



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Ervin Mullins

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4934

Report Date: 9/16/2013

Investigator: William Boyd

Damage Date: 6/14/2013 6:50:49 PM

Damage Address: 410 W Maple St, White Post, Pulaski

The Parties

Excavator: Ervin Mullins

Address: Po Box 83, Medaryville, In 47957

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Unknown/Other

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--NORTH SIDE OF THE PROPERTY--BY THE ALLEY--

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

Synopsis: Excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas service line while using backhoe to bury trash.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 7/31/2013. Excavator's backhoe struck a sewer line and a piece of the sewer line damaged a natural gas line. Excavator failed to call 811 prior to 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. 4934
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4934

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: 6/14/2013
Event Location: 410 W Maple St
City: Indianapolis
Facility Owner: Nipsco
Excavator: Ervin Mullins
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 4934

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. 4934	
Date of Event	6/14/2013
Event Location	410 W Maple St
Event City	White Post
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Ervin Mullins
Date of IURC Information Request	July 12, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Homeowner Ervin Mullins
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	410 W Maple St
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Medaryville, IN 47957
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219 816 0238
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	310 Maple Street (410)
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Medaryville, IN, 47957
NEAREST INTERSECTION	US RT 421
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"
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	X
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
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	
Waterway Improvement	
Unknown/Other	X
RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO)	Yes
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	No
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Yes 1306143281
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: 1306142731</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130614009
Damage Date 06/14/2013 18:50
Notified By ERVIN MULLINS ()
Damage Address 410 W MAPLE ST
MEDARYVILLE, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 06/14/2013
18:55

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 06/14/2013 19:45:00 **To** 06/14/2013 20:30:00

Excavator Involved PROPERTY OWNER

Type of Excavation Burying Garbage

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

Damage Request # M93146573 **Start Date** 06/14/2013 18:55

Pictures Taken By Jim Hostetler **Date** 06/14/2013 20:25

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

Property Owner damaged service digging a hole for garbage.

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	unknown
Replacement Footage	n/a
Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?	No
What contractor equipment was used?	unknown
Is the facility shown on the utility records?	No
If yes, list record numbers	n/a

NIPSCO 01118 IUPPSa 06/14/2013 18:50:49 1306143281-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1306143281 Date: 06/14/2013 Time: 18:43 Oper: DWILSON Chan:006

State: IN Cnty: PULASKI Twp: WHITE POST
Cityname: MEDARYVILLE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 410
Street : W MAPLE ST
Cross 1 : US RT 421 Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE--NORTH SIDE OF THE PROPERTY--BY THE ALLEY--
:
Grids : 4104A8653B 4104A8653C 4104A8653D
Boundary: n 41.083189 s 41.082058 w -86.892747 e -86.886403

Work type : BURYING GARBAGE
Done for : ERVIN MULLINS
Start date: 06/14/2013 Time: 18:47 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 4 FEET

Company : ERVIN MULLINS Type: HOME
Co addr : PO BOX 83
City : MEDARYVILLE State: IN Zip: 47957
Caller : ERVIN MULLINS Phone: (219)816-0238
Contact : NONE Phone:
BestTime:

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
NIPSCO GAS LINE HAS BEEN DAMAGED--GAS LINE IS NOT BLOWING--CAN HEAR AND SMELL
IT--LINE WAS DAMAGED ON NORTH SIDE APPROX 2 FEET FROM ALLEY--1 INCH GAS
LINE--DID CALL 911--CALLER NOT ON SITE--HAS CALLED NIPSCO--NO PREVIOUS TICKET
NUMBER--
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 06/14/2013 Time: 18:43
Members: ID2034 ID2101 ID2885 ID5857 NIPSCO SM

NIPSCO 00894 IUPPSa 06/14/2013 15:14:35 1306142731-00A EMER NEW GRID

EMERGENCY

Ticket : 1306142731 Date: 06/14/2013 Time: 15:10 Oper: LPORTER Chan:046

State: IN Cnty: PULASKI Twp: WHITE POST
Cityname: MEDARYVILLE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 310
Street : MAPLE ST
Cross 1 : BELL ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4104A8653B 4104A8653C
Boundary: n 41.083233 s 41.082103 w -86.894493 e -86.891390

