



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
101 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1500E
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3407

<http://www.in.gov/iurc>
Office: (317) 232-2701
Facsimile: (317) 232-6758

Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: H And G Underground Utilities LLC

UPPAC Database Record ID: 4940

Report Date: 9/20/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 6/17/2013 2:12:48 PM

Damage Address: Taft Pl, Ross, Lake

The Parties

Excavator: H And G Underground Utilities Llc

Address: 7 Berkel Drive, La Porte, In 46350

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed: Water

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: Yes
6/5/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1306033285

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: FROM THE ABOVE INTERSECTION - LOCATE GOING NORTH FOR APPROX 700 FEET ON BOTH SIDES OF TAFT PLACE

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

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

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 7/10/2013. Excavator failed to maintain required clearance from the gas service with the trackhoe.

Conclusion: There was a failure to maintain clearance with mechanized equipment within the tolerance zone.

Violation: IC 8-1-26-20(a)(2) Failure to maintain two (2) feet clearance with mechanized equipment.



150 West Market Street, Suite 600
Indianapolis, IN 46204

August 12, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 4940
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 4940

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: 6/17/2013

Event Location: Taft Pl

City: Indianapolis

Facility Owner: Nipsco

Excavator: H And G Underground Utilities Llc

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 4940

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Earle".

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. 4940	
Date of Event	6/17/2013
Event Location	Taft PI
Event City	Ross
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	H And G Underground Utilities Llc
Date of IURC Information Request	July 12, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	H&G Underground Utilities LLC
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	7 Berkel Dr
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Laporte, IN 46350
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219 326 0000
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	West 73rd Avenue & Taft Street
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Merrillville, IN, 46410
NEAREST INTERSECTION	W 75 th Ave
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)	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	X
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)	Yes

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1306033285
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	Yes
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	Yes
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	No
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	Yes
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>Failure to use hand tools where required NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket Number: 1306172262</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130617006
Damage Date 06/17/2013 06:55
Notified By MARK (Facility Owner)
Damage Address W 73RD STREET X TAFT ST (LAKE COUNTY)
MERRILLVILLE, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 06/17/2013 12:17

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 06/17/2013 12:25:00 **To** 06/17/2013 14:05:00

Excavator Involved H & G Plumbing
Type of Excavation water main installation

Orig. Locate Request 1306113378 **Start Date** 06/08/2013 15:35
Type of Ticket Routine **Locate Req. Info** N/A Yes

Damage Request # M93320569 **Start Date** 06/17/2013 12:25

Pictures Taken By Reginald Flemings **Date** 06/17/2013 12:25
Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 134728 **Investigator Name** Reginald Flemings
Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed? Possibly

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

Facility Description Low Profile **Facility ID** service - 5/8"
Locator Name & EMP # - **Locator Not Known** Yes

Investigation Findings

Contractor Damaged Exposed Facility
Facility Damaged During Watchdog
Facility Marked Accurately

Other Notes

Investigation Methods

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors

This line was damaged while installing a new water main on this road. Don Littlefield from NIPSCO was watchdogging this jobsite for NIPSCO GM&T. The line had been exposed completely before the damage occurred. The damage happened to an exposed portion of the gas service. The contractor was using an excavator next to the service. See ticket 1306062066 photo 1004337.

Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement

NIPSCO Gary Seeley & Tommy Buher

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?	Yes
Were any other indicators of facility present in the area?	Yes
Was the excavation within the tolerance zone of marks?	Yes
Extent of facility damage	cut service line
Replacement Footage	1'
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	

NIPSCO 01188 IUPPSa 06/03/2013 15:17:49 1306033285-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE JOB EXTENSION

Ticket : 1306033285 Date: 06/03/2013 Time: 15:14 Oper: PSTEIDEN Chan:000

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: ROSS
Cityname: MERRILLVILLE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address :
Street : TAFT PL
Cross 1 : W 75TH AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: FROM THE ABOVE INTERSECTION - LOCATE GOING NORTH FOR APPROX 700
FEET
ON BOTH SIDES OF TAFT PLACE
:
Grids : 4128A8721A 4129D8721A
Boundary: n 41.485025 s 41.481290 w -87.366243 e -87.364353

Work type : WATER MAIN INSTALLATION
Done for : IAWC
Start date: 06/05/2013 Time: 15:30 Hours notice: 48/048 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 1 MONTH Depth: 8 FEET

Company : H AND G UNDERGROUND UTILITIES LLC Type: CONT
Co addr : 7 BERKEL DRIVE
City : LA PORTE State: IN Zip: 46350
Caller : MILES CRAFT Phone: (219)326-0000
Contact : SCOTT SCHWARK--CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)876-5089
Fax : (219)326-6656
Email : MATT@HNGUU.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
REMARK AS NEEDED- PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER 1305100317
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 06/03/2013 Time: 15:14
Members: COMCN IB ID2227 ID3996 ID6784 NIPSCO SM

NIPSCO 00755 IUPPSa 06/17/2013 12:09:46 1306172262-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1306172262 Date: 06/17/2013 Time: 12:05 Oper: CALEVI Chan:031

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: ROSS
Cityname: MERRILLVILLE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address :
Street : W 73RD AVE
Cross 1 : TAFT ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE A 200 FOOT RADIUS OF THIS INTERSECTION
:
Grids : 4129D8721A
Boundary: n 41.486281 s 41.485183 w -87.365747 e -87.364287

Work type : REPAIRING A GAS LINE
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 06/17/2013 Time: 12:07 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 8 FEET

Company : NIPSCO Type: MEMB
Co addr : 801 EAST 86TH AVENUE
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410
Caller : MARK DILOSA Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : MIKE COPSTICK - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)314-0384
Fax : (219)647-4764

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

Submitted date: 06/17/2013 Time: 12:05
Members: COMCN IB ID2227 ID2245 ID3996 ID6784 NIPSCO SM

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA GARY MAXIMO WO #
OPERATING AREA CONTACT JOB ORDER # 578428
TRACKING NUMBER 0182613 0617 006 LOCATE REF #
Locate Performed By:

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 6/17/2013 11:00 AM DATE OF REPORT 6/17/13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) INTERSECTION 73RD & TAFT MERRILLVILLE

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

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

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 5 PRESSURE (PSI) 35 Lbs.
RELEASE OF GAS: YES X NO () IGNITION OF GAS: YES () NO X EVACUATION REQUIRED: YES () # NO ()
INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE: YES X NO () NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOST: 1
DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 11:00 AM TIME RESTORED
DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 12ft x 9ft

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) H & G UNDERGROUND UTILITIES
ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) LAPORTE, IN

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
() 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 LOCATES ON SITE



06/17/2013 11:34

Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation
Photo taken on 6/17/2013 11:34:12 AM



Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation
Photo taken on 6/17/2013 12:44:21 PM