



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Solar Energy Systems

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4785

Report Date: 9/23/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 4/22/2013

Damage Address: 1354 S State Road 15, Warsaw, Kosciusko

The Parties

Excavator: Solar Energy Systems

Address: 1952 W Market Street, Nappanee, In 46550

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Trencher

Type of Work Performed: Electric

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:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

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

Findings: Reported by Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 7/22/2013. Excavator failed to maintain a valid locate ticket. The locate ticket the excavator reported for the response to the Pipeline Safety Division (1303120348) had long expired and a new request for a locate ticket was needed from the association to be valid to excavate at this location.

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

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



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: May 29, 2013

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

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Solar Energy Systems

Business address (*number and street*): 1952 W Market Street

City, State, and ZIP code: Nappanee, IN 46550

Telephone number (*area code*): (574)773-0546

Fax number (*area code*): (574)773-0548

E-mail address: DAVE@SESINDIANA.COM

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Trencher

Type of work performed: Electric

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Apr 22, 2013

County: Kosciusko

City: Warsaw

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
1354 S State Road 15

Nearest intersection: Short Ridge Drive

Right of way where damage occurred: Unknown/Other

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? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 1

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? Service/Drop

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 18

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?

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"?

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? 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

Emergency ticket# 1304222717.



150 West Market Street, Suite 600
Indianapolis, IN 46204

August 12, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4785
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4785

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: 4/22/2013
Event Location: 1354 S State Road 15
City: Indianapolis
Facility Owner: Nipsco
Excavator: Solar Energy Systems
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 4785

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. 4785	
Date of Event	4/22/2013
Event Location	1354 S State Road 15
Event City	Warsaw
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Solar Energy Systems
Date of IURC Information Request	July 12, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Solar Energy Systems
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	1952 W Market Street
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Nappanee / In / 46550
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	574-773-0546
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	dave@sesindiana.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	1354 S State Road 15
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Warsaw / IN /
NEAREST INTERSECTION	
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.)	1 1/8"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Yes
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	No
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	

Trencher	X
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	
Bldg. Demolition	
Drainage	
Driveway	
Electric	X
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	
Waterway Improvement	
Unknown/Other	
RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO)	Yes
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	No
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	No
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	No

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	No
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	No
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	No
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	No
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. NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket Number: 1304222717.</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130422013
Damage Date 04/22/2013 00:00
Notified By ANGELA SCHFFER (Facility Owner)
Damage Address 1354 S IN RT 15 X DOGWOOD DR KOSCIUSKO CTY / WAYNE TWP
WARSAW, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 04/24/2013 08:06

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 05/22/2013 14:30:00 **To** 05/22/2013 15:00:00

Excavator Involved SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM LLC

Type of Excavation Install wire

Orig. Locate Request 1304222717 **Start Date**
Type of Ticket **Locate Req. Info** N/A Yes

Damage Request # 1304222717 **Start Date** 05/22/2013 15:10

Pictures Taken By Clint Sluss **Date** 05/22/2013 15:15

Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 128296 **Investigator Name** Sean Travis

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 # - **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 previous locate at this address. Cut gas service line.

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? No

Was the excavation within the tolerance zone of marks? No

Extent of facility damage damaged service

Replacement Footage

n/a

Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?

No n

What contractor equipment was used?

n/a

Is the facility shown on the utility records?

No

If yes, list record numbers

n/a

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

NIPSCO 00759 IUPPSa 04/22/2013 13:27:21 1304222717-00A EMER NEW GRID

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1304222717 Date: 04/22/2013 Time: 13:22 Oper: KREED Chan:091

State: IN Cnty: KOSCIUSKO Twp: WAYNE

Cityname: WARSAW Inside: Y Near: N

Subdivision:

Address : 1354

Street : S IN RT 15

Cross 1 : W 200 S Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY

:

Grids : 4112A8551A 4112A8552D 4112B8551A 4112B8552D 4113D8551A

Boundary: n 41.217176 s 41.209232 w -85.868653 e -85.864579

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE

Done for : NIPSCO

Start date: 04/22/2013 Time: 13:23 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 : ANGELA SCHUFFERT Phone: (800)322-2806

Contact : MARK KNISLEY - CELL Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (574)535-3001

Fax : (219)647-4764

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time

CREW EN ROUTE

Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO

:

Submitted date: 04/22/2013 Time: 13:22

Members: COMCN ID2034 ID3040 ID3151 ID5857 ID7053 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 # 547550
TRACKING NUMBER 0112013 0422 002 LOCATE REF # 1303120384
Locate Performed By:

