



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Town Of Huntertown

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4618

Report Date: 7/24/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 4/9/2013 3:48:04 PM

Damage Address: 15024 Ashville Ct, Perry, Allen

The Parties

Excavator: **Town Of Huntertown**

Address: 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, In 46748

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Probing Device

Type of Work Performed: Sewer

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: No

Indiana 811 Ticket Number:

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: LOCATE THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

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

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 5/28/2013. The excavator was probing for the sewer when the probe rod struck and damaged the gas service line; however, no request for a locate was made prior to the probing.

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

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



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. 4618
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4618

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: 4/9/2013
Event Location: 15024 Ashville Ct
City: Perry
Facility Owner: Nipsco
Excavator: Town Of Huntertown
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 4618

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. 4618	
Date of Event	4/9/2013
Event Location	15024 Ashville Ct
Event City	Perry
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Town Of Huntertown
Date of IURC Information Request	May 1, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Town of Huntertown
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	15617 Lima Road
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Huntertown / IN / 46748
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	(260)637-5058
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	TOMGONGWER@GMAIL.COM
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	Same
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	15024 Ashville Court
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Huntertown / IN / 46748
NEAREST INTERSECTION	Hedgebrook Drive
PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
FACILITY TYPE (Select One)	
DISTRIBUTION	
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	X
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	3/4"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	25
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	N
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	
CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:	
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	X

Trencher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
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 – 1304093466
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	N

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	N/A
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	Y
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	N
INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION	
NUMBER OF OUTPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF INPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF FATALITIES	0
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
AMBULANCE RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS	
<p>No notification made to the one-call center.</p> <p>Emergency ticket# 1304093651.</p>	

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Angola MAXIMO WO # 721479
OPERATING AREA CONTACT Joe Thomas JOB ORDER # 589740
TRACKING NUMBER 018 2013 0409 012 LOCATE REF # None
Locate Performed By: _____

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 4-9 2013 3:30 P DATE OF REPORT 4-9-13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 15024 Ashville Ct Huntertown

DAMAGE WAS TO:

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

GAS: SERVICE MAIN () SIZE 3/4" MATERIAL: PLASTIC STEEL () METER () REG-STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 26" PRESSURE (PSI) 25 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 3:28 PM TIME SHUT OFF 4:15 PM TIME RESTORED 6:40 PM

DIAMETER MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 1/4" Both Sides

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Huntertown Water Dept

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) Huntertown Ind

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: 42/239 (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 type="checkbox"/> BACKHOE/TRACKHOE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MILLING EQUIPMENT | <input checked="" 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"/> VACUUM EQUIPMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> GRADER | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____ |

REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> STUB () OTHER _____ |

COMMENTS: Probe red thru service

PERSON PREPARING REPORT S. Landes

FIELD SUPERVISOR J. Thomas

FIELD MANAGER Joe Thomas

- 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: _____

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

NIPSCO 01115 IUPPSa 04/09/2013 15:52:03 1304093466-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1304093466 Date: 04/09/2013 Time: 15:38 Oper: SHARRIS Chan:017

State: IN Cnty: ALLEN Twp: PERRY
Cityname: HUNTERTOWN Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision: HIDDEN OAK

Address : 15024
Street : ASHVILLE CT
Cross 1 : HEDGEBROOK DR Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE
:
Grids : 4113C8509A 4113C8509B
Boundary: n 41.222402 s 41.220837 w -85.163049 e -85.161480

Work type : REPAIR SEWER/CLEAN OUT
Done for : PROPERTY OWNER
Start date: 04/09/2013 Time: 15:47 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: UNKNOWN

Company : TOWN OF HUNTERTOWN Type: MEMB
Co addr : 15617 LIMA ROAD
City : HUNTERTOWN State: IN Zip: 46748
Caller : KAREN GRUNSTAD Phone: (260)637-5058
Contact : KAREN GRUNSTAD - OFFICE Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (260)637-5058
Fax : (260)637-5891
Email : TOMGONGWER@GMAIL.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
A NIPSCO LINE HAS BEEN HIT IN THE FRONT OF THE PROPERTY - GAS LINE IS BLOWING -
GAS CAN BE HEARD - UNKOWN OF SMELL - SIZE COLOR AND MATERIAL UNKNOWN - NIPSCO
HAS BEEN CONTACTED - ADVISED TO CALL 911 - CREW ON SITE - NO PREVIOUS TICKET
NUMBER

Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES
:

Submitted date: 04/09/2013 Time: 15:38
Members: AEPIN CC ID5058 ID8000 NIPSCO SM

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

NIPSCO 01186 IUPPSa 04/09/2013 16:40:02 1304093651-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1304093651 Date: 04/09/2013 Time: 16:37 Oper: AGRIGGS Chan:074

