



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Gariup Construction Company, Inc

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4402

Report Date: 3/26/2013

Investigator: Howard Friend

Damage Date: 11/7/2012

Damage Address: Rt 30 & Horse Prairie Ave, Valparaiso, Porter

The Parties

Excavator: **Gariup Construction Company, Inc**

Address: 3965 Harrison, Gary, In 46401

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Drainage

Damage Impact

Product Release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: False

Number of Customers Affected: 0

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$

Excavator Activities/Cause of Damage Information:

Excavator Request Locates: Yes
Date:

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1210172345 - EXPIRED Original Start

Locate Instructions:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

Synopsis: A steel gas main was damaged during excavation for road work.

Findings: Reported by Steve Noffsinger (NIPSCO); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 3/13/2013. The excavator reports that the gas line should have been out of the way of excavation and they did not damage the facility. They report the damage was a crack in the pipe due to excessive heat from a welding operation completed by the operator. The operator reports they found backhoe tooth marks on the facility and that is what caused the crack in the pipe.

Conclusion: The excavator was digging with expired locates by one (1) day when they damaged the pipe.

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



150 West Market Street, Suite 600
Indianapolis, IN 46204

March 13, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4402
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4402

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: 11/7/2012

Event Location: Rt 30 & Horse Prairie Ave

City: Valparaiso

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Gariup Construction

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 4402

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

IURC INFORMATION REQUEST	
Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 4402	
Date of Event	11/7/2012
Event Location	Rt 30 & Horse Prairie Ave
Event City	Valparaiso
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Gariup Construction
Date of IURC Information Request	2/13/2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Gariup Construction
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	John Kucik
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	3965 Harrison
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Gary, IN 46401
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219-545-7160
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	1-317-538-7301
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	Rt 30
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Valparaiso, IN 46385
NEAREST INTERSECTION	Horse Prairie Ave
PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
FACILITY TYPE (Select One)	
DISTRIBUTION	X
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	8
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	NO
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	0
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	NO
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	
Trencher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	
Bldg. Demolition	
Drainage	X
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)	YES
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	NO
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	NO
LOCATE INFORMATION:	

EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	NO
INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	NO
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	NO
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	NO
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	NO
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	NO
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. Digging on expired ticket 1210172345. NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket# 1211071463</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820121107007

DISTRICT: Northern IN

DAMAGE DATE: 11/7/2012 9:30:00 AM

NOTIFICATION DATE: 11/7/2012 1:36:54 PM

NOTIFIED BY: MARCIA KING Facility Owner

DAMAGE ADDRESS: US RT 30 X HORSE PRAIRIE AVE

CITY: VALPARAISO

ST: IN ZIP:

DAMAGED CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

INVESTIGATION DATE: 11/07/2012

FROM: 11:45:00

TO: 12:45:00

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED: GARIUP CONSTRUCTION

TYPE OF EXCAVATION: Rebuild of bridge & river culvert

ORIG. LOCATE REQ.: 1210172345

START DATE/TIME:

TYPE OF TICKET:

LOCATE REQ. INFO N/A:

DIG UP/DAMAGE REQ.: 1211071463

START DATE/TIME: 11/7/2012 11:35:00 AM

PICTURES TAKEN BY: Anita Whitis

DATE/TIME: 11/7/2012 12:00:00 PM

PHOTOGRAPHY TYPE: Digital

FRAME #: 1

INVESTIGATOR EMP#: 117382

INVESTIGATOR NAME: Bob Anderson

BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED? No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820121107007

SELECT A CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

CUSTOMER #: (optional)

FACILITY DESCRIPTION: LOWPROF

FACILITY ID: Gas Main - 6" or greater

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #: Whitis Anita - 131983

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN:

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,
Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative

INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:

This is an 8" gas main that Nipsco had cut out of the way about a month ago for this contractor. The ends on both sides of the river were capped off. The contractor had smelled gas and called Nipsco to investigate. The end of the main on the south side was dug up and Nipsco crews discovered that the cap was damaged and leaking and also there were teeth marks from a backhoe on the bottom of the cap. There were no recent locates called in by the contractor for the west side of the road where the main is located.

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

Rick Smith from Nipsco was on site and stated that sometime between the day when their work was done a few weeks ago and yesterday the contractor most likely hit that end and covered it up again.

