



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: Hammond Water Department

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4577

Report Date: 9/16/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 3/25/2013 2:47:16 PM

Damage Address: 7617 Tapper Ave, North, Lake

### The Parties

Excavator: **Hammond Water Department**

Address: 6505 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, In 46320

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Water

### 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  
3/25/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1303251096

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: LOCATE BEHIND THE PROPERTY IN THE ALLEY FROM RIGHT OF WAY TO RIGHT OF WAY

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

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

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 5/13/2013. Excavator had a valid locate ticket; however, the gas operator self reported a failure to provide accurate facility locate markings.

**Conclusion:** There was a failure to provide accurate facility locate markings.

**Violation:** IC 8-1-26-18(f) Operator failed to locate or provided incorrect locate markings.



150 West Market Street, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

May 31, 2013

[Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4577  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4577

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: 3/25/2013  
Event Location: 7617 Tapper Ave  
City: North  
Facility Owner: Nipsco  
Excavator: Hammond Water Department  
Other Party: N/A  
Pipeline Division Case No. 4577

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. 4577</b>	
Date of Event	3/25/2013
Event Location	7617 Tapper Ave
Event City	North
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Hammond Water Department
Date of IURC Information Request	May 1, 2013
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	Hammond Water Department
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	6505 Columbia Avenue
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Hammond / IN / 46320
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	(219)853-6428
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<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	<a href="mailto:LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM">LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM</a>
<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	Same
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	7614 Oakdale Avenue
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Hammond / IN / 46324
NEAREST INTERSECTION	176th Place
<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)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	N
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	
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	
Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)	
Site Development	
Steam	
Storm Drain/Culvert	
Street Light	
Telecommunications	
Traffic Signal	
Traffic Sign	
Water	X
Waterway Improvement	
Unknown/Other	
RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y – 1303251578
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1303251096
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	Y
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	Y
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	Y
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	N
<b>INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION</b>	
NUMBER OF OUTPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF INPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF FATALITIES	0
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	Y
POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
AMBULANCE RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS</b>	
<p>Emergency locate was inaccurate based on leaking water main immediately below service line. Circumstances surrounding this emergency locate made accuracy very difficult and may have warranted hand exposure rather than mechanized equipment under the circumstances.</p> <p>Emergency ticket# 1303251819.</p>	

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

NIPSCO 00340 IUPPSa 03/25/2013 12:11:35 1303251096-00A EMER NEW GRID

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1303251096 Date: 03/25/2013 Time: 12:08 Oper: JSMITH Chan:088

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: NORTH  
Cityname: HAMMOND Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 7617  
Street : TAPPER AVE  
Cross 1 : 176TH PL Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE BEHIND THE PROPERTY IN THE ALLEY FROM RIGHT OF WAY TO RIGHT OF  
WAY  
:  
Grids : 4134B8730C 4134B8730D 4134C8730C 4134C8730D  
Boundary: n 41.576267 s 41.574173 w -87.505856 e -87.503085

Work type : REPAIRING WATER MAIN  
Done for : HAMMOND WATER DEPARTMENT  
Start date: 03/25/2013 Time: 12:09 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y  
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 6 FEET

Company : HAMMOND WATER DEPARTMENT Type: MEMB  
Co addr : 6505 COLUMBIA AVENUE  
City : HAMMOND State: IN Zip: 46320  
Caller : CASEY FARRELL Phone: (219)853-6428  
Contact : CASEY FARRELL--OFFICE Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)853-6428  
Fax : (219)931-0648

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
CREW IS EN ROUTE  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES  
:

Submitted date: 03/25/2013 Time: 12:08  
Members: COMCN IB ID6405 ID6428 NIPSCO SM

Facility: Transmission Lines; Folder: N/A; Assigned To: N/A

NIPSCO 00512 IUPPSa 03/25/2013 14:47:18 1303251578-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1303251578 Date: 03/25/2013 Time: 14:46 Oper: BBASTIN Chan:045

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: NORTH  
Cityname: HAMMOND Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 7617  
Street : TAPPER AVE  
Cross 1 : 176TH PL Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE BEHIND THE PROPERTY IN THE ALLEY FROM RIGHT OF WAY TO RIGHT OF  
WAY  
:  
Grids : 4134B8730C 4134B8730D 4134C8730C 4134C8730D  
Boundary: n 41.576267 s 41.574173 w -87.505856 e -87.503085

Work type : REPAIRING WATER MAIN  
Done for : HAMMOND WATER DEPARTMENT  
Start date: 03/25/2013 Time: 14:46 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y  
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 6 FEET

Company : HAMMOND WATER DEPARTMENT Type: MEMB  
Co addr : 6505 COLUMBIA AVENUE  
City : HAMMOND State: IN Zip: 46320  
Caller : LINDA STRUSIC Phone: (219)853-6428  
Contact : CASEY FARRELL--OFFICE Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)853-6428  
Fax : (219)931-0648

