



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: Premier Horizontal Drilling

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4887

Report Date: 9/20/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 5/31/2013 4:27:37 PM

Damage Address: County Line Rd, Colfax, Newton

### The Parties

Excavator: **Premier Horizontal Drilling**

Address: P O Box 279, Wheatfield, In 46392

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

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  
2/7/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1302051673

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: COUNTY LINE RD IS 600 E JUST WEST OF I 65 - LOCATE THE WEST SIDE OF COUNTY LINE RD 50 FEET NORTH AND SOUTH OF 300 N

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 did not respond to initial notice mailed 7/10/2013. Excavator failed to provide notice of excavation to the association (IN811) to maintain a current locate ticket.

**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.**



150 West Market Street, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

August 12, 2013

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

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4887  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4887

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: 5/31/2013  
Event Location: County Line Rd  
City: Indianapolis  
Facility Owner: Nipsco  
Excavator: Premier Horizontal Drilling  
Other Party: N/A  
Pipeline Division Case No. 4887

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. 4887</b>	
Date of Event	5/31/2013
Event Location	County Line Rd
Event City	Colfax
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Premier Horizontal Drilling
Date of IURC Information Request	July 12, 2013
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Von Excavating Inc
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	14459 N State Road 49
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Wheatfield, IN 46392
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	(219) 956-3832
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	LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM
<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	575 E State Road 14
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Fair Oaks, IN, 47943
NEAREST INTERSECTION	100 W
<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.)	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	0
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	

Trancher	
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)	X
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)	Yes 1305312867
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	No

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	No
<b>INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION</b>	
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
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS</b>	
<p>No notification made to the one-call center.</p> <p>NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket Number: 1305313040</p>	

Facility: Transmission Lines; Folder: GM & T tickets; Assigned To: N/A

NIPSCO 00420 IUPPSa 02/05/2013 15:42:36 1302051673-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1302051673 Date: 02/05/2013 Time: 15:37 Oper: KLEWIS Chan:032

State: IN Cnty: NEWTON Twp: COLFAX  
Cityname: FAIR OAKS Inside: N Near: Y  
Subdivision:

Address :  
Street : COUNTY LINE RD  
Cross 1 : E 300 N Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: COUNTY LINE RD IS 600 E JUST WEST OF I 65 - LOCATE THE WEST SIDE OF  
COUNTY LINE RD 50 FEET NORTH AND SOUTH OF 300 N  
\*\*\*Boring Where = UNDER COUNTY ROADS  
:  
Grids : 4102B8716B 4102C8716B  
Boundary: n 41.042540 s 41.041442 w -87.276738 e -87.275288

Work type : INSTALL SEWER LINE  
Done for : FAIROAKS DAIRY  
Start date: 02/07/2013 Time: 15:45 Hours notice: 48/048 Priority: NORM  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: Y Railroad: N Emergency: N  
Duration : 2 WEEKS Depth: 10 FEET

Company : PREMIER HORIZONTAL DRILLING Type: CONT  
Co addr : P O BOX 279  
City : WHEATFIELD State: IN Zip: 46392  
Caller : VALERIE OOMS Phone: (219)956-2673  
Contact : CHRIS BURLINGHAM - CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)204-2791  
Fax : (219)956-4617  
Email : SAMW@MIDWAYNET.NET

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

Submitted date: 02/05/2013 Time: 15:37  
Members: ID2009 ID4601 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

**Notification ID** 01820130531008  
**Damage Date** 05/31/2013 16:27  
**Notified By** KRISTEN WIREMAN ()  
**Damage Address** COUNTY LINE RD & SR 14  
FAIR OAKS, IN  
**District** Northern Indiana  
**Notification Date** 05/31/2013 16:30

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**Damaged Customer** NIPSCO

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**Investigation Date From** 05/31/2013 17:05:00 **To** 05/31/2013 17:55:00

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**Excavator Involved** VON EXCAVATING  
**Type of Excavation** SEWER LINE INSTALL

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**Orig. Locate Request** 1302051673 **Start Date** 02/02/2013 10:50  
**Type of Ticket** Routine **Locate Req. Info** N/A

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**Damage Request #** 1305312867 **Start Date** 05/31/2013 17:05

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**Pictures Taken By** ROBERT PUENT **Date** 05/31/2013 17:25  
**Photography Type** Digital **Frame #**

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**Investigator Emp. #** 125915 **Investigator Name** ROBERT PUENT  
**Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed?** No

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Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

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

**Locator Name & EMP #** Puent Robert - 125915 **Locator Not Known**

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**Investigation Findings**

No Locate Req. By Contractor  
Old Request

**Other Notes**

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**Investigation Methods**

Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative  
Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

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**Investigator Statement/Causal Factors**

GAS SERVICE WAS CUT TO 575 E SR 14. OLD PAINT AND FLAGS ON SITE, BUT EXCAVATOR HAD NO CURRENT LOCATE REQUEST. LAST REQUEST WAS FROM 2/6/13 UNDER PREMIER HORIZONTAL DRILLING.

**Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement**

TOMMY BUHER WITH NIPSCO DAMAGE PREVENTION STATES THAT THE DAMAGE WAS CALLED IN UNDER AN OLD REQUEST FROM FEBRUARY FROM PREMIER HORIZONTAL DRILLING. THE ACTUAL DAMAGE WAS FROM THEIR SISTER COMPANY, VON EXCAVATING, WHO ALSO DID NOT HAVE A CURRENT LOCATE REQUEST. TOMMY STATES THAT HE MADE THEM AWARE THAT THEY NEED A CURRENT REQUEST, NO DIGGING IS TO BE DONE UNTIL IT'S LOCATED AND THE REQUEST NEEDS TO BE UNDER VON EXCAVATING AND NOT UNDER THEIR SISTER COMPANY OR THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR. CREW HAS BEEN WORKING ON SITE SINCE FEBRUARY WITH NO LOCATES.

**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?** Yes

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

**Extent of facility damage** SEVERED

**Replacement Footage** TWO FOOT SPLICE

**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**

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

NIPSCO 01167 IUPPSa 05/31/2013 17:45:03 1305313040-01A EMER CNCL GRID

CANCEL CANCEL

Ticket : 1305313040 Date: 05/31/2013 Time: 17:43 Oper: MPLUMMER Chan:040  
Old Tkt: 1305313040 Date: 05/31/2013 Time: 17:19 Oper: MPLUMMER Rev: 00A

State: IN Cnty: NEWTON Twp: COLFAX  
Cityname: FAIR OAKS Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 575  
Street : E IN RT 14  
Cross 1 : 100 W Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY  
:  
Grids : 4102D8722A 4102D8723A 4102D8723B 4102D8723C 4102D8723D  
Grids : 4102D8724B 4102D8724C 4102D8724D  
Boundary: n 41.036260 s 41.034903 w -87.409359 e -87.383275

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 05/31/2013 Time: 17:21 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 : ANNISA BAILEY Phone: (800)322-2806  
Contact : MARCH SIESSLE CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)746-8237  
Fax : (219)647-4764

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
MAPPED INCORRECTLY SEE NEW TICKET 1305313066  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO  
:

Submitted date: 05/31/2013 Time: 17:43  
Members: IB ID6224 NIPSCO

Facility: Transmission Lines; Folder: GM & T tickets; Assigned To: N/A

NIPSCO 01058 IUPPSa 05/31/2013 16:27:38 1305312867-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1305312867 Date: 05/31/2013 Time: 16:25 Oper: BMCWHORTER Chan:045

State: IN Cnty: NEWTON Twp: COLFAX  
Cityname: FAIR OAKS Inside: N Near: Y  
Subdivision:

Address :

Street : COUNTY LINE RD

Cross 1 : E 300 N Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: COUNTY LINE RD IS 600 E JUST WEST OF I 65 - LOCATE THE WEST SIDE OF  
COUNTY LINE RD 50 FEET NORTH AND SOUTH OF 300 N

\*\*\*Boring Where = UNDER COUNTY ROADS

:

Grids : 4102B8716B 4102C8716B

Boundary: n 41.042540 s 41.041442 w -87.276738 e -87.275288

Work type : INSTALL SEWER LINE

Done for : FAIROAKS DAIRY

Start date: 05/31/2013 Time: 16:25 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER

Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: Y Railroad: N Emergency: Y

Duration : 2 WEEKS Depth: 10 FEET

Company : PREMIER HORIZONTAL DRILLING Type: CONT

Co addr : P O BOX 279

City : WHEATFIELD State: IN Zip: 46392

Caller : KRISTEN WIREMAN Phone: (219)956-2673

Contact : CHRIS BURLINGHAM - CELL Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (219)204-2791