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

Crew from Gariup Construction were on site and continued working around damage area.

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? Yes

WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS? Yes

EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE Damaged capped end of main

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE Cut and capped again

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO? No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED? N/A

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS? Yes

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S) Valpo Nipsco Prints

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

NIPSCO 00455 IUPPSa 11/07/2012 11:38:58 1211071463-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1211071463 Date: 11/07/2012 Time: 11:35 Oper: SPOPE Chan:044

State: IN Cnty: PORTER Twp: CENTER
Cityname: VALPARAISO Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address :
Street : US RT 30
Cross 1 : HORSE PRAIRIE AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE 200FT RADIUS OF INTERSECTION
:
Grids : 4127B8703A 4127B8704D
Boundary: n 41.460457 s 41.459175 w -87.067993 e -87.066505

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 11/07/2012 Time: 11:37 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 6 FEET

Company : NIPSCO Type: MEMB
Co addr : 801 EAST 86TH AVENUE
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410
Caller : TANECIA GHOLSTON Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : RICK SMITH--CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)252-4057

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: 11/07/2012 Time: 11:35
Members: COMCN ID3800 ID8000 NIPSCO SM



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Jan 24, 2013

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Steve Noffsinger

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

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Gariup Construction

Business address (*number and street*): 3965 Harrison

City, State, and ZIP code: Gary, IN 46401

Telephone number (*area code*): 219-545-7160

Fax number (*area code*): 219-981-3679

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Drainage

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Nov 7, 2012

County: Porter

City: Valparaiso

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
Rt 30 & Horse Prairie Ave, Valparaiso, IN, 46385

