



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: Elkhart County Highway Department

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4391

Report Date: 3/21/2013

Investigator: Howard Friend

Damage Date: 11/26/2012

Damage Address: 11807 Sandbrooke Dr Lot 26, Millersburg, Elkhart

### The Parties

Excavator: **Elkhart County Highway Department**

Address: 610 Steury Ave, Goshen, In 46528

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Road Work

### Damage Impact

Product Release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: False

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:** A natural gas line was damaged during excavation for road work.

**Findings:** Reported by Tommy Buher (NIPSCO); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 3/6/2013. The excavator failed to provide notice of excavation. The excavator reported the supervisor and the working foreman are no longer employed with the department. The excavator will not be able to provide any information.

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

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



150 West Market Street, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

March 13, 2013

*Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov*

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4391  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4391

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: 11/26/2012

Event Location: 11807 Sandbrooke Dr Lot 26

City: Millersburg

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Elkhart County Highway Department

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 4391

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. 4391</b>	
Date of Event	11/26/2012
Event Location	11807 Sandbrooke Dr Lot 26
Event City	Millersburg
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Elkhart County Highway Department
Date of IURC Information Request	2/13/2013
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	Elkhart County Highway Department
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Rick Robinson
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	610 Steury Avenue
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Goshen, IN 46582
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	574-533-0538
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	office@elkcohw.org
<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	1-317-538-7301
EMAIL ADDRESS	morganthompson@usicinc.com
<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	11807 Sandbrooke Dr Lot 26
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Millersburg, IN 46543
NEAREST INTERSECTION	S Benton 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)	YES
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	NO
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	
Trencher	
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)	YES
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	NO
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	NO
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	

EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	NO
INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N/A
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	N/A
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	NO
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N/A
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	NO
<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>No notification made to the one-call center  NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket# 1211260958</p>	

Facility: Distribution Lines; Folder: N/A; Assigned To: USIC - Company Request

NIPSCO 00317 IUPPSa 11/26/2012 09:52:14 1211260958-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY EMERGENCY

Ticket : 1211260958 Date: 11/26/2012 Time: 09:47 Oper: DWILSON Chan:006

State: IN Cnty: ELKHART Twp: BENTON  
Cityname: MILLERSBURG Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 11807  
Street : SANDBROOKE DR  
Cross 1 : S BENTON ST Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: THIS IS LOT NUMBER 26--LOCATE--ENTIRE PROPERTY--  
:  
Grids : 4130A8541C 4131D8541C  
Boundary: n 41.517597 s 41.516190 w -85.691063 e -85.688194

Work type : REPAIRING GAS LINE  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 11/26/2012 Time: 09:49 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y  
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 8 FEET

Company : NIPSCO Type: MEMB  
Co addr : 801 EAST 86TH AVENUE  
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410  
Caller : MARK DILOSA Phone: (800)322-2806  
Contact : GARY DODGE - CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (574)876-6040

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
CREW EN ROUTE--

Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO  
:

Submitted date: 11/26/2012 Time: 09:47  
Members: ID0252 ID2034 ID2178 ID2708 ID7053 ID9556 NIPSCO ID5857

**Fact Based Investigation Report**

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820121126001

DISTRICT: Northern IN

DAMAGE DATE: 11/26/2012 10:00:00 AM

NOTIFICATION DATE: 11/26/2012 10:03:14 AM

NOTIFIED BY: Mark Excavator

DAMAGE ADDRESS: 11807 Sandbrooke DR

CITY: Millersburg

ST: IN ZIP:

DAMAGED CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

INVESTIGATION DATE: 11/26/2012

FROM: 10:10:00

TO: 10:50:00

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED: ELKHART COUNTY HWY

TYPE OF EXCAVATION: road repair

ORIG. LOCATE REQ: 1207123381

START DATE/TIME: 7/16/2012 4:15:00 PM

TYPE OF TICKET: Routine

LOCATE REQ INFO N/A:

DIG UP/DAMAGE REQ: M71742683

START DATE/TIME: 11/26/2012 10:10:00 AM

PICTURES TAKEN BY: tom pasko

DATE/TIME: 11/26/2012 10:40:00 AM

PHOTOGRAPHY TYPE: Digital

FRAME #:

INVESTIGATOR EMP#: 121650

INVESTIGATOR NAME: tom pasko

BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED? No

**Fact Based Investigation Customer Information**

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820121126001

SELECT A CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

CUSTOMER #: (optional)

FACILITY DESCRIPTION: LOWPROF

FACILITY ID: Gas Service

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #: Rumbaugh Christophe - 132171

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO INVESTIGATION:

Facility Marked Accurately,  
Old Request,  
Relocate Needed

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:

locate 4 months old, 1 gas mark left, mark was right in line

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:  
old locate, mark is good

NAMES OF EXCAVATOR'S REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:  
no

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:  
no

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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 cut pl service

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE 1'

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO? No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS? No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY  
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA 110 MAXIMO WO # \_\_\_\_\_

OPERATING AREA CONTACT Alan Wise JOB ORDER # 546483

TRACKING NUMBER 01820121126001 LOCATE REF # N/A.

Locate Performed By: N/A.

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 11-26 2012 9:20 M DATE OF REPORT 11-26-12

PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 11807 Sandbrook Millersburg

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) 14" PRESSURE (PSI) 50 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 9:20 TIME RESTORED 10:45

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 5/8" 1/2"

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Elkhart County highway dept.

