



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Mr Plumber Inc

UPPAC Database Record ID: 5131

Report Date: 12/5/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 6/24/2013

Damage Address: 8300 Maysville Road, Fort Wayne, Allen

The Parties

Excavator: **Mr Plumber Inc**

Address: 7918 Union Chapel Road, Fort Wayne, In 46845

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

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

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1306252907

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions:

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

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

Findings: Reported by Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 8/28/2013. The excavator began excavation before calling for a valid locate ticket. This case was remanded back to Pipeline Safety from the November UPPAC Meeting for further investigation.

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 29, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 5131
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 5131

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: 6/24/2013
Event Location: 8300 Maysville Road
City: Fort Wayne
Facility Owner: NIPSCO
Excavator: Mr Plumber Inc
Other Party: N/A
Pipeline Division Case No. 5131

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. 5131	
Date of Event	6/24/2013
Event Location	8300 Maysville Road
Event City	Fort Wayne
Facility Owner	NIPSCO
Excavator	Mr Plumber Inc
Date of IURC Information Request	July 29, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Mr Plumber Inc
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	7918 Union Chapel Road
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Fort Wayne / IN / 46845
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
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	8300 Maysville Road
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Fort Wayne / IN /
NEAREST INTERSECTION	
PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
FACILITY TYPE (Select One)	
DISTRIBUTION	X
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	2"
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	

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)	No
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	No

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/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: 1306242259.</p>	

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

1155

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA FORT WAYNE IN MAXIMO WO # _____

OPERATING AREA CONTACT JASON OTIS JOB ORDER # 603426

TRACKING NUMBER 01820130624006 LOCATE REF # _____
Locate Performed By: _____

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 6-24 2013 12:00 P DATE OF REPORT 6-24-13

PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 8300 MAYSVILLE RD FW

DAMAGE WAS TO:

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

GAS: SERVICE () MAIN () SIZE 2" MATERIAL: PLASTIC () STEEL () METER () REG STATION () STUB ()
OTHER (DESCRIBE) _____

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 30" PRESSURE (PSI) 45 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 12:00 TIME SHUT OFF 1:55 TIME RESTORED 3:30

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

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

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) MR. PLUMER INC.

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 7918 UNION CHAPEL RD.

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE MARK SELLARS

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS WEACHOCK-CULVER-WAGAMUTHA-

WITNESS REMARKS WHILE DIGGING TO RETIRE WATER SERVICE

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE () AGENCY _____ REPORT # CREW CUT

FIRE () AGENCY _____ REPORT # MAIN

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

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES () NO () TAKEN BY: Arron Knight (ATTACH PHOTOS TO REPORT)
MEDIA ON SITE YES () NO ()

WORK IN PROGRESS WHEN FACILITY DAMAGED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- () AGRICULTURE/FARMING
- () BLDG CONSTRUCTION
- () DRIVEWAY
- () FENCING
- () LANDSCAPING
- () POLE/SIGN POST
- () CABLE TV
- () DEMOLITION
- () ELECTRIC
- () GRADING
- () PIPELINE
- () ROAD WORK
- () CURB/SIDEWALK
- () DRAINAGE
- () SURVEYING
- () IRRIGATION
- () MILLING
- () SEWER
- () TELECOMMUNICATIONS
- () WATER
- () DRAINS/CULVERTS
- () MOWING
- () OTHER _____

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- () AUGER
- () MILLING EQUIPMENT
- () EXPLOSIVES
- () VACCUUM EQUIPMENT
- () HAND TOOLS
- () PROBING DEVICE
- () TRENCHER
- () GRADER
- () BACKHOE/TRACKHOE
- () BORING / DRILLING
- () FARM EQUIPMENT
- () OTHER _____

REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

- () AUTOMOTIVE ACCIDENT
- () EXCAVATING BEFORE LOCATES DUE
- () CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR
- () NO NOTIFICATION
- () MARKS DISTURBED
- () STUB
- () OTHER 16 HAND DIG

• SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

COMMENTS :

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

Steve Weachuck

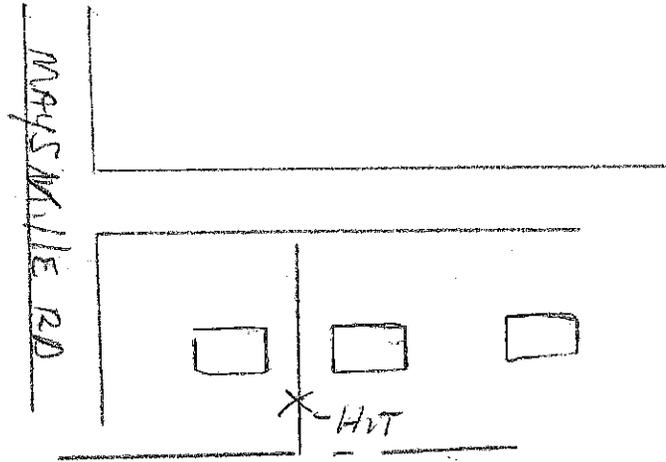
FIELD SUPERVISOR

Jason Otis

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: GM & T tickets; Assigned To: N/A

NIPSCO 00677 IUPPSa 06/24/2013 13:09:25 1306242259-00A EMER NEW GRID

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1306242259 Date: 06/24/2013 Time: 13:04 Oper: ALOUIE Chan:032

State: IN Cnty: ALLEN Twp: ST JOSEPH
Cityname: FORT WAYNE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 8300
Street : MAYSVILLE RD
Cross 1 : LONG RD Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4106B8501A 4106C8501A 4106C8502D
Boundary: n 41.108358 s 41.106209 w -85.036787 e -85.031549