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 06/14/2013 Time: 15:12 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 : LAURA SZCZECINA Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : DAVE PRATHER - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)870-0849
Fax : (219)647-4764

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

Submitted date: 06/14/2013 Time: 15:10
Members: ID2034 ID2101 ID2885 ID5857 NIPSCO SM

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Monticello MAXIMO WO # _____
OPERATING AREA CONTACT Dave Pinther JOB ORDER # 584420
TRACKING NUMBER 01820130614008 LOCATE REF # _____
Locate Performed By: _____

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 6-14-13 2:30^{PM} M DATE OF REPORT 6-14-13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 310 Maple St Medaryville

DAMAGE WAS TO:

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

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

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 18 PRESSURE (PSI) 50 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 2:30^{PM} TIME SHUT OFF _____ TIME RESTORED _____

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 3/4

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) ??

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) ??

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: _____ (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 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 checked="" 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 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"/> VACCUUM EQUIPMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> GRADER | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____ |

REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

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

• SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

COMMENTS :

PERSON PREPARING REPORT Rickie Protor

FIELD SUPERVISOR David Protor

FIELD MANAGER David Protor

- 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 6/14/2013 4:38:56 PM



INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (R / 3-13)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

RECEIVED

JUL 31 2013

**INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Case Number: 4934

Date of Damage (month, day, year): 6-14 2013

Location of Damage:

Address (number and street): 410 W Maple St White Pst Pulaski Co

City, State and ZIP Code: Medaryville Indiana 47957

Nearest Intersection: _____

Excavator Information:

Business Name: Erwin Mullins

Responsible Party Personal Name: Erwin Mullins

Title (if any): _____

Address (number and street): 418 S Jefferson St

City, State and ZIP Code: Medaryville Ind 47957

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 219-204-0338

Email Address: _____

Utility Information:

Utility Name: NIPSCO

Contact Person: _____

Title (if any): _____

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (select one): BACK HOE

Type of Work Performed (select one): BURING OF ABAYE

Repair Cost: \$ _____

- 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

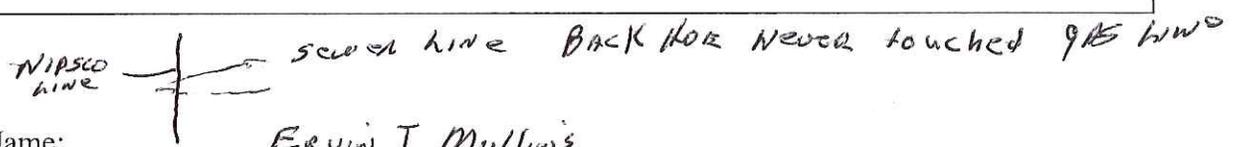
- Excavator Request Locate: Yes No
- Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number: _____
- Locate Marks Visible: Yes No
- Locate Marks Correct: Yes No
- Excavator "White Lined": Yes No
- Was Locate Provided within Two (2) Working Days: Yes No
- Utility Employees On-site during Excavation: Yes No

Incident Information:

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

Additional Information / Comments

SIR,
I WAS DRAINING GARAGE IN A SPOT THAT I HAD
DUG UP ABOUT 5YRS AGO THE BACK HOE DID NOT
HIT NIPSCO LINE A PIECE OF SEWER LINE CAME
UP AND BENT @ NIPSCO GAS LINE ABOUT 10-IN.
THERE WAS NO BREAK IN LINE THERE THE LEAK CAME
FROM THE ALLEY WHERE THE LINE WAS PULLED OUT OF FITTING



Printed Name: Ervin J Mullins

Signature: Ervin J Mullins Date (month, day, year): 7-30-2013

*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 4924
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or fax to:
317-233-2410