



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Eric Swartz

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4650

Report Date: 8/19/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 4/20/2013 6:07:28 PM

Damage Address: 325 Madison, Tippecanoe, Kosciusko

The Parties

Excavator: Eric Swartz

Address: Po Box 27, North Webster, In 46555

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of Work Performed: Fencing

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
4/24/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1304200442

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: LOCATE ENTIRE REAR OF THE PROPERTY

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

Synopsis: Excavator/occupant struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while performing fencing work.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator/occupant did not respond to initial notice was received on 5/1/2013. Excavator/occupant failed to provide notice of excavation prior to beginning work.

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. 4650
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4650

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: 4/20/2013
Event Location: 325 Madison
City: Tippecanoe
Facility Owner: Nipsco
Excavator: Eric Swartz
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 4650

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. 4650	
Date of Event	4/20/2013
Event Location	325 Madison
Event City	Tippecanoe
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Eric Swartz
Date of IURC Information Request	May 1, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Eric Swartz
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	PO Box 27
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	North Webster / IN / 46555
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	(260)503-9004
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	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	325 Madison
CITY/STATE/ZIP	North Webster / IN / 46555
NEAREST INTERSECTION	East Street
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.)	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) (\$)	
CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:	
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	X
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	
Driveway	
Electric	
Engineering/Surveying	
Fencing	X
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)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y – 1304200445
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)	N
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)	Y
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# 1304200451.</p>	

NIPSCO 00150 IUPPSa 04/20/2013 18:06:59 1304200442-00A NORM NEW STRT

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1304200442 Date: 04/20/2013 Time: 17:55 Oper: BMORRIS Chan:016

State: IN Cnty: KOSCIUSKO Twp: TIPPECANOE
Cityname: NORTH WEBSTER Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 325
Street : MADISON
Cross 1 : EAST ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE REAR OF THE PROPERTY

:
Grids : 4119B8541A 4119B8541B
Boundary: n 41.326981 s 41.325867 w -85.695958 e -85.693928

Work type : INSTALLING A FENCE
Done for : ERIC SWARTZ
Start date: 04/24/2013 Time: 07:00 Hours notice: 85/048 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 2 HOURS Depth: 2 FOOT

Company : ERIC SWARTZ Type: HOME
Co addr : PO BOX 27
City : NORTH WEBSTER State: IN Zip: 46555
Caller : ERIC SWARTZ Phone: (260)503-9004
Contact : NO Phone:
BestTime:

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

Submitted date: 04/20/2013 Time: 17:55
Members: ID2034 ID2182 ID5857 ID7634 NIPSCO SM

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Goshen MAXIMO WO #
OPERATING AREA CONTACT Joe Cole JOB ORDER # 547549
TRACKING NUMBER 018 2013 0420 002 LOCATE REF # 130 420 0451
Locate Performed By: VSIC

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 5:50pm 4-20 2013, 1750 M DATE OF REPORT 4-20-13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 325 E Madison st North Webster

DAMAGE WAS TO:
ELECTRIC - POLE / TRANSFORMER: # N/A SIZE N/A YEAR INSTALLED N/A BROKEN YES () NO ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE) N/A

GAS: SERVICE () MAIN () SIZE 5/8 MATERIAL: PLASTIC X STEEL () METER () REG STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE)

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 18 PRESSURE (PSI) 43 Lbs.

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

INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE: YES X NO () NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOST: 1

DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 5:50pm TIME RESTORED 8:30pm

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 1"

LOCATE MARKS ON SITE: YES () DISTANCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND LOCATE MARKS NOT
HOW LOCATED: PAINT () FLAGS () BOTH () WHITE LINED ()

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Erik Swartz

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 325 E Madison st North Webster

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Erik Swartz

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS N/A

WITNESS REMARKS N/A

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE () AGENCY N/A REPORT # N/A