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 12:46 pm 4-22 2013 M DATE OF REPORT 4-22-13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 1354 S State Road 15 Warsaw

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 1 1/8 MATERIAL: PLASTIC () STEEL () METER () REG STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE)

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 18 PRESSURE (PSI) 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 12:47 pm TIME RESTORED

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: Cut in two 1 1/8"

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Solar Energy Systems

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 1952 W. Market st. Napoleon In. 46550

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Eric Horner

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS N/A

WITNESS REMARKS N/A

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

FIRE () AGENCY N/A REPORT # N/A

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

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES () NO () TAKEN BY: N/A (ATTACH PHOTOS TO REPORT)
MEDIA ON SITE YES () NO ()

- 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
() FENCING () GRADING () IRRIGATION () MOWING
() LANDSCAPING () PIPELINE () MILLING () OTHER
() POLE/SIGN POST () ROAD WORK () SEWER

- TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW
() AUGER () 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
() NO NOTIFICATION () MARKS DISTURBED () STUB () OTHER NOT MARKED

COMMENTS :

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

Scott McDonald

FIELD SUPERVISOR

Mark Knisley

FIELD MANAGER

Randy Dunn

- 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: _____



Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation
Photo taken on 4/22/2013 2:30:30 PM

Fax Cover Sheet

Solar Energy Systems, LLC
1952 W Market Street
Nappanee, IN 46550
P: (574) 773-0546
F: (574) 773-0548

Send to: Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission	From: Solar Energy Systems, LLC
Attention: Pipeline Safety Division	Date: July 22, 2013
Office Number:	Office Number: (574) 773-0546
Fax Number: 1-317-233-2410	Fax Number: (574) 773-0548
	Email: eric@sesindiana.com Website: www.solarenergysystemsllc.com

- Urgent
- Reply ASAP
- Please comment
- Please Review
- For your Information

Total pages, including cover: 4

Comments:

<p>RECEIVED JUL 22 2013 INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION</p>
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INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (R / 3-13)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Case Number: 4785

Date of Damage (*month, day, year*): 4-22-2013

Location of Damage:

Address (*number and street*): 1354 S. State Road 15/ 1912 Fisher Avenue/ 1910 Fisher Avenue

City, State and ZIP Code: Warsaw Indiana 46580-2531

Nearest Intersection: State Road 15/ Fisher Avenue and Short Ridge Dr.

Excavator Information:

Business Name: Solar Energy Systems L.L.C.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Eric Homan

Title (*if any*): General Manager

Address (*number and street*): 1952 W. Market St.

City, State and ZIP Code: Nappanee, Indiana 46550

Preferred Telephone Number (*area code*): 574-773-0546

Email Address: eric@sesindiana.com

Utility Information:

Utility Name: NIPSCO

Contact Person:

Title (*if any*):

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (*select one*):

Type of Work Performed (*select one*):

Repair Cost: \$ 545.43

- Did a leak result from damage: Yes No
- Was there ignition: Yes No
- Excavator Notify 911 due to leak: Yes No
- Excavator Notify 811 upon damage: Yes No
- Excavator Notify Utility upon Damage: Yes No

Locate Information

Excavator Request Locate: Yes No

Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number: 1303120348

- Locate Marks Visible: Yes No
- Locate Marks Correct: Yes No
- Excavator "White Lined": Yes No
- Was Locate Provided within Two (2) Working Days: Yes No
- Utility Employees On-site during Excavation: Yes No

Incident Information:

- Fire Department Response: Yes No
- Police Department Response: Yes No
- Ambulance Response: Yes No

Additional Information / Comments

The city of Warsaw annexed south of town several years back and depending on what agency you are dealing with has different addresses for the property. The Fire Department responded, but ended up over a mile south of property location before turning around. On their return trip passed it again before stopping. Once they seen NIPSCO there they returned to fire station. In talking with several NIPSCO employees that all said they continually have problems in the area with locates due to confusion with addresses. This property has several service meters and has three addresses that I know of being, 1912 Fishers Avenue Warsaw, IN 46580; 1910 Fishers Avenue Warsaw, IN 46580; 1354 S. State Road 15 Warsaw, IN 46580. Indiana 811 was called for locates on two different occasions (ticket # 1303120348) and I was called by the gentlemen doing locates as too still problems with the address, but it was my understanding over the phone that it was located. It is my opinion that as a company, we have followed requirements to the best of our abilities.

Printed Name: Eric Homan

Signature: 

Date (month, day, year): 7/22/2013

**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 _____
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**Or fax to:
317-233-2410**