Nearest intersection: Horse Prairie Ave

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? No

If yes, how many affected? 0

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

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: _____

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: _____

Property damage, Estimate \$ _____

Affected Facility Information

What type of pipeline was damaged? Natural Gas

What was the affected facility? Distribution

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 36

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? No

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

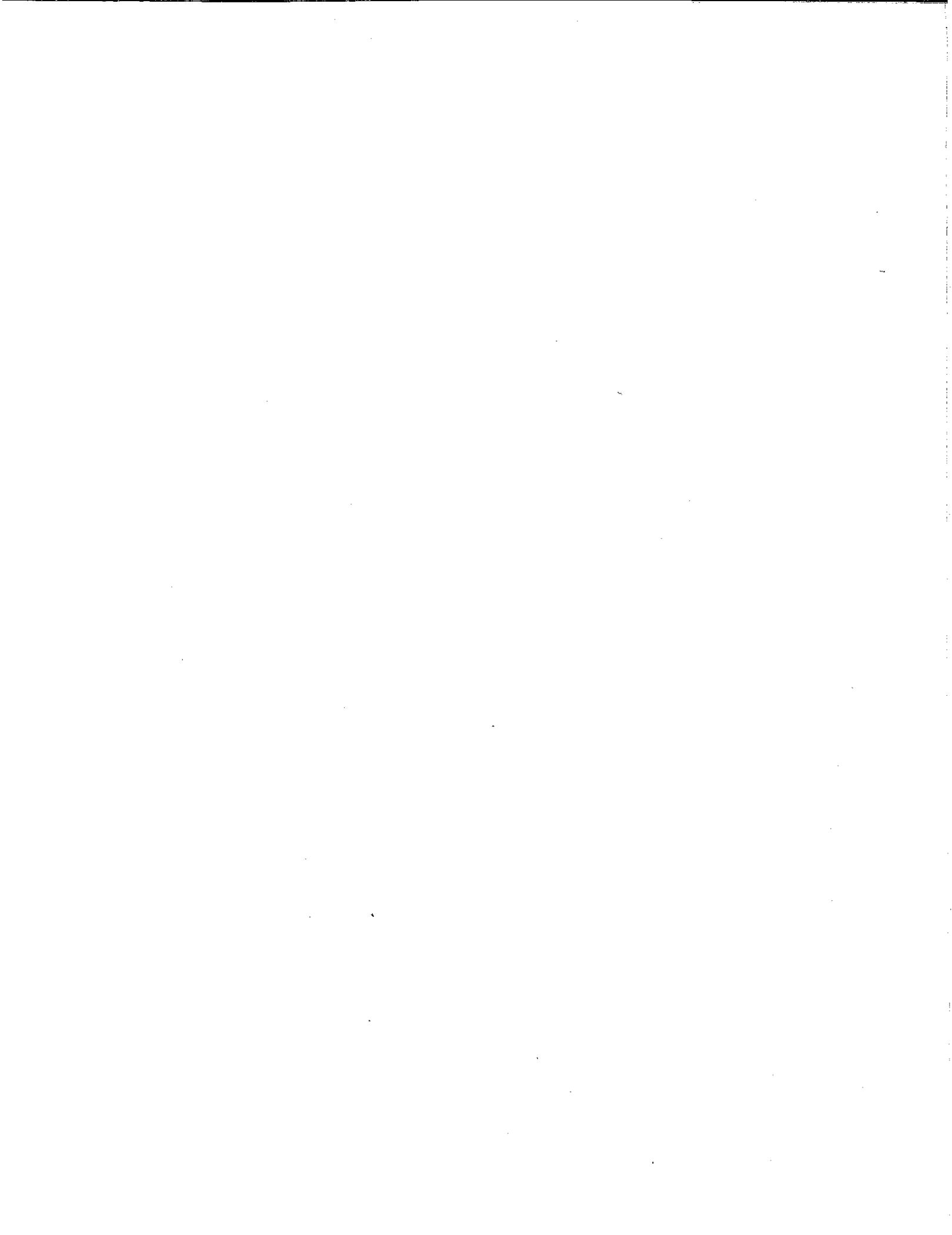
Description of Cause

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

Additional Comments

Nipsco emergency repair ticket 1211071463

1210172345 old locate request no marks on site at time of damage



NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Valpo MAXIMO WO # 20129986205
OPERATING AREA CONTACT Rick Smith JOB ORDER # 580190
TRACKING NUMBER 018-2012-1107-007 LOCATE REF #
Locate Performed By:

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 11-7-2012, 9:42 AM DATE OF REPORT 11-7-12
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) RT30 + Horse Prairie Ave Valparaiso

DAMAGE WAS TO:

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE)

GAS: SERVICE () MAIN X SIZE 8" MATERIAL: PLASTIC () STEEL X METER () REG STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE)

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 3' PRESSURE (PSI) 50 Lbs.

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

INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE: YES () NO X NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOST: 0 8:00pm

DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 09:42 AM TIME SHUT OFF 2000 TIME RESTORED

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 3" crack in main at short stop

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Garlup Construction

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 3950 Harrison St 46408 Gary

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE John Kucik

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS

WITNESS REMARKS

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE () AGENCY REPORT #

FIRE () AGENCY REPORT #

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

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES X NO () TAKEN BY: USIC (ATTACH PHOTOS TO REPORT)
MEDIA ON SITE YES () NO X

WORK IN PROGRESS WHEN FACILITY DAMAGED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

