



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
101 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1500E
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3407

<http://www.in.gov/iurc>
Office: (317) 232-2701
Facsimile: (317) 232-6758

Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Jeff Sampson

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4160

Report Date: 6/19/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 10/5/2012

Damage Address: 6332 W 300 N, Laporte, Laporte

The Parties

Excavator: **Jeff Sampson**

Address: 300 Arthur Street, Suite F, Michigan City, In 46360

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Construction

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: No

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

Synopsis: The excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while performing construction work.

Findings: Reported by Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO); excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 11/30/2012. Excavator informed crew locates were not needed, according to crew statement, resulting in the gas service damage with the backhoe.

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

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



150 West Market Street, Suite 600
Indianapolis, IN 46204

February 4, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4160
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4160

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: 10/5/2012

Event Location: 6332 W 300 N

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Jeff Sampson

Other Party:

Pipeline Division Case No. 4160

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Earle".

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. 4160	
Date of Event	10/5/2012
Event Location	6332 W 300 N
Event City	Laporte
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Jeff Sampson
Date of IURC Information Request	12/5/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Jeff Sampson
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Laporte, IN 46350
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219-379-6262
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	Same
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	6332 W 300 N
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Laporte, IN 46350
NEAREST INTERSECTION	N Goldring Rd
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"
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) (\$)	
CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:	
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	X
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	X
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)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	N
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	N

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	N
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	N
INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION	
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)	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS	
<p>No notification made to the one-call center Nipsco emergency repair ticket 1210052502 Sampson's crew said he stated they didn't need locates</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820121005010

DISTRICT: Northern IN

DAMAGE DATE: 10/5/2012 1:15:00 PM

NOTIFICATION DATE: 10/5/2012 2:23:43 PM

NOTIFIED BY: SHERRY MINKEMA Facility Owner

DAMAGE ADDRESS: 6332 W 300 N

CITY: LAPORTE

ST: IN ZIP:

DAMAGED CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

INVESTIGATION DATE: 10/05/2012

FROM: 14:15:00

TO: 14:30:00

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED: Homeowner

TYPE OF EXCAVATION: Excavation

ORIG. LOCATE REQ.:

START DATE/TIME:

TYPE OF TICKET:

LOCATE REQ. INFO N/A: Yes

DIG UP/DAMAGE REQ.: M66541035

START DATE/TIME:

PICTURES TAKEN BY: John Novak

DATE/TIME: 10/5/2012 2:20:00 PM

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: 01820121005010

SELECT A CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

CUSTOMER #: (optional)

FACILITY DESCRIPTION: LOWPROF FACILITY ID: Gas Service

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #:

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN: Yes

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:

No locates were called in and homeowner was digging in his backyard where he hit his gas service.

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? N/A
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: Oct 24, 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: Jeff Sampson

Business address (*number and street*): _____

City, State, and ZIP code: Laporte, IN

Telephone number (*area code*): 219 379 6262

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Bldg. Construction

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (month, day, year): Oct 5, 2012

County: LaPorte

City: LaPorte

Street address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code):
6332 W 300 N LaPorte, IN

Nearest intersection: N Goldring Road

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? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 1

Time to restore service (in hours): 2

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: Other

If other, please specify: no locates _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"? No

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? No

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? Yes

Description of Cause

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

Additional Comments

911 notified Nipsco of damage

Sampson's crew said he stated they did not need locates

Nipsco emergency repair ticket #: 1210052502

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA LAPORTE MAXIMO WO # _____

OPERATING AREA CONTACT SG WISSER JOB ORDER # 581565-16

TRACKING NUMBER 218-2012-1005-010 LOCATE REF # _____
Locate Performed By: _____

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 10-05-12 2012 1303 M DATE OF REPORT 10-05-12

PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 6332 W. 300 N

DAMAGE WAS TO:
ELECTRIC - POLE / TRANSFORMER: # 218-2012-1005-010 YEAR INSTALLED _____ BROKEN YES () NO ()

OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

GAS: SERVICE MAIN () SIZE 38" MATERIAL: PLASTIC () STEEL () METER () REG STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 16" PRESSURE (PSI) 95 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 1303 TIME RESTORED 1500

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: Swired

LOCATE MARKS ON SITE: YES () DISTANCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND LOCATE MARKS _____ NO ()
HOW LOCATED: PAINT () FLAGS () BOTH () WHITE LINED ()

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) JEFF SAMPSON

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 219-379-6262 LAPORTE

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE _____

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 BASEMENT
- () 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
- () VACUUM 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

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

COMMENTS: WORKERS WANTED LOCATES BUT
JEFF SAMPSON SAID THEY DIDN'T
NEED ANY. ACCORDING TO
WORKERS

PERSON PREPARING REPORT 011450

FIELD SUPERVISOR Steve Georson

FIELD MANAGER John Todd

- ORIGINAL REPORT AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION IS TO BE SENT TO FACILITY DAMAGE RECOVERY
- COPY OF REPORT IS TO BE SENT TO DAMAGE PREVENTION

SKETCH: - Show position of all pertinent information

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

- DID EXCAVATION OCCUR BEFORE LOCATES WERE DUE YES NO
- NO IN 811 LOCATE CALLED IN YES NO NO LOCATES CALLED
- DAMAGE CAUSED FROM EXCAVATION WITHIN 24" ZONE YES NO
- EXPIRED LOCATE YES NO
- WAS WHITE LINING INDICATED ON LOCATE REQUEST YES NO

COMPLETED BY: 011450 DATE: 10-05-12



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Oct 24, 2012

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Full name: Jeff Sampson

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E-mail address: _____

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Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Bldg. Construction

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Oct 5, 2012

County: LaPorte

City: LaPorte

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
6332 W 300 N

Nearest intersection: N Goldring Road

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? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 1

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 2

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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If a contractor locator, enter the company name, if known: _____

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If other, please specify: no locates _____

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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? Yes

Description of Cause

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

Additional Comments

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Sampson's crew said he stated they did not need locates

Nipsco emergency repair ticket #: 1210052502