



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: NIPSCO

UPPAC Database Record ID: 5178

Report Date: 10/25/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 7/24/2013 11:33:49 AM

Damage Address: 13631 Empress Ln, Hanover, Lake

### The Parties

Excavator: Nipsco

Address: 150 W Market St. Ste. 600, Indianapolis, In 46204

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

Type of Equipment: Trencher

Type of Work Performed: Electric

### Damage Impact

Product Release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: False

Number of Customers Affected: 0

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$

### Excavator Activities/Cause of Damage Information:

Excavator Request Locates: Yes  
7/19/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1307171980

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY - PLEASE PAINT AND FLAG - NIPSCO CLEARED THE PATH - FLAGGED OR STAKED

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

**Synopsis:** Excavator/operator struck and damaged an underground natural gas main while performing electric and gas work.

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; excavator/operator response to initial notice was received on 10/11/2013. Excavator/operator failed to maintain required clearance from the gas main with the trencher. The gas operator reported a root cause of working outside the scope of the ticket; however, the report also states the marks to be visible and correct.

**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

October 11, 2013

*Via Electronic Transmission – [PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)*

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 5178  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 5178

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: 7/24/2013  
Event Location: 13631 Empress Ln  
City: Hanover  
Facility Owner: Nipsco  
Excavator: Nipsco  
Other Party: N/A  
Pipeline Division Case No. 5178

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](mailto:cearle@nisource.com)

<b>IURC INFORMATION REQUEST</b>	
<b>Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 5178</b>	
Date of Event	7/24/2013
Event Location	13631 Empress Ln
Event City	Hanover
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Nipsco
Date of IURC Information Request	May 1, 2013
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	NIPSCO
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	20 South Joseph Street
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Crown Point / IN / 46307
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219-662-4270
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	219-314-2427
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<b>FACILITY INFORMATION - OWNER/OPERATOR OF UTILITY LINE:</b>	
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
<b>LOCATOR SERVICE INFORMATION</b>	
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
<b>OTHER (WITNESS, POLICE, FIRE, OTHER) INFORMATION</b>	
PERSONAL CONTACT	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	

ADDRESS	
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<b>UTILITY LINE IMPACT</b>	
<b>LOCATION OF DAMAGE</b>	
ADDRESS	13631 Empress Lane Lot 173
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Dyer / IN /
NEAREST INTERSECTION	Golden Grove Avenue
<b>PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)</b>	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
<b>FACILITY TYPE (Select One)</b>	
DISTRIBUTION	X
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	4
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	N
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	0
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	N
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	
<b>CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:</b>	
<b>TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)</b>	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trencher	X
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
<b>TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)</b>	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	
Bldg. Demolition	
Drainage	
Driveway	
Electric	X
Engineering/Surveying	
Fencing	
Grading	
Irrigation	
Landscaping	
Liquid Pipeline	
Milling	
Natural Gas	X
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)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y – 1307241727
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1307171980
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	Y
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	Y
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	N
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	Y
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	Y
<b>INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION</b>	
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
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS</b>	
<p>Failure to use hand tools where required.</p> <p>NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket# 1307241749.</p>	

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY  
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA 030 MAXIMO WO # \_\_\_\_\_  
OPERATING AREA CONTACT M Schissel JOB ORDER # 573005  
TRACKING NUMBER 01820130724007 LOCATE REF # 1307171980  
Locate Performed By: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 7-24 2013 9:44 AM DATE OF REPORT 7-24-13  
PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 13631 EMPRESS LN DIER, IN.

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

OTHER (DESCRIBE) \_\_\_\_\_  
GAS: SERVICE ( ) MAIN  SIZE 4" MATERIAL: PLASTIC  STEEL ( ) METER ( ) REG STATION ( ) STUB ( )  
OTHER (DESCRIBE) \_\_\_\_\_

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 30" PRESSURE (PSI) 40 Lbs. \_\_\_\_\_  
RELEASE OF GAS: YES  NO ( ) IGNITION OF GAS: YES ( ) NO  EVACUATION REQUIRED: YES ( ) # \_\_\_\_\_ NO   
INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE: YES ( ) NO  NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOST: 0 9:45am  
DURATION OF INTERRUPTION: TIME REPORTED 9:00am TIME RESTORED \_\_\_\_\_  
DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 3"

LOCATE MARKS ON SITE: YES ( ) DISTANCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND LOCATE MARKS None NO ( )  
HOW LOCATED: PAINT  FLAGS ( ) BOTH ( ) WHITE LINED ( ) ONLY 1 Gas Mark  
PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Gas Crew

