



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Paul Rhodes

UPPAC Database Record ID: 5083

Report Date: 9/12/2013

Investigator: William Boyd

Damage Date: 7/14/2013 2:32:44 PM

Damage Address: 107 Willow Dr, Lincoln, St Joseph

The Parties

Excavator: Paul Rhodes

Address: 107 Willow Dr, Walkerton, In 46574

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of Work Performed: Landscaping

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 struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while digging hole for a shrub.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator's response to initial notice was received on 8/26/2013. 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 26, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 5083
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 5083

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: 7/14/2013

Event Location: 107 WILLOW DR

City: LINCOLN

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Excavator: PAUL RHODES

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 5083

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. 5083 | |
| Date of Event | 7/14/2013 |
| Event Location | 107 WILLOW DR |
| Event City | LINCOLN |
| Facility Owner | NIPSCO |
| Excavator | PAUL RHODES |
| Date of IURC Information Request | July 26, 2013 |
| THE PARTIES | |
| EXCAVATOR: | |
| BUSINESS NAME | |
| RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME | Paul Rhodes |
| TITLE (IF ANY) | |
| ADDRESS | 107 Willow Drive |
| CITY/ STATE/ZIP | Walkerton / IN / 46574 |
| PREFERRED TELEPHONE | 574-910-0041 |
| 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 | 107 Willow Drive |
| CITY/STATE/ZIP | Walkerton / 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.) | 5/8" |
| PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES) | 35 |
| 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 | X |
| 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 | |
| | |
| RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO) | Yes |
| IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO) | No |
| EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO) | Yes – 1307140210 |
| 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) | Yes |
| 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. Emergency ticket number: 1307140216.</p> | |

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Ply - 070 MAXIMO WO #
OPERATING AREA CONTACT Bob Jones JOB ORDER # 588950
TRACKING NUMBER 018 2013 0714 002 LOCATE REF #
Locate Performed By:

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 07-14 2013, 2 PM DATE OF REPORT 07/14/13
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 107 Willow Dr, WALKERTON

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE)

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

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 24" 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 14:24 TIME SHUT OFF 17:00 TIME RESTORED 18:45

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 5/8

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Paul Rhodes (Homeowner)

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 107 Willow Dr, Walkerton, IN

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Paul Rhodes

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS

WITNESS REMARKS

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE () AGENCY REPORT #

FIRE () AGENCY Walkerton REPORT #

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

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES () NO () TAKEN BY: (ATTACH PHOTOS TO REPORT)

- 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 : Homeowner HIT 5/8" PLASTIC SERVICE WITH
POST HOLE DIGGERS WHILE PUTTING UP
A TRELLIS

PERSON PREPARING REPORT JAMES COLETHORPE

FIELD SUPERVISOR Bob Sumner

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: _____

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

NIPSCO 00042 IUPPSa 07/14/2013 14:32:48 1307140210-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307140210 Date: 07/14/2013 Time: 14:26 Oper: BMORRIS Chan:016

State: IN Cnty: ST JOSEPH Twp: LINCOLN
Cityname: WALKERTON Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 107
Street : WILLOW DR
Cross 1 : WALKERTON TRL Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE FRONT-LEFT SIDE OF THE PROPERTY AS YOU FACE IT FROM THE
ROAD
:
Grids : 4127B8629C 4127B8629D 4127C8629C 4127C8629D
Boundary: n 41.458442 s 41.457299 w -86.489164 e -86.485358

Work type : INSTALL PLANT TRELLIS
Done for : PAUL RHODES
Start date: 07/14/2013 Time: 14:28 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 1 HOUR Depth: 2 FEET

Company : PAUL RHODES Type: HOME
Co addr : 107 WILLOW DR
City : WALKERTON State: IN Zip: 46574
Caller : STACY RHODES Phone: (574)910-0041
Contact : STACY RHODES - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)910-0041

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
NIPSCO GAS LINE HAS BEEN CUT IN THE FRONT-LEFT SIDE OF THE PROPERTY - THE LINE
IS BLOWING AND CAN BE SMELLED - UNKNOWN SIZE/COLOR/MATERIAL OF THE LINE - CREW
IS ON SITE - HAS CALLED BOTH 911 AND NIPSCO - NO PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER - THANK
YOU

