK ( ) SEWER

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- ( ) AUGER ( ) HAND TOOLS ( ) BACKHOE/TRACKHOE
( ) MILLING EQUIPMENT ( ) PROBING DEVICE ( ) BORING / DRILLING
( ) EXPLOSIVES ( ) TRENCHER ( ) FARM EQUIPMENT
( ) VACCUUM EQUIPMENT ( ) GRADER ( ) OTHER

REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- ( ) AUTOMOTIVE ACCIDENT ( ) EXCAVATING BEFORE LOCATES DUE ( ) CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR
( ) NO NOTIFICATION ( ) MARKS DISTURBED ( ) STUB ( ) OTHER TRENCH FELL IN

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM



**INFORMATION REQUEST**

State Form 54909 (2-12)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2013

INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Case Number: 4057

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*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.*

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**The Parties**

**Excavator Information:**

Business Name: Olthoff, Inc.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Dale R Olthoff

Title (if any): President

Address (number and street): 1800 East Joe Orr Road

City, State and ZIP Code: Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 708 758 6540

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): 708 878 0652

Email Address: dale@olthoffinc.com

**Facility Information:**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Personal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (number and street): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Locator Service Information:**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Personal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (*if any*): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (*number and street*): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Cause of Damage Information**

**Type of Equipment (*select one*):** Unknown/Other

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

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

Personal Contact: Steven Frieling

Business/Organization Name: Olthoff, Inc.

Title (*if any*): Forman

Address (*number and street*): 1800 East Joe Orr Road

City, State and ZIP Code: Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): 708 878 0653

Email Address: stevef@olthoffinc.com

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**Utility Line Impact**

**Location of Damage:**

Address (*number and street*): 1023 South Ash Street

City, State and ZIP Code: Hobart, IN 46342

Nearest Intersection: 10th Street

**Product Type (*select one*):** Natural Gas

**Facility Type (*select one*):** Service/Drop

**Size (Diameter/etc.):** 1/2 inch ?

**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):** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Release of Product:**      Yes      No

**Ignition and/or Fire:**      Yes      No

**Excavator Notify 811:**      Yes      No

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**Locate Information**

**Excavator Request Locate:**      Yes      No

**Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number:** 1210052486

- 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

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### Additional Information / Comments

We were excavating for a sanitary sewer and we came upon a located gas service at 1023 South Ash Street in Hobart In. We hand dug with shovels and exposed the gas service. The excavator cleaned out under the gas service so we could pull our trench box ahead. As we prepared to pull the trench box the east side of the road collapsed snapping off the gas service.

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT**

Your Pipeline Safety Division Case Number: 4057

Your Full Name: Steven J Frieling

Full Name of Business / Entity (if applicable): Olthoff, Inc

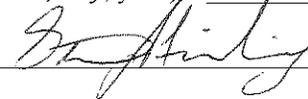
Your Business Title (if applicable): Forman

Address (number and street): 1800 East Joe Orr Road

City: Chicago Heights State: IL ZIP Code: 60411

Your E-mail Address: stevelf@olthoffinc.com

Today's Date (month, day, year): 12-20-12

Your Signature:  Title (if any) Forman

Please return your Narrative Statement to:

**Pipeline Safety Division – Case Number 4057**  
**Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission**  
**101 West Washington Street, 1500E**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Or scan the statement and Email to:

**[PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)**