



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
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INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3407

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Office: (317) 232-2701  
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## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: Paul Caudill

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4510

Report Date: 8/13/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 10/29/2012

Damage Address: 2100 Peace Tree Village, Rochester, Fulton

### The Parties

Excavator: Paul Caudill

Address: 2100 Peace Tree Village, Rochester, In 46975

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Drainage

### 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: 1210173315

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

**Synopsis:** Excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while performing drainage work.

**Findings:** Reported by Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO); excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 3/27/2013. The excavator failed to maintain required clearance from the gas main with the backhoe.

**Conclusion:** There was a failure to use hand tools where required within the tolerance zone.

**Violation: IC 8-1-26-20(a)(2) 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: Jan 15, 2013

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### Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO)

Business address (*number and street*): 3511 East 15th Avenue

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: Paul Caudill

Business address (*number and street*): 2100 Peace Tree Village

City, State, and ZIP code: Rochester, IN 46975

Telephone number (*area code*): (574) 223-2819

Fax number (*area code*): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Drainage

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**Date and Location of Damage**

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Oct 29, 2012

County: Fulton

City: Rochester

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):  
2100 Peace Tree Village

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

Right of way where damage occurred: Private - Business

Was there a release of product? Yes

If yes, was there an ignition of product? No

Were evacuations necessary as a result of release? Yes

If yes, how many evacuated? \_\_\_\_\_

Was there a customer service interruption? No

If yes, how many affected? \_\_\_\_\_

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 1

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? 16

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**Notification, Locating, Marking**

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? Yes

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: 1210173315

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? Unknown/Other

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?

Were maps used to complete the locate request?

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? Yes

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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**

Emergency Ticket # 1210293305