



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Steuben Co. Hwy. Dept.

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4513

Report Date: 4/26/2013

Investigator: Howard Friend

Damage Date: 1/25/2013

Damage Address: Lane 240 Big Otter Lk, Fremont, Steuben

The Parties

Excavator: **Steuben Co. Hwy. Dept.**

Address: 1900 N 200 W, Angola, In 46703

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

Type of Equipment: Unknown/Other

Type of Work Performed: Traffic Sign

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: No

Indiana 811 Ticket Number:

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

Synopsis: A natural gas line was damaged during installation of a traffic sign.

Findings: Reported by Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 4/4/2013. The operator reported the natural gas line was damaged when a traffic sign was installed without the benefit of a utility locate. The excavator reported they did not have any excavation at this address.

Conclusion: The excavator caused the damage when they installed the traffic sign and did not realize the damage occurred.

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



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Feb 6, 2013

Who is submitting this information?

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

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: Steuben Co. Hwy. Dept.

Business address (*number and street*): 1900 N 200 W

City, State, and ZIP code: Angola, IN 46703

Telephone number (*area code*): 260 668 1000

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: County

Excavation or demolition equipment: Unknown/Other

Type of work performed: Traffic Sign

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Jan 25, 2013

County: Steuben

City: Fremont

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
Lane 240 Big Otter Lk

Nearest intersection: Co. Rd. 150 W

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - County Road

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? _____

Was there a customer service interruption? No

If yes, how many affected? _____

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? 30

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:

If other, please specify: _____

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

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# 1301251490

STEBEN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1900 N 200 W

ANGOLA, IN 46703

(260)668-1000 #3600

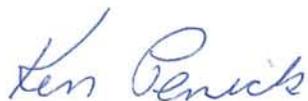
(260) 833-1564 FAX

steubencountyhwy@mchsi.com

April 4, 2013

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission,

This is in response to Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 4513, we received in the mail Tuesday April 2, 2013. We are not the company whom caused this damage. We had no work to be scheduled in that area due to winter season. Please check further with other utilities or private contractors that may have worked in this area.



Ken Penick

Steuben County Highway

Superintendent