State: IN Cnty: ALLEN Twp: PERRY
Cityname: HUNTERTOWN Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 15024
Street : ASHVILLE CT
Cross 1 : HEDGEBROOK DR Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4113C8509A 4113C8509B
Boundary: n 41.222402 s 41.220837 w -85.163049 e -85.161480

Work type : GAS LINE REPAIR
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 04/09/2013 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 EAST 86TH AVENUE
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410
Caller : TENNILLE FORD Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : JOE THOMAS - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (260)908-3413
Fax : (219)647-4764

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: 04/09/2013 Time: 16:37
Members: AEPIN CC ID5058 ID8000 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130409012
Damage Date 04/09/2013 16:40
Notified By Tennille Ford (Facility Owner)
Damage Address 15024 Ashville Ct x Hedgebrook Dr (Allen Cty)
Huntertown, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 04/09/2013 16:45

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 04/09/2013 00:00:00 **To** 04/09/2013 00:05:00

Excavator Involved TOWN OF HUNTERTOWN

Type of Excavation repair sewer

Orig. Locate Request none **Start Date**
Type of Ticket **Locate Req. Info** N/A Yes

Damage Request # **Start Date**

Pictures Taken By chris rumbaugh **Date** 04/09/2013 00:05

Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 132171 **Investigator Name** chris rumbaugh

Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed? No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

Facility Description Low Profile **Facility ID** service

Locator Name & EMP # - **Locator Not Known** Yes

Investigation Findings

No Locate Req. By Contractor

Other Notes

Investigation Methods

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors

no locate called in for work, contractor called in ticket after they hit gas line. ticket not due untill thursday dup of C2 01820130409010

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

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? No

Extent of facility damage	cut svc
Replacement Footage	n/a
Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?	No
What contractor equipment was used?	ukn
Is the facility shown on the utility records?	No
If yes, list record numbers	nipsco



Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation

Photo taken on 4/9/2013 4:24:02 PM



INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (R/3-13)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Case Number: 4618

Date of Damage (month, day, year): 4/9/2013

Location of Damage:

Address (number and street): 15024 Ashville Ct.

City, State and ZIP Code: Huntertown, Indiana 46748

Nearest Intersection: Ashville Drive

Excavator Information:

Business Name: Town of Huntertown

Responsible Party Personal Name: Tom Gongwer

Title (if any): Superintendent of Utilities

Address (number and street): 15617 Lima Road

City, State and ZIP Code: Huntertown, Indiana 46748

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 260-438-4984

Email Address: tomgongwer@gmail.com

Utility Information:

Utility Name: Huntertown Utilities

Contact Person: Tom Gongwer

Title (if any): Superintendent of Utilities

E-mail: tomgongwer@gmail.com

Additional Information / Comments

The Town of Huntertown had a report of a sewer issue at 15024 Ashville Ct. The sewer structure was not at grade level and a town employee was attempting to locate it with a probe when he damaged the gas service to the home. We had not called in a locate prior to probing. An emergency locate was called in after the damage occurred. When the phone call regarding the sewer issue came in to our office we responded at that time. To address the problem in a timely manner we didn't have time to wait 48 hours for a normal locate to be completed and it didn't meet the terms of an emergency locate. In the future we will take steps necessary to make sure that we don't have any occurrences of this nature.

Printed Name: Tom Gongwer
Signature: Tom Gongwer Date (month, day, year): 5/28/2013

**If submitting this form electronically, typing your name in the signature box will act as an electronic signature.*

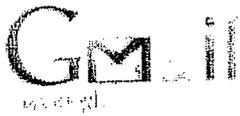
Please return completed form to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Or mail to:

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
Pipeline Safety Division - Case Number 4618
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or fax to:
317-233-2410



Tom Gongwer <tomgongwer@gmail.com>

IUPPS ID5058 2013/04/09 #00012 1304093466-00A EMER DAMG

1 message

Tue, Apr 9, 2013 at 3:48 PM

irth@iupps.org <irth@iupps.org>
To: tomgongwer@gmail.com

ID5058 00012 IUPPSa 04/09/2013 15:48:15 1304093466-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1304093466 Date: 04/09/2013 Time: 15:38 Oper: SHARRIS Chan:017

State: IN Cnty: ALLEN Twp: PERRY
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Co addr : 15617 LIMA ROAD
City : HUNTERTOWN State: IN Zip: 46748
Caller : KAREN GRUNSTAD Phone: (260)637-5058
Contact : KAREN GRUNSTAD - OFFICE Phone:
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HAS BEEN CONTACTED - ADVISED TO CALL 911 - CREW ON SITE - NO PREVIOUS TICKET
NUMBER

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Submitted date: 04/09/2013 Time: 15:38
Members: AEPIN CC ID5058 ID8000 NIPSCO SM