Fax : (219)956-4617

Email : SAMW@MIDWAYNET.NET

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
A NIPSCO GAS LINE WAS DAMAGED BEHIND THE BP STATION--GAS LINE WAS BLOWING BUT  
NOW CLAMPED--ADVISED TO CALL 911 AND NIPSCO TO REPORT DAMAGE--DESCRIPTION OF LINE  
IS UKNKOWN--CREW IS ON SITE--PREV TICKET NUMBER IS 1302051673--THANK YOU  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO

:

Submitted date: 05/31/2013 Time: 16:25

Members: ID2009 ID4601 NIPSCO SM

**NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY  
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT**

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Crown Point MAXIMO WO # M1774413  
OPERATING AREA CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ JOB ORDER # 598012  
TRACKING NUMBER 018201230531009 LOCATE REF # \_\_\_\_\_  
Locate Performed By: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 5-31-2013 1535 M DATE OF REPORT 5-31-13  
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 575 E State Road 14 Fair Oaks

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

**GAS:** SERVICE  MAIN ( ) SIZE 1 1/8" MATERIAL: PLASTIC  STEEL ( ) METER ( ) REG STATION ( ) STUB ( )  
OTHER (DESCRIBE) 24" PRESSURE (PSI) 40 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 1535 TIME SHUT OFF 1605 TIME RESTORED 1830  
DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 1 1/8

LOCATE MARKS ON SITE: YES  DISTANCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND LOCATE MARKS \_\_\_\_\_ Locates were expired. New locates that were called in were not due til tuesday  
HOW LOCATED: PAINT ( ) FLAGS ( ) BOTH ( ) WHITE LINED ( )

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Uon Excavating  
ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 14459 Indiana 49 Wheatfield

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 Injures? ( ) YES # \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) NO (X) 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 ( ) 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 \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: Contractor hit 1/8" Service while installing sewer lines.

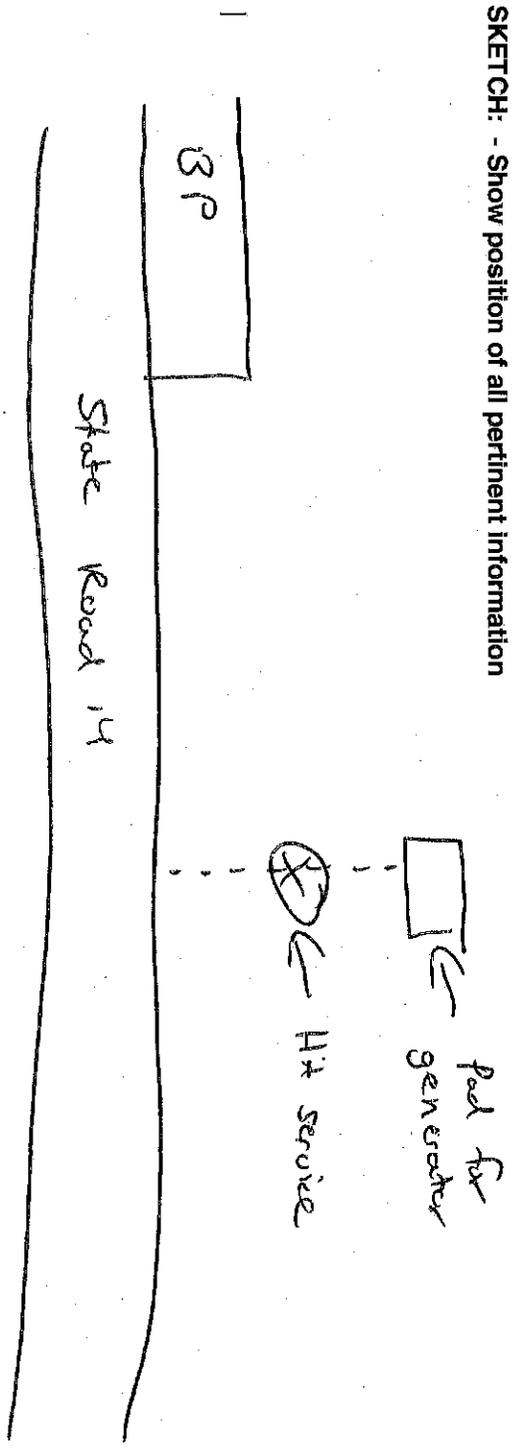
PERSON PREPARING REPORT \_\_\_\_\_

FIELD SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_

FIELD MANAGER \_\_\_\_\_

- 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 5/31/2013 5:36:58 PM