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

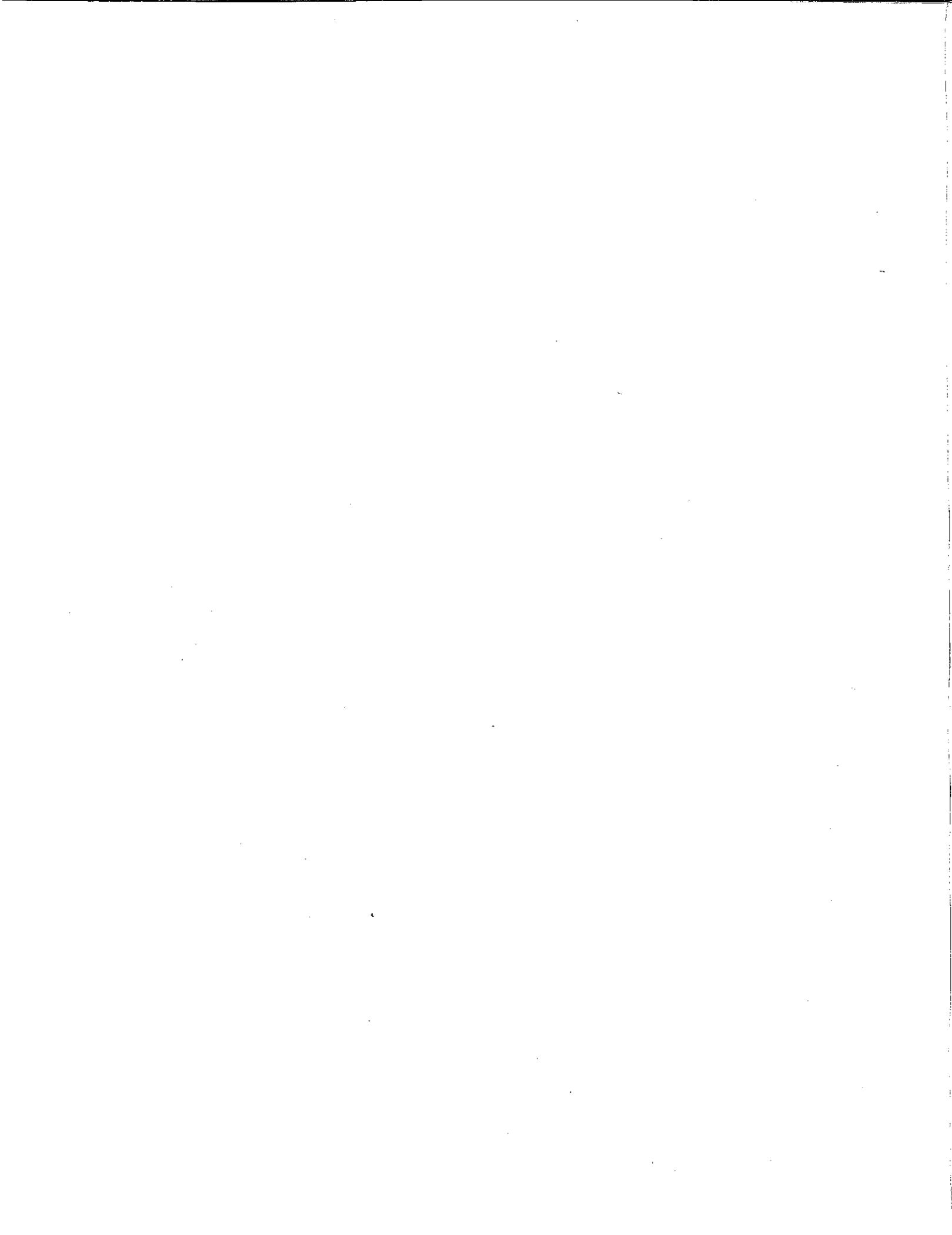
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

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

REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

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

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM



COMMENTS :

Hit cap on 8" main

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

Michael Vocke

FIELD SUPERVISOR

Rick Smith

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

COMPLETED BY: _____

DATE: _____



INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (2-12)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Case Number: 4402

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.

The Parties

Excavator Information:

Business Name: Gariup Construction Company, Inc.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Keith Kegebein

Title (if any): Project Manager

Address (number and street): 3965 Harrison Street

City, State and ZIP Code: Gary, Indiana 46408

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 219-887-5233

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): _____

Email Address: keith.kegebein@gariup.com

Facility Information:

Business Name: NIPSCO

Responsible Party Personal Name: Walter Brach

Title (if any): Not Applicable

Address (number and street): 801 E. 86th Avenue

City, State and ZIP Code: Merrillville, IN 46410

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 800-464-7726

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): Not Applicable

Email Address: Not Applicable

Locator Service Information:

Business Name: Not Applicable

Responsible Party Personal Name: Not Applicable

Title (*if any*): Not Applicable

Address (*number and street*): Not Applicable

City, State and ZIP Code: Not Applicable

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): Not Applicable

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): Not Applicable

Email Address: Not Applicable

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (*select one*): Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed (*select one*): Unknown/Other

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

Personal Contact: Not Applicable

Business/Organization Name: Not Applicable

Title (*if any*): Not Applicable

Address (*number and street*): Not Applicable

City, State and ZIP Code: Not Applicable

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): Not Applicable

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): Not Applicable

Email Address: Not Applicable

Utility Line Impact

Location of Damage:

Address (*number and street*): Rt 30 & Horse Prairie Ave

City, State and ZIP Code: Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

Nearest Intersection: Rt 30 & Horse Prairie Ave

Product Type (*select one*): Natural Gas

Facility Type (*select one*): Unknown/Other

Size (Diameter/etc.): 8"

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): Not Applicable

Interruption in Service: Yes No **Number of Customers Affected:** _____

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

Locate Information

Excavator Request Locate: Yes No

Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number: _____

- 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: none

Number of Inpatient Treated: none

Number of Fatalities: none

Fire Department Response: Yes No

Police Department Response: Yes No

Ambulance Response: Yes No

Additional Information / Comments

Please see the enclosed letter. We did not hit this gas utility line.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Your Pipeline Safety Division Case Number: 4402

Your Full Name: Keith Kegebein

Full Name of Business / Entity (if applicable): Gariup Construction Company, Inc.