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
A NIPSCO GAS LINE HAS BEEN CUT--NOT BLOWING BUT LEAKING--LINE WAS HIT IN  
ALLEY--SIZE COLOR MATERIAL UNKNOWN--NIPSCO HAS BEEN NOTIFIED--911 ALSO HAS BEEN  
NOTIFIED--CREW IS ON SITE--PREV TICKET NUMBER 1303251096  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES

:

Submitted date: 03/25/2013 Time: 14:46  
Members: COMCN IB ID6405 ID6428 NIPSCO SM

Facility: Transmission Lines; Folder: N/A; Assigned To: N/A

NIPSCO 00592 IUPPSa 03/25/2013 16:40:11 1303251819-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1303251819 Date: 03/25/2013 Time: 16:37 Oper: CWATSON Chan:052

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: NORTH  
Cityname: HAMMOND Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 7614  
Street : OAKDALE AVE  
Cross 1 : 175TH ST Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY  
:  
Grids : 4134B8730C 4134B8730D 4134C8730C 4134C8730D  
Boundary: n 41.577975 s 41.573996 w -87.504544 e -87.503073

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 03/25/2013 Time: 16:38 Hours notice: 0/000 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 E 86TH AVE  
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410  
Caller : TANISHA GOLDSTEN Phone: (800)322-2806  
Contact : MATT GRAY CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)314-2967

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
CREW ON SITE  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO  
:

Submitted date: 03/25/2013 Time: 16:37  
Members: COMCN IB ID6405 ID6428 NIPSCO SM

# NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

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

OPERATING AREA CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ JOB ORDER # 583057

TRACKING NUMBER 01820130305606 LOCATE REF # \_\_\_\_\_

Locate Performed By: WSTC

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 3-25-2013 12:41 M DATE OF REPORT 3-25-13

PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 7614 Oakdale Ave (Alley) Hammond

DAMAGE WAS TO: **ELECTRIC - POLE / TRANSFORMER:** # \_\_\_\_\_ SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR INSTALLED \_\_\_\_\_ BROKEN YES ( ) NO ( )

OTHER (DESCRIBE) \_\_\_\_\_

**GAS:** SERVICE  MAIN ( ) SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ MATERIAL:  PLASTIC  STEEL ( ) METER ( ) REG STATION ( ) STUB ( )  
OTHER (DESCRIBE) \_\_\_\_\_

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 16" PRESSURE (PSI) 43 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 \* WATER MAIN LEAK

DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 2:00PM TIME RESTORED 2:00PM \* IN PROGRESS

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: SEVERED

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) CITY of Hammond White Dept.

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) \_\_\_\_\_

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

- |  |                                     |  |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE/FARMING | <input type="checkbox"/> CABLE TV   | <input type="checkbox"/> CURB/SIDEWALK | <input type="checkbox"/> TELECOMMUNICATIONS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BLDG CONSTRUCTION   | <input type="checkbox"/> DEMOLITION | <input type="checkbox"/> DRAINAGE      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WATER   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DRIVEWAY            | <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRIC   | <input type="checkbox"/> SURVEYING     | <input type="checkbox"/> DRAINS/CULVERTS    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FENCING             | <input type="checkbox"/> GRADING    | <input type="checkbox"/> IRRIGATION    | <input type="checkbox"/> MOWING             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPING         | <input type="checkbox"/> PIPELINE   | <input type="checkbox"/> MILLING       | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> POLE/SIGN POST      | <input type="checkbox"/> ROAD WORK  | <input type="checkbox"/> SEWER         |   |

**TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED -** CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

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

**REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED -** CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOTIVE ACCIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> EXCAVATING BEFORE LOCATES DUE | <input type="checkbox"/> CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO NOTIFICATION     | <input type="checkbox"/> MARKS DISTURBED               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER <u>MISLEAD GATE D</u> |

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

Fact Based Investigation Report

**Notification ID** 01820130325005  
**Damage Date** 03/25/2013 14:48  
**Notified By** LINDA  
STRUSIC ()  
**Damage Address** 7617 TAPPER  
AVE  
HAMMOND, IN  
**District** Northern Indiana  
**Notification Date** 03/25/2013 14:50

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**Damaged Customer** NIPSCO

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**Investigation Date From** 03/25/2013 15:25:00 **To** 03/25/2013 16:30:00

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**Excavator Involved** HAMMOND WATER DEPARTMENT

**Type of Excavation** water main repair

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**Orig. Locate Request** 1303251096 **Start Date** 03/25/2013 12:15

**Type of Ticket** Emergency **Locate Req. Info** N/A

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**Damage Request #** 1303251578 **Start Date** 03/25/2013 15:25

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**Pictures Taken By** Tony Wesley **Date** 03/25/2013 15:25

**Photography Type** Digital **Frame #**

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**Investigator Emp. #** 134728 **Investigator Name** Tony Wesley

**Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed?** No

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 Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