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 610 STEURY AVENUE Goshen, IN 46582

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Rick Robinson

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      | ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) ROAD WORK | ( ) SEWER         |                        |

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- |                       |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| ( ) AUGER             | ( ) HAND TOOLS     | ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) BACKHOE/TRACKHOE |
| ( ) MILLING EQUIPMENT | ( ) PROBING DEVICE | ( ) BORING / DRILLING                                    |
| ( ) EXPLOSIVES        | ( ) TRENCHER       | ( ) FARM EQUIPMENT                                       |
| ( ) VACCUUM EQUIPMENT | ( ) GRADEH         | ( ) OTHER _____  |

REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- |   |                                   |                               |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ( ) AUTOMOTIVE ACCIDENT                                 | ( ) EXCAVATING BEFORE LOCATES DUE | ( ) CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR |
| ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) NO NOTIFICATION | ( ) MARKS DISTURBED               | ( ) STUB ( ) OTHER _____      |

• SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

COMMENTS :

CTM Replaced cut 5/8" service

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

A. Wise

FIELD SUPERVISOR

Joe Cole Larry Doyle

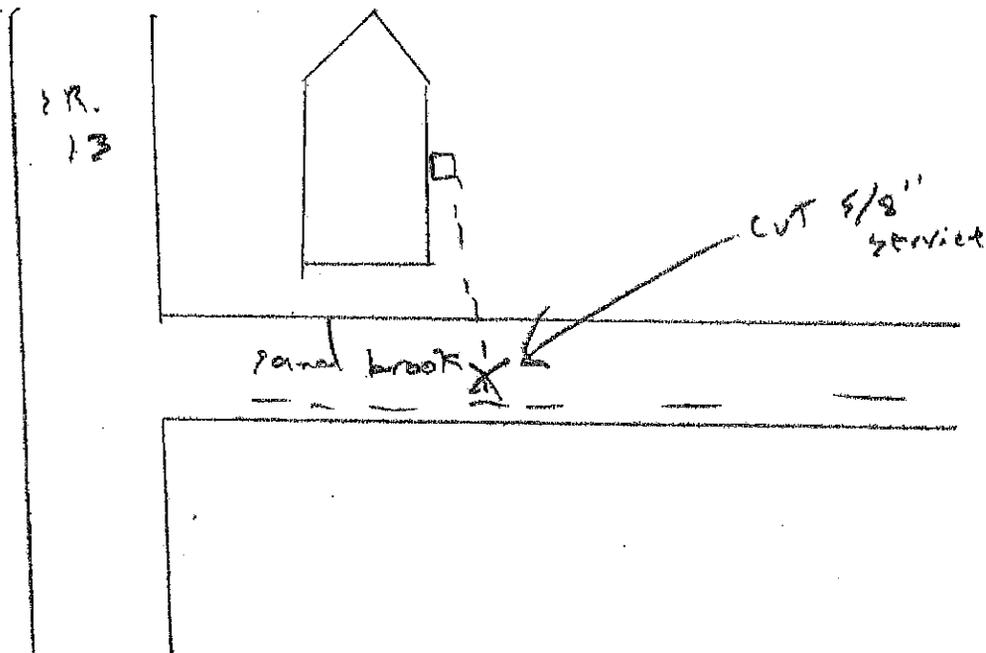
FIELD MANAGER

Leah Gray

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

N ↑

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 |
| • DAMAGE CAUSED FROM EXCAVATION WITHIN 24" ZONE | YES | NO |
| • EXPIRED LOCATE                                | YES | NO |
| • WAS WHITE LINING INDICATED ON LOCATE REQUEST  | YES | NO |

COMPLETED BY:

A. Wise  
M. Sydnor

DATE:

11/26/12



# DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)  
INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Jan 21, 2013

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## Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Tommy Buher

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: Elkhart County Highway Department

Business address (*number and street*): 610 Steury Ave

City, State, and ZIP code: Goshen, IN 46528

Telephone number (*area code*): 574-533-0538

Fax number (*area code*): 574-533-7103

E-mail address: office@elkcohwpy.org

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## Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: County

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Road Work

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**Date and Location of Damage**

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Nov 26, 2012

County: Elkhart

City: Millersburg

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):  
11807 Sandbrooke Dr Lot 26, Millersburg, IN 46543

Nearest intersection: \_\_\_\_\_

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - City Street

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*): 1.5

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: \_\_\_\_\_

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: \_\_\_\_\_

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? 14

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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? 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: USIC \_\_\_\_\_

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? 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: --No notification made to the one-call center

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### Additional Comments

Nipsco emergency repair ticket -- 1211260958



11/26/2012 10:36

Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation  
Photo taken on 11/26/2012 10:36:18 AM



HIGHWAY DIVISION

ADMINISTRATION

February 26, 2013

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4391  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 E  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RECEIVED  
MAR 06 2013  
INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

RE: 11807 Sandbrooke Dr., Lot 26, Millerburg, Indiana

I am in receipt of your letter dated February 14, 2013, regarding a Notice of Preliminary Determination of Violation for a project undertaken by the Elkhart County Highway Department at 11807 Sandbrooke Drive near Millersburg, Indiana, on November 26, 2012.

Both the Area Supervisor overseeing the project, and the Working Foreman assigned to the project are no longer employed by Elkhart County Highway, and therefore we are unable to ascertain details of the matter.

Regards,

Elkhart County Highway