Your Business Title (if applicable): Project Manager

Address (number and street): 3965 Harrison Street

City: Gary State: IN ZIP Code: 46408

Your E-mail Address: keith.kegebein@gariup.com

Today's Date (month, day, year): 3/13/2013

Your Signature:  Title (if any) Project Manager

Please return your Narrative Statement to:

Pipeline Safety Division – Case Number 4402
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or scan the statement and Email to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov



Office:	3965 Harrison St.	Gary, IN 46408
Mailing:	P.O. Box #64879	Gary, IN 46401
Phone:	(219) 887-5233	Fax: (219) 981-3679

William Boyd, Director of Pipeline Safety Division
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 W. Washington Street, Suite 1500 E
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3407
Ph: 317-232-2701
Fx: 317-232-6758

Wednesday March 13, 2013

Via –Email

Number of Pages: 1

RE: Notice of Preliminary Determination of Violation, Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 4402

Dear Mr. Boyd,

We are in receipt of your letter dated February 14, 2013 regarding Gariup Construction Case No. 4402 and offer you the following response. Gariup was the General Contractor for the City of Valparaiso on the Sager Run Culvert Replacement Project. On Friday September 21, 2012, an official preconstruction meeting was held with all parties prior to the commencement of construction where a representative from NIPSCO named Walter Brach was present and the relocation of an existing 8" gas main was discussed. This gas main traveled through the location of the new culvert installation. All parties who attended this meeting, including NIPSCO, could view the construction documents and clearly see the limits of construction delineated for Gariup's use in completing its work. These documents **did not** include provisions for NIPSCO to cut and cap this gas line and the documents specifically **did not** indicate NIPSCO cutting and capping this main line within the limits of Gariup's construction operations.

In fact, on Monday September 24, 2012, a company by the name of Infra Source was engaged by NIPSCO to visit the jobsite (before construction operations began by our firm) for the purpose of providing a proposal to NIPSCO to install a new underground boring of this existing gas main deep below the scope of Gariup's work and therefore out of the way of construction operations all together. For some reason which was not shared with Gariup, NIPSCO did not accept the proposal of Infra Source and decided with no communication or input from our firm to cut and cap this dangerous main line unsafely within the construction limits of our project.

On Wednesday November 7, 2012, we smelled a hint of natural gas and immediately contacted NIPSCO and a crew sent shortly thereafter began digging in the area of the natural gas smell. Once the area of the leak was exposed, we found no evidence this pipe was struck by any of our excavation equipment. We did notice, however, that the crack was in the area where NIPSCO completed their capping work. The technique utilized by NIPSCO to perform this cap had no saddle around the main line to reinforce the cap installation. It is evident to Gariup this pipe was significantly weakened both by the sizable cut made to the pipe as well as the high level of heat generated by the extensive welding where the cap piece was installed (see photo attached).

In closing, we speculate that NIPSCO elected to perform this potentially unsafe capping work in lieu of the originally planned and appropriate installation of a deep boring bypass of the main by Infra Source in an effort to save cost for NIPSCO. NIPSCO proceeded to cut and cap this line within the limits of our construction with no consultation with our firm. At a minimum, this line could have been cut and capped further back and outside Gariup's construction limits. Again, we speculate an effort to save cost for NIPSCO. Finally, we noticed an unreinforced and rather unsafe capping technique where if a saddle was used to wrap around the existing pipe, this saddle would have reinforced the pipe in the exact area where it ultimately cracked and failed. We feel that after review of these facts, Gariup should be relieved from any violation, penalty and/or warning.

Sincerely,
GARIUP CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Kegebein", is written over the typed name.

Keith Kegebein
Project Manager

Attachment

NIPSCO FIELD WELD



Hairline Crack
NIPSCO'S 8" Gas Pipe

