



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Hoffman Brothers

UPPAC Database Record ID: 5047

Report Date: 9/23/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 7/3/2013 11:50:35 AM

Damage Address: N Grandstaff Dr, Union, Dekalb

The Parties

Excavator: **Hoffman Brothers**

Address: 8574 Verona Road, Battle Creek, Mi 49014

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
6/28/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1306260634

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: FROM THE ABOVE INTERSECTION -- LOCATE GOING NORTH ON WEST SIDE OF GRANDSTAFF DRIVE FOR 1250 FEET

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 8/6/2013. Excavator failed to maintain required clearance from the gas service with the backhoe.

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 26, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 5047
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 5047

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: 7/3/2013
Event Location: N GRANDSTAFF DR
City: UNION
Facility Owner: NIPSCO
Excavator: HOFFMAN BROTHERS
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 5047

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. 5047	
Date of Event	7/3/2013
Event Location	N GRANDSTAFF DR
Event City	UNION
Facility Owner	NIPSCO
Excavator	HOFFMAN BROTHERS
Date of IURC Information Request	July 26, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Hoffman Brothers
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	8574 Verona Road
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Battle Creek / MI / 49014
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	269-420-0413
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	trizor@hoffmanbrosinc.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	280 N Grandstaff Drive
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Auburn / 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 1/4"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	30
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	

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	
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)	Yes - 1307031675
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Yes

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1306260634
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)	Yes
POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	Yes
AMBULANCE RESPONSE (YES/NO)	N/A
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS	
<p>Failure to use hand tools where required.</p> <p>NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket Number: 1307031890.</p>	

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Angola MAXIMO WO # M 804123
OPERATING AREA CONTACT Joe Thomas JOB ORDER # 589728
TRACKING NUMBER 018 2013 0703 005 LOCATE REF # Not on Site

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 7-8 2013 11:52 AM DATE OF REPORT 7-8-13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 280 N. Grandstaff Auburn

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE)

GAS: SERVICE MAIN () SIZE 1 1/4" MATERIAL: PLASTIC (X) STEEL () METER () REG STATION () STUB ()

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 30" PRESSURE (PSI) 30 Lbs.

RELEASE OF GAS: YES (X) NO () IGNITION OF GAS: YES () NO (X) EVACUATION REQUIRED: YES () # NO (X)

INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE: YES (X) NO () NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOST: 1

DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 11:52 AM TIME SHUT OFF 12:15 PM TIME RESTORED 2:30 PM

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 1 1/4"

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Hoffman Bros

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 8574 Verona Rd Battle Creek MI 49014

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Tom Rizor 269 965 1207

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS

WITNESS REMARKS

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE (X) AGENCY REPORT #

FIRE (X) AGENCY REPORT #

OTHER () Any Injuries? () YES # (X) NO

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES (X) NO () TAKEN BY: S. Landes (ATTACH PHOTOS TO REPORT)
MEDIA ON SITE YES () NO (X)

- 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 (X) ROAD WORK () SEWER

- TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW
() AUGER () HAND TOOLS (X) 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 (X) CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR
() NO NOTIFICATION () MARKS DISTURBED () STUB () OTHER

COMMENTS: Could not see any locate marks on site
for service line, main was flagged though.
Contractor could not provide locator numbers

PERSON PREPARING REPORT Steve Landes

FIELD SUPERVISOR Joe Thomas

FIELD MANAGER Joe Thomas

- 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: _____

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

NIPSCO 00148 IUPPSa 06/26/2013 09:23:19 1306260634-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE JOB EXTENSION

Ticket : 1306260634 Date: 06/26/2013 Time: 09:20 Oper: SPOPE Chan:044
Old Tkt: 1306121410 Date: 06/12/2013 Time: 11:10 Oper: SMCCURE Rev: 00A

State: IN Cnty: DEKALB Twp: UNION
Cityname: AUBURN Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address :

Street : N GRANDSTAFF DR

Cross 1 : IN RT 8 Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: FROM THE ABOVE INTERSECTION -- LOCATE GOING NORTH ON WEST SIDE OF
GRANDSTAFF DRIVE FOR 1250 FEET

:

Grids : 4121A8504C 4121A8504D 4122C8504C 4122D8504C 4122D8504D

Boundary: n 41.371260 s 41.365867 w -85.072433 e -85.070705

Work type : ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Done for : INDOT

Start date: 06/28/2013 Time: 09:30 Hours notice: 48/048 Priority: NORM

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

Duration : 2 MONTHS Depth: 8 FEET

Company : HOFFMAN BROTHERS Type: CONT

Co addr : 8574 VERONA ROAD

City : BATTLE CREEK State: MI Zip: 49014

Caller : TOM RIZOR Phone: (269)420-0413

Contact : TOM RIZOR - CELL Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (269)420-0413