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) Crownpoint CO

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Newton  
WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS Tom Sanchez - Tom Lubbe

WITNESS REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE ( ) AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_ REPORT # \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRE ( ) AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_ REPORT # \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Any Injuries? ( ) YES # \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) NO

PHOTOS TAKEN: YES  NO ( ) TAKEN BY: Tom Lubbe - Derge Photos (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 ( ) MILLING ( ) MOWING  JOINT INSTALL ( )  
( ) LANDSCAPING ( ) PIPELINE ( ) SEWER ( ) OTHER BY NIPSCO  
( ) POLE/SIGN POST ( ) ROAD WORK

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

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM

COMMENTS :

locater change however did exist at one  
time - elec. sh. to be installed over  
4" pipe - need to expand locater to neighbor  
lot 1

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

Schirrel

FIELD SUPERVISOR

Schirrel

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 <sup>th</sup> 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 00469 IUPPSa 07/24/2013 11:37:47 1307241749-00A EMER NEW GRID

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307241749 Date: 07/24/2013 Time: 11:34 Oper: MMOELLER Chan:039

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: HANOVER  
Cityname: DYER Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision: SILVER LEAF Lot: 173

Address : 13631  
Street : EMPRESS LN  
Cross 1 : GOLDEN GROVE AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY - PLEASE PAINT AND FLAG - NIPSCO CLEARED  
THE PATH - FLAGGED OR STAKED

:  
Grids : 4125B8729A 4125B8729B 4125B8730D 4125C8729A 4125C8729B  
Grids : 4125C8730D 4125D8729B  
Boundary: n 41.428604 s 41.420808 w -87.501848 e -87.494146

Work type : GAS LINE REPAIR  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 07/24/2013 Time: 11:35 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 : TENNILLE FORD Phone: (800)322-2806  
Contact : MARK SCHIESSLE---CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)746-8237  
Fax : (219)647-4764

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

Submitted date: 07/24/2013 Time: 11:34  
Members: AN COMCN IB ID4655 ID8240 NIPSCO SM

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

NIPSCO 00660 IUPPSa 07/17/2013 12:31:48 1307171980-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1307171980 Date: 07/17/2013 Time: 12:29 Oper: SHARRIS Chan:017

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: HANOVER  
Cityname: DYER Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision: SILVER LEAF Lot: 173

Address : 13631  
Street : EMPRESS LN  
Cross 1 : GOLDEN GROVE AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY - PLEASE PAINT AND FLAG - NIPSCO CLEARED  
THE PATH - FLAGGED OR STAKED  
:  
Grids : 4125B8729A 4125B8729B 4125B8730D 4125C8729A 4125C8729B  
Grids : 4125C8730D 4125D8729B  
Boundary: n 41.428604 s 41.420808 w -87.501848 e -87.494146

Work type : INSTALL GAS ANS ELECTRIC  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 07/19/2013 Time: 12:45 Hours notice: 48/048 Priority: NORM  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N  
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 6 FEET

Company : NIPSCO Type: MEMB  
Co addr : 20 SOUTH JOSEPH STREET  
City : CROWN POINT State: IN Zip: 46307  
Caller : KATHY PUENT Phone: (219)662-4270  
Contact : RYAN CURRAN - CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)314-2427  
Fax : (219)662-4218

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

Submitted date: 07/17/2013 Time: 12:29  
Members: AN COMCN IB ID4655 ID8240 NIPSCO SM

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

NIPSCO 00460 IUPPSa 07/24/2013 11:33:59 1307241727-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1307241727 Date: 07/24/2013 Time: 11:25 Oper: MMOELLER Chan:039

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: HANOVER  
Cityname: DYER Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision: SILVER LEAF Lot: 173

Address : 13631  
Street : EMPRESS LN  
Cross 1 : GOLDEN GROVE AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY - PLEASE PAINT AND FLAG - NIPSCO CLEARED  
THE PATH - FLAGGED OR STAKED  
:  
Grids : 4125B8729A 4125B8729B 4125B8730D 4125C8729A 4125C8729B  
Grids : 4125C8730D 4125D8729B  
Boundary: n 41.428604 s 41.420808 w -87.501848 e -87.494146

Work type : INSTALL GAS AND ELECTRIC  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 07/24/2013 Time: 11:27 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 : TENNILLE FORD Phone: (800)322-2806  
Contact : MARK SCHIESSLE---CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (219)746-8237  
Fax : (219)647-4764