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

Submitted date: 07/14/2013 Time: 14:26
Members: ID2034 ID2885 ID3613 ID5857 NIPSCO SM

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

NIPSCO 00044 IUPPSa 07/14/2013 14:56:25 1307140216-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307140216 Date: 07/14/2013 Time: 14:51 Oper: BLIEVERTZ Chan:058

State: IN Cnty: ST JOSEPH Twp: LINCOLN
Cityname: WALKERTON Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 107
Street : WILLOW DR
Cross 1 : WALKERTON TRL Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4127B8629C 4127B8629D 4127C8629C 4127C8629D
Boundary: n 41.458442 s 41.457299 w -86.489164 e -86.485358

Work type : HIT GAS LINE REPAIR
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 07/14/2013 Time: 14:54 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 E 86TH AVE
City : MERRILLVILLE State: IN Zip: 46410
Caller : LAKISHA VANCE Phone: (800)322-2806
Contact : JOE COLE - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)312-1916
Fax : (219)647-4764
Email : LVANCE@NISOURCE.COM

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: 07/14/2013 Time: 14:51
Members: ID2034 ID2885 ID3613 ID5857 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130714001
Damage Date 07/14/2013 14:32
Notified By STACY RHODES ()
Damage Address 107 WILLOW DR
WALKERTON, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 07/14/2013
14:35

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 07/14/2013 15:45:00 **To** 07/14/2013 16:15:00

Excavator Involved Homeowner
Type of Excavation POSTHOLE DIGGING

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

Damage Request # 1307140216 **Start Date** 07/14/2013 00:00

Pictures Taken By B ARENS **Date** 07/14/2013 00:00
Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 113463 **Investigator Name** BRIAN ARENS
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
Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative
Investigator Verified Existing Marks By Hooking Up
Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors
NO PAINT OR FLAGS ONSITE. HO DIGGING POST HOLES TO SET A PLANT TRUSS, STRUCK AND DAMAGED A PL GAS LINE AT THE NE CORNER OF HIS HOME. THERE WAS NO LOCATE REQUEST. CONTR ALSO DAMAGED THE TRACE WIRE MAKING THE SERVICE UNTONEABLE BEYOND THE DAMAGE SITE TO THE MAIN.
Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement
31683-7 TOLD OF UNTONEABLE GAS
Names of Excavator's Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement
HO TOLD OF UNTONEABLE GAS SERVICE
Other individuals on site
FIRE DEPARTMENT

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 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 |
| Replacement Footage | UNKNOWN |
| Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who? | No NA |
| What contractor equipment was used? | NA |
| Is the facility shown on the utility records? | No |
| If yes, list record numbers | NA |

**INFORMATION REQUEST**

State Form 54909 (R / 3-13)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION - PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

RECEIVED

AUG 26 2013

Case Number: 5083Date of Damage (month, day, year): 7/14/2013INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION**Location of Damage:**Address (number and street): 107 WILLOW DRIVECity, State and ZIP Code: WALKERTON, IN., 46574Nearest Intersection: WILLOW DRIVE AND WALKERTON TRAIL**Excavator Information:**Business Name: N/A - HOME OWNERResponsible Party Personal Name: PAUL RHODESTitle (if any): HOME OWNERAddress (number and street): 107 WILLOW DRIVECity, State and ZIP Code: WALKERTON, IN. 46574Preferred Telephone Number (area code): (574) 586-7901Email Address: prhody8@yahoo.com**Utility Information:**Utility Name: NIPSLO

Contact Person: _____

Title (if any): _____



Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (select one):

HAND TOOL - MANUAL POST HOLE DIGGER

Type of Work Performed (select one):

LANDSCAPING

Repair Cost: \$ N/A

- 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

I WAS DIGGING A HOLE FOR A TRELIS FOR A SMALL SHRUB AT THE CORNER OF MY HOUSE. I HAD NO INSIGHT THAT PLASTIC ~~WAS~~ GAS LINE WOULD BE SO CLOSE TO THE CORNER OF MY HOUSE.

Printed Name: PAUL RHODES
Signature: Paul Rhodes Date (month, day, year): 08/25/13

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

**Or fax to:
317-233-2410**