FIRE X AGENCY North Webster REPORT #

OTHER () N/A Any Injuries? () YES # NO X

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES () NO X TAKEN BY: N/A (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 () DRAINAGE () WATER
() DRIVEWAY () ELECTRIC () SURVEYING () DRAINS/CULVERTS
X FENCING () GRADING () IRRIGATION () MOWING
() LANDSCAPING () PIPELINE () MILLING () OTHER
() POLE/SIGN POST () ROAD WORK () SEWER

- TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW
() AUGER X HAND TOOLS () BACKHOE/TRACKHOE
() MILLING EQUIPMENT () PROBING DEVICE () BORING / DRILLING
() EXPLOSIVES () TRENCHER () FARM EQUIPMENT
() VACCUUM EQUIPMENT () GRADER () OTHER

- REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW
() AUTOMOTIVE ACCIDENT () EXCAVATING BEFORE LOCATES DUE () CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR
X NO NOTIFICATION () MARKS DISTURBED () STUB () OTHER

COMMENTS :

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

Scott McDonald

FIELD SUPERVISOR

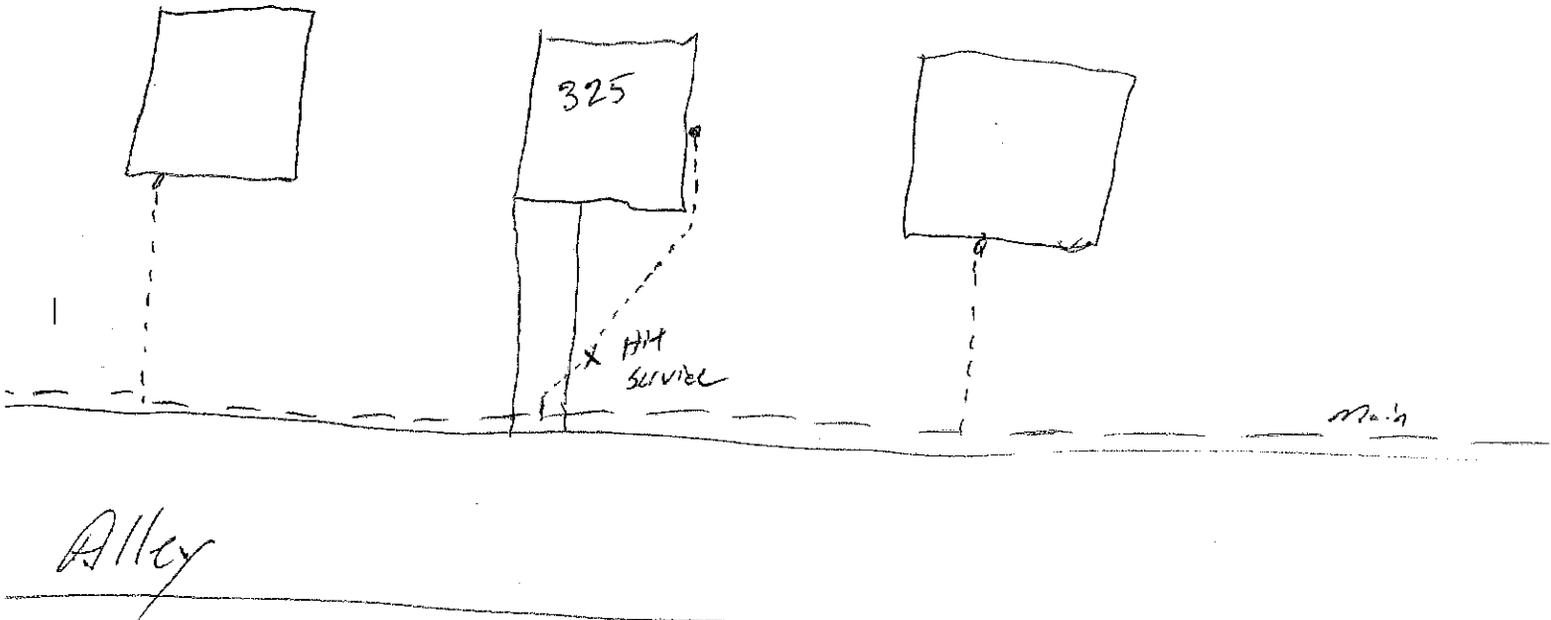
Joe Cole

FIELD MANAGER

Randy Down

- 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: Distribution Lines; Folder: On-Hold folder; Assigned To: N/A

