



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Vernon Tillema

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4786

Report Date: 9/17/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 12/24/2012

Damage Address: 3435 W State Road 10, Wheatfield, Jasper

The Parties

Excavator: **Vernon Tillema**

Address: 3435 W State Road 10, Wheatfield, In 46392

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of Work Performed: Pole

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/occupant struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while performing pole installation work.

Findings: Reported by Carrie Ludwig; excavator/occupant did not respond to initial notice mailed 7/10/2013. Excavator/occupant failed to provide notice to the association (IN811) of excavation.

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

August 12, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4786
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4786

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: 12/24/2012

Event Location: 3435 W State Road 10

City: Indianapolis

Facility Owner: Nipsco

Excavator: Vernon Tillema

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 4786

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. 4786	
Date of Event	12/24/2012
Event Location	3435 W State Road 10
Event City	Wheatfield
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Vernon Tillema
Date of IURC Information Request	July 12, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Vernon Tillema
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	3435 W State Road 10
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Wheatfield / IN / 46392
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219-956-2499
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	3435 W ST RD 10
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Wheatfield / IN / 46392
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.)	5/8"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	Click here to enter text.
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	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	
Grading	
Irrigation	
Landscaping	
Liquid Pipeline	
Milling	
Natural Gas	
Pole	X
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: 1212240267.</p>	

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Cambria Point MAXIMO WO # _____
OPERATING AREA CONTACT _____ JOB ORDER # 583376
TRACKING NUMBER OLK-2012-1024-001 LOCATE REF # A-4
Locate Performed By: _____

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 12-24-12 09:39 AM DATE OF REPORT 12-24-12
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 8155 W. STATE ROAD 10 W. Lees Ferry

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____
GAS: SERVICE MAIN () SIZE 9/8 MATERIAL: PLASTIC STEEL () METER () REG STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 30" PRESSURE (PSI) 35 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 9:39 AM TIME SHUT OFF 12:00 TIME RESTORED 14:00
DIAMETER MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: _____

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) VERNON TILLEY "House Owner"

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 3435 W. STATE ROAD 10.

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE House Owner.

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS _____

WITNESS REMARKS _____

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ON SITE: 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
() AGRICULTURE/FARMING () CABLE TV () CLIP/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 () BACKHOE/TRACK-HOE
() MILLING EQUIPMENT () BORING / DRILLING
() EXPLOSIVES () TRENCHER () FARM EQUIPMENT
() VACUUM 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

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820121224001
Damage Date 12/24/2012 11:55
Notified By JEFF KORS (Facility Owner)
Damage Address 3435 W STATE RD 10 X N COUNTY RD 35 W (JASPER COUNTY)
WHEATFIELD, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 12/24/2012 12:00

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 12/24/2012 13:20:00 **To** 12/24/2012 13:40:00

Excavator Involved Homeowner
Type of Excavation POST HOLE

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

Damage Request # 1212240267 **Start Date**

Pictures Taken By JIM HOSTETLER **Date** 12/24/2012 13:30
Photography Type Digital **Frame #** NA

Investigator Emp. # 125835 **Investigator Name** JIM HOSTETLER
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
HOMEOWNER CUT PL. GAS SERVICE WHILE INSTALLING A POST WITHOUT A LOCATE REQUEST.
Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement
NA
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. SERVICE

Replacement Footage

2 FT

Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?

No

What contractor equipment was used?

NA

Is the facility shown on the utility records?

No

If yes, list record numbers

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

NIPSCO 00048 IUPPSa 12/24/2012 12:05:58 1212240267-00A EMER NEW GRID

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1212240267 Date: 12/24/2012 Time: 12:02 Oper: SPOPE Chan:044

State: IN Cnty: JASPER Twp: WALKER
Cityname: WHEATFIELD Inside: N Near: Y
Subdivision:

Address : 3435
Street : W STATE ROAD 10
Cross 1 : N 350 W Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4111C8706B 4111C8706C 4111D8706B 4111D8706C 4111D8706D
Boundary: n 41.188019 s 41.184450 w -87.112157 e -87.104158

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE
Done for : HOMEOWNER
Start date: 12/24/2012 Time: 12:03 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 : JEFF KORS Phone: (219)647-4701
Contact : KELLY DUNLAP-- CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)629-9374
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: 12/24/2012 Time: 12:02
Members: COMCN ID2034 ID2189 ID4601 ID5857 NIPSCO SM



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Mar 19, 2013

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Carrie Ludwig

Business address (*number and street*): 351 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: Vernon Tillema

Business address (*number and street*): 3435 W State Road 10

City, State, and ZIP code: Wheatfield, IN 46392

Telephone number (*area code*): (219) 956-2499

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Occupant

Excavation or demolition equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Pole

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Dec 24, 2012 _____

County: Jasper _____

City: Wheatfield _____

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
3435 W State Road 10 _____

Nearest intersection: N/A _____

Right of way where damage occurred: Private - Land Owner

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*): 4 _____

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? 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: Other

If other, please specify: _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"? No

Were special instructions part of the locate request?

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

Emergency ticket# 1212240267.