**Facility Description** Low Profile **Facility ID** service - 5/8"

**Locator Name & EMP #** Garcia Jr Guillermo - 131985 **Locator Not Known**

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**Investigation Findings**

Other

**Other Notes**

marks were off

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**Investigation Methods**

Investigator Verified Existing Marks By Hooking Up

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

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**Investigator Statement/Causal Factors**

The gas service from 7614 Oakdale street got hit while repairing the water main break. The break occurred right under the service. The flowing water caused bleed over resulting in a bad locate. The line was mismarked, However under the conditions the signal distorted. The locator marked the spot that gave the best signal. Upon investigation we were able to tone the service after the water was shut off. I also got a signal where locator marked the service originally (that was incorrect). Since the water main break was directly under the gas service I don't see how the locator could have done anything differently in his original locate. Mark was approximately 4-5 feet off near a steel water 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

**Other individuals on site**

n/a

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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?** No

**Was the excavation within the tolerance zone of marks?** No

**Extent of facility damage** Cut out service line

**Replacement Footage** 10'

**Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?** No

**What contractor equipment was used?**

**Is the facility shown on the utility records?** No

**If yes, list record numbers**



Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation  
Photo taken on 3/25/2013 3:26:38 PM





150 West Market Street, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

September 3, 2013

[Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4577  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Notification of Possible Violations; Pipeline Division Case No. 4577  
Date of Event: 3/25/2013  
Event Location: 7617 Tapper Ave  
Excavator: Hammond Water Department  
Other Party: N/A

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter responds to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, Division of Pipeline Safety, Notification of Possible Violations for Case No. 4577 (as detailed above) identifying potential violations of Indiana law dated August 5, 2013. NIPSCO has not identified any additional information related to this incident not already provided in its May 31, 2013 response.

NIPSCO requests that the UPPAC consider whether the provisions of Ind. Code § 8-1-26-18(f) are appropriately applied in this situation. While acknowledging that the facility in question was not accurately marked, the facility was directly above a leaking water main that impacted the ability of the equipment to properly function. It is NIPSCO's position that every instance where a facility is damaged does not necessarily warrant a determination that the statute was violated, and asks that the UPPAC consider the circumstances in making its determination.

If there are any additional questions, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Earle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christopher" and last name "Earle" clearly distinguishable.

Christopher C. (Kit) Earle  
NiSource Corporate Services - Legal  
Phone: 317-684-4904  
Fax: 317-684-4918  
Email: [cearle@nisource.com](mailto:cearle@nisource.com)



# Hammond Water Works Department

BUSINESS OFFICE  
6505 COLUMBIA AVENUE  
HAMMOND, INDIANA 46320-2554  
TELEPHONE: (219) 853-6421  
FAX: (219) 853-6554

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sharon Daniels  
Chester Smithers  
Bernard Grisolia  
Paul Walker  
Heather Garay

## MAYOR

Thomas M. McDermott, Jr.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OPERATOR

Edward Krusa

## ATTORNEY

Tim Ormes

May 7, 2013

William Boyd, Program Manager  
Indiana Regulatory Commission  
101 W. Washington Street, Suite 1500B  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3407

**RECEIVED**  
**MAY 13 2013**  
**INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

RE: Notice of Preliminary Determination of Violation  
Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 4577

Date of Event: 3/25/2013  
Event Location: 7617 Tapper Ave. North Lake County  
Excavator: Hammond Water Works Department  
Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Dear Mr. Boyd:

On behalf of the Hammond Water Works Department I'm writing this letter to inform you that the hit gas line on March 25, 2013 was miss marked by over 4 feet by the NIPSCO locate company.

Notice of Excavation Ticket Number: 1303251096

White Lining Prior to Excavation: March 25, 2013 Emergency

Clearance from marked gas line: 4' from edge of excavation to marked gas line.

The gas line marked by NIPSCO locate service was over 4' off pictures attached.

On March 25 there was a leak that occurred in the alley on the private water service line to 7617 Tapper Ave. in Hammond Indiana. It was determined by the General Foreman Casey Farrell of the Hammond Water Works Department that the leak was causing a potential danger do to freezing and had to be corrected immediately. Emergency locates were requested, IUPPS. The potential exaction area was marked in white paint. After all locates were completed the Hammond Water Works Department proceeded to excavate the area of the leak. There were no underground facilities marked within four



feet of the excavation area. As the excavation was being performed the gas service line to 7614 Oakdale Ave. in Hammond, IN was hit and started to leak. The line was miss marked by the NIPSCO locate service by over 5 feet. It was clearly out of the 2 foot range.

Attached are photos of the excavation and the marked gas line. If you have any question please feel free to contact me at 219-853-6429.

Sincerely,

Stanley R. Zatorski, Distribution Superintendent  
Hammond Water Works Department.



**Gas line mismarked n yellow.**

**The water line excavation (marked in blue) was more than four feet to the North of where the gas line was marked.**



**No gas line marked in or near the area of excavation.**