NIPSCO 00151 IUPPSa 04/20/2013 18:07:31 1304200445-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1304200445 Date: 04/20/2013 Time: 18:03 Oper: BMORRIS Chan:016

State: IN Cnty: KOSCIUSKO Twp: TIPPECANOE
Cityname: NORTH WEBSTER Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 325
Street : MADISON
Cross 1 : EAST ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE REAR OF THE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4119B8541A 4119B8541B
Boundary: n 41.326981 s 41.325867 w -85.695958 e -85.693928

Work type : INSTALLING A FENCE
Done for : ERIC SWARTZ
Start date: 04/20/2013 Time: 18:04 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 2 HOURS Depth: 2 FOOT

Company : ERIC SWARTZ Type: HOME
Co addr : PO BOX 27
City : NORTH WEBSTER State: IN Zip: 46555
Caller : ERIC SWARTZ Phone: (260)503-9004
Contact : NO Phone:
BestTime:

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
NIPSCO GAS LINE HAS BEEN CUT IN THE REAR OF THE PROPERTY NEAR THE DRIVEWAY - GAS
LINE IS STILL BLOWING - UNSURE THE SIZE/COLOR/MATERIAL OF THE LINE - 911 AND
NIPSCO HAS BEEN CALLED - CREW IS ON SITE - PREVIOUS TICKET - 1304200442
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 04/20/2013 Time: 18:03
Members: ID2034 ID2182 ID5857 ID7634 NIPSCO SM

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

NIPSCO 00153 IUPPSa 04/20/2013 18:48:33 1304200451-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1304200451 Date: 04/20/2013 Time: 18:44 Oper: SFOX Chan:050

State: IN Cnty: KOSCIUSKO Twp: TIPPECANOE
Cityname: NORTH WEBSTER Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 325
Street : MADISON
Cross 1 : N EAST ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4119B8541A 4119B8541B
Boundary: n 41.326981 s 41.325867 w -85.695958 e -85.693928

Work type : REPAIRING A GAS LEAK
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 04/20/2013 Time: 18:46 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 : NIPSCO Type: MEMB
Co addr : 801 E 86TH AVENUE
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410
Caller : GLENDA TUCKER Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : GLENDA TUCKER - OFFICE Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (800)322-2806

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

Submitted date: 04/20/2013 Time: 18:44
Members: ID2034 ID2182 ID5857 ID7634 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130420001
Damage Date 04/20/2013 18:07
Notified By ERIC SWARTZ ()
Damage Address 325 MADISON
NORTH WEBSTER, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 04/20/2013 18:10

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 04/20/2013 18:30:00 **To** 04/20/2013 19:00:00

Excavator Involved HOMEOWNER

Type of Excavation fence

Orig. Locate Request 1304200442 **Start Date** 04/24/2013 07:00
Type of Ticket Routine **Locate Req. Info** N/A

Damage Request # 1304200445 **Start Date** 04/20/2013 18:40

Pictures Taken By tom pasko **Date** 04/20/2013 18:45

Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 121650 **Investigator Name** tom pasko

Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed? No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

Facility Description Low Profile **Facility ID** Gas Service

Locator Name & EMP # Pasko Tom - 121650 **Locator Not Known**

Investigation Findings

Contractor Dug Before Ticket Due

No Locate Req. By Contractor

Other Notes

Investigation Methods

Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative

Investigator Verified Existing Marks By Hooking Up

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors

Contractor called in the ticket either moments before or after the damage and then called in a damage ticket.

Ticket was not due until 4-24, several days after the damage occurred. Contractor hit gas service.

Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement

no locate call in

Names of Excavator's Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement

na

Other individuals on site

na

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 pl gas service
Replacement Footage	?
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 4/20/2013 7:34:27 PM