Fax : (269)965-6701

Email : TRIZOR@HOFFMANBROSINC.COM

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

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

:

Submitted date: 06/26/2013 Time: 09:20

Members: ID2200 ID2885 NIPSCO SBCIN SM

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

NIPSCO 00573 IUPPSa 07/03/2013 12:33:18 1307031890-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307031890 Date: 07/03/2013 Time: 12:28 Oper: BLIEVERTZ Chan:058

State: IN Cnty: DEKALB Twp: UNION
Cityname: AUBURN Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 280
Street : N GRANDSTAFF DR
Cross 1 : W 7TH ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4121A8504C 4122D8504C
Boundary: n 41.369151 s 41.366156 w -85.072331 e -85.070851

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 07/03/2013 Time: 12:29 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 : JAMILA MARTIN Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : JASON SPRUNGER - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (260)226-2330
Fax : (219)647-4764

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

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

:

Submitted date: 07/03/2013 Time: 12:28
Members: ID2200 ID2885 NIPSCO SBCIN SM

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

NIPSCO 00502 IUPPSa 07/03/2013 11:50:36 1307031675-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307031675 Date: 07/03/2013 Time: 11:47 Oper: SPEOPLES Chan:036

State: IN Cnty: DEKALB Twp: UNION
Cityname: AUBURN Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address :

Street : N GRANDSTAFF DR

Cross 1 : IN RT 8 Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: FROM THE ABOVE INTERSECTION -- LOCATE GOING NORTH ON WEST SIDE OF
GRANDSTAFF DRIVE FOR 1250 FEET

:

Grids : 4121A8504C 4121A8504D 4122C8504C 4122D8504C 4122D8504D

Boundary: n 41.371260 s 41.365867 w -85.072433 e -85.070705

Work type : ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Done for : INDOT

Start date: 07/03/2013 Time: 11:47 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER

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

Duration : 2 MONTHS Depth: 8 FEET

Company : HOFFMAN BROTHERS Type: CONT

Co addr : 8574 VERONA ROAD

City : BATTLE CREEK State: MI Zip: 49014

Caller : TOM RIZOR Phone: (269)420-0413

Contact : TOM RIZOR - CELL Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (269)420-0413

Fax : (269)965-6701

Email : TRIZOR@HOFFMANBROSINC.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
PER TOM - GAS LINE IS DAMAGED - UTILITY IS NIPSCO - GAS LINE IS BLOWING AND CAN
BE SMELT AND HEARD - LINE WAS DAMAGED ACROSS THE STREET FROM 280 N GRANDSTAFF
DRIVE - DESCRIPTION OF LINE IS YELLOW IN COLOR AND PLASTIC AND SIZE IS UNKNOWN -
911 HAS NOT BEEN CALLED - HAVE ADVISED TO CALL 911 - CREW IS ON SITE - UTILITY
HAS BEEN NOTIFIED - PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER 1306260634 - THANK YOU
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO

:

Submitted date: 07/03/2013 Time: 11:47

Members: ID2200 ID2885 NIPSCO SBCIN SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130703005
Damage Date 07/03/2013 11:50
Notified By TOM RIZOR ()
Damage Address N GRANDSTAFF DR
AUBURN, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 07/03/2013
11:55

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 07/03/2013 12:00:00 **To** 07/03/2013 13:20:00

Excavator Involved HOFFMAN BROTHERS
Type of Excavation ROAD WORK

Orig. Locate Request 1306260634 **Start Date**
Type of Ticket **Locate Req. Info** N/A

Damage Request # 1307031675 **Start Date**

Pictures Taken By MIKEOBERLIN **Date** 07/03/2013 12:30
Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 113397 **Investigator Name** MIKEOBERLIN
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 # Meeks Ronald - 117956 **Locator Not Known**

Investigation Findings

Facility Marked Accurately

Other Notes

Investigation Methods

Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative
Investigator Verified Existing Marks By Hooking Up
Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors

MARKS 6" OFF FOUND MARKS ON ROAD WITHIN 6" OF LINE MARKS VERIFIED BY AARON KNIGHT
FROM nIPSCO

Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement

AARON KNIGHT

Names of Excavator's Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement

U/K

Other individuals on site

STEVE NIPSCO

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	SERVICE
Replacement Footage	2'
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	



Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation
Photo taken on 7/3/2013 1:07:23 PM



Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation
Photo taken on 7/3/2013 12:25:53 PM