Work type : REPAIRING GAS LINE
Done for : NIPSCO
Start date: 06/24/2013 Time: 13:05 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 : JASON OTIS - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (260)241-3246
Fax : (219)647-4764

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

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

Submitted date: 06/24/2013 Time: 13:04
Members: AEPIN CC FW ID4866 ID6794 ID8000 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130624006
Damage Date 06/24/2013 12:00
Notified By ANISSA (Facility Owner)
Damage Address 8300 MAYSVILLE RD X LONG RD ALLEN/ST JOSEPH
FT WAYNE, IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 06/24/2013 13:15

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 06/24/2013 00:00:00 **To** 06/24/2013 00:00:00

Excavator Involved MR PLUMBER INC
Type of Excavation CUT OFF UTIL

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

Damage Request # 1306242259 **Start Date**

Pictures Taken By ROSS GILLESPIE **Date** 06/24/2013 00:00
Photography Type Digital **Frame #**

Investigator Emp. # 113185 **Investigator Name** ROSS GILLESPIE
Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed? No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

Facility Description Low Profile **Facility ID** Gas Main

Locator Name & EMP # Gillespie Ross - 113185 **Locator Not Known**

Investigation Findings

No Locate Req. By Contractor

Other Notes

Investigation Methods

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

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors

NO TICKET

Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement

NA

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

TODD WITH MR PLUMMER STATED HE WAS TOLD BY MAINT. THAT ALL THE LINES WERE
ABANDONED

Other individuals on site

NA

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	MAIN
Replacement Footage	1
Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?	No
What contractor equipment was used?	BACKHOE
Is the facility shown on the utility records?	Yes
If yes, list record numbers	1



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Jul 10, 2013

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Carrie Ludwig (NIPSCO)

Business address (*number and street*): 3511 East 15th Avenue

City, State, and ZIP code: Gary, IN 46403

Telephone number (*area code*): (219)962-0422

Fax number (*area code*): (219)962-0404

E-mail address: cludwig@nisource.com

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Mr Plumber Inc

Business address (*number and street*): 7918 Union Chapel Road

City, State, and ZIP code: Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Telephone number (*area code*): N/A

Fax number (*area code*):

E-mail address:

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Water

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Jun 24, 2013 _____

County: Allen _____

City: Fort Wayne _____

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
8300 Maysville Road _____

Nearest intersection: Long Road _____

Right of way where damage occurred: Unknown/Other

Was there a release of product? Yes

If yes, was there an ignition of product? No

Were evacuations necessary as a result of release? No

If yes, how many evacuated? _____

Was there a customer service interruption? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 1 _____

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 3 _____

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: _____

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: _____

Property damage, Estimate \$ _____

Affected Facility Information

What type of pipeline was damaged? Natural Gas

What was the affected facility? Distribution

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 30 _____

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? No

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: _____

Was the locate request completed within two working days?

If locates were performed, were they done so by a contractor or pipeline employee?

If a contractor locator, enter the company name, if known: _____

Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation?

Were facilities marked correctly?

Type of markings used:

If other, please specify: _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"?

Were special instructions part of the locate request?

Were maps used to complete the locate request?

Were pipeline company representatives on site during excavation? No

Did the excavator notify the operator in the event of this damage? Yes

Did the excavator notify Indiana 811 in the event of this damage? No

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? Yes

Description of Cause

Select from the list the most accurate cause for the damage: --No notification made to the one-call center

Additional Comments

Emergency ticket# 1306242259.



INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (R / 3-13)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Case Number: 5131

Date of Damage (*month, day, year*): 6/24/2013

Location of Damage:

Address (*number and street*): 3002 Kennedy Drive

City, State and ZIP Code: Ft. Wayne, in 46815

Nearest Intersection: Kennedy Dr. and Maysville Rd.

Excavator Information:

Business Name: Mr. Plumber, Inc.

Responsible Party Personal Name: Russell J. Sellars

Title (*if any*): President

Address (*number and street*): 7918 Union Chapel Rd.

City, State and ZIP Code: Ft. Wayne, IN 46845

Preferred Telephone Number (*area code*): 260-627-5366

Email Address: mrplumberinc@frontier.com

Utility Information:

Utility Name: NIPSCO

Contact Person: John

Title (*if any*): Area Supervisor

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (*select one*):

Type of Work Performed (*select one*):

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: #1- 1306191155, #2 - 130625289

- 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

We were contracted to disconnect the existing water services and sewer lines to the listed addresses at the Golden Years Retirement Project to five to ten feet from existing building for demolition work. In trying to locate the water services we were told by the maintenance supervisor of Golden Years Homestead, that the existing water mains on the private property were installed around 1985 by a utility co. named INBALCO and that the owners have no recorded layout of the water mains and they do not have tracer wire buried with the 2" PVC mains.

We were excavating a curb box for one of the 2" water mains to see which direction the main ran to get an idea of where the water service's came out of the buildings. The 2" gas line we hit was marked and was within 18" of the curb box we were excavating. I can only say we were negligent in using hand tools and dug to close to the marked gas line with the backhoe. Our workers know better but were not careful enough in the situation. Mr. Plumber, Inc. has been in business for 46 years and I cannot remember this ever happening on one of our jobs before, and it certainly won't happen again because of neglect.

Additional dig tickets not room for above: 1306252907, 1306252910, 1306252913, 1306252918, 1306252924, 1306252929, and 1306252933.

Buildings being torn down: 3000, 3002, 3010, 3018, 3026, 3034, 3040, & 3046 Kennedy Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46815

Printed Name: Russell J. Sellars

Signature: _____ Date (month, day, year): 8/28/2013

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

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