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
PER TENNILLE FORD -- CUT NIPSCO GAS LINE IN THE EASEMENT BEHIND THE HOUSE -  
CANNOT HEAR OR SMELL THE GAS - 4 INCH PLASTIC YELLOW LINE - HAVE CALLED 911 -  
NIPSCO IS ON SITE ---  
CREW IS ON SITE - PREVIOUS TICKET 1307171980 - THANK YOU  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO  
:

Submitted date: 07/24/2013 Time: 11:25  
Members: AN COMCN IB ID4655 ID8240 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

**Notification ID** 01820130724006  
**Damage Date** 07/24/2013 11:33  
**Notified By** TENNILLE FORD ()  
**Damage Address** 13631 EMPRESS LN  
DYER, IN  
**District** Northern Indiana  
**Notification Date** 07/24/2013  
11:40

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**Damaged Customer** NIPSCO

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**Investigation Date From** 07/24/2013 12:45:00 **To** 07/24/2013 13:00:00

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**Excavator Involved** NIPSCO

**Type of Excavation** Installing gas and electric services

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**Orig. Locate Request** 1307171980 **Start Date** 07/19/2013 12:00  
**Type of Ticket** Routine **Locate Req. Info** N/A

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**Damage Request #** 1307241727 **Start Date** 07/24/2013 12:45

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**Pictures Taken By** Nathan Wolf **Date** 07/24/2013 12:45

**Photography Type** Digital **Frame #**

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**Investigator Emp. #** 134728 **Investigator Name** Nathan Wolf

**Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed?** No

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Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

**Facility Description** Low Profile **Facility ID** main - 4"

**Locator Name & EMP #** Lagermann Daniel - 123738 **Locator Not Known**

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**Investigation Findings**

Facility Marked Accurately

**Other Notes**

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**Investigation Methods**

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

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**Investigator Statement/Causal Factors**

NIPSCO damaged the 4" gas main while installing gas and electric services to the house. The stub for the electric was placed directly above the 4" gas main. The post locate show the main was marked where the damage occurred. Upon investigation there was only one mark left due to construction activity. The existing mark was within tolerance of the damaged line. When repaired the damaged main NIPSCO found the main further away from the damage using our original marks to squeeze the line and stop the gas from blowing.

**Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement**

Tony Sanchez NIPSCO Hammond Operations Manager Tommy Buher NIPSCO Field Coordinator

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

n/a

**Other individuals on site**

n/a

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<b>Were any markings visible on the damage site upon arrival?</b>	Yes
<b>Were any other indicators of facility present in the area?</b>	Yes
<b>Was the excavation within the tolerance zone of marks?</b>	Yes
<b>Extent of facility damage</b>	cut to the top of 4" main
<b>Replacement Footage</b>	3'
<b>Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?</b>	No
<b>What contractor equipment was used?</b>	
<b>Is the facility shown on the utility records?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, list record numbers</b>	NIPSCO gas prints

# Hit 4" Main 13631 Empress Lane.

- Original Locate # 1307171980
- Emergency Locate # 1307241749
- Tracking #01820130724007
- Damage # 1307241727
- Damage Date 7/24/2013
- Time Reported 10:54 AM
- Crew on Site 10:54 AM
- Gas Stopped
- 4" Plastic Main
- Gas Restored

# **INCIDENT ALERT/ ROOT CAUSE ANALAYISS**

**Department:** Hammond Gas C&M      **Address:** 13631 Empress Lane Dyer, IN

**Damage Facility:** 4" Gas Main      **Date/Time of Incident:** 7/24/2013/ 10:54am

**Supervisor:** Tony Sanchez

**Description of Incident:** NIPSCO C&M Line Crew was installing buried electric and gas to address. Locates on site were for the 13631 Empress Lane address facilities and not the area the damage occurred at the main. Line crew struck the 4" main with an excavator approximately 20' from the located gas stub. No visible gas or electric locates were near damage location. While excavating the visible electric stub the crew hit the 4" gas main directly below the electric stub.

**Root Cause:** Employee should have not operated outside the scope of the locate ticket.

**Secondary Causes:** Improper installation of stubs as designed. Working outside the scope of the original ticket. Engineer should have verified stub locations upon field inspection for white flagging or white lining to include area outside of the 13631 address for locates.

## **Causative Factors:**

1. Employee should have not operated outside the scope of the locate ticket.
2. Employee was attempting to extend a new electric line service from the visible stub without locates..
3. The initial stubbed service had been installed improperly or affectively cut off in wrong location by approximately 20'.
4. Engineer should have verified stub locations upon field inspection for white flagging or white lining to include area outside of the 13631 address for locates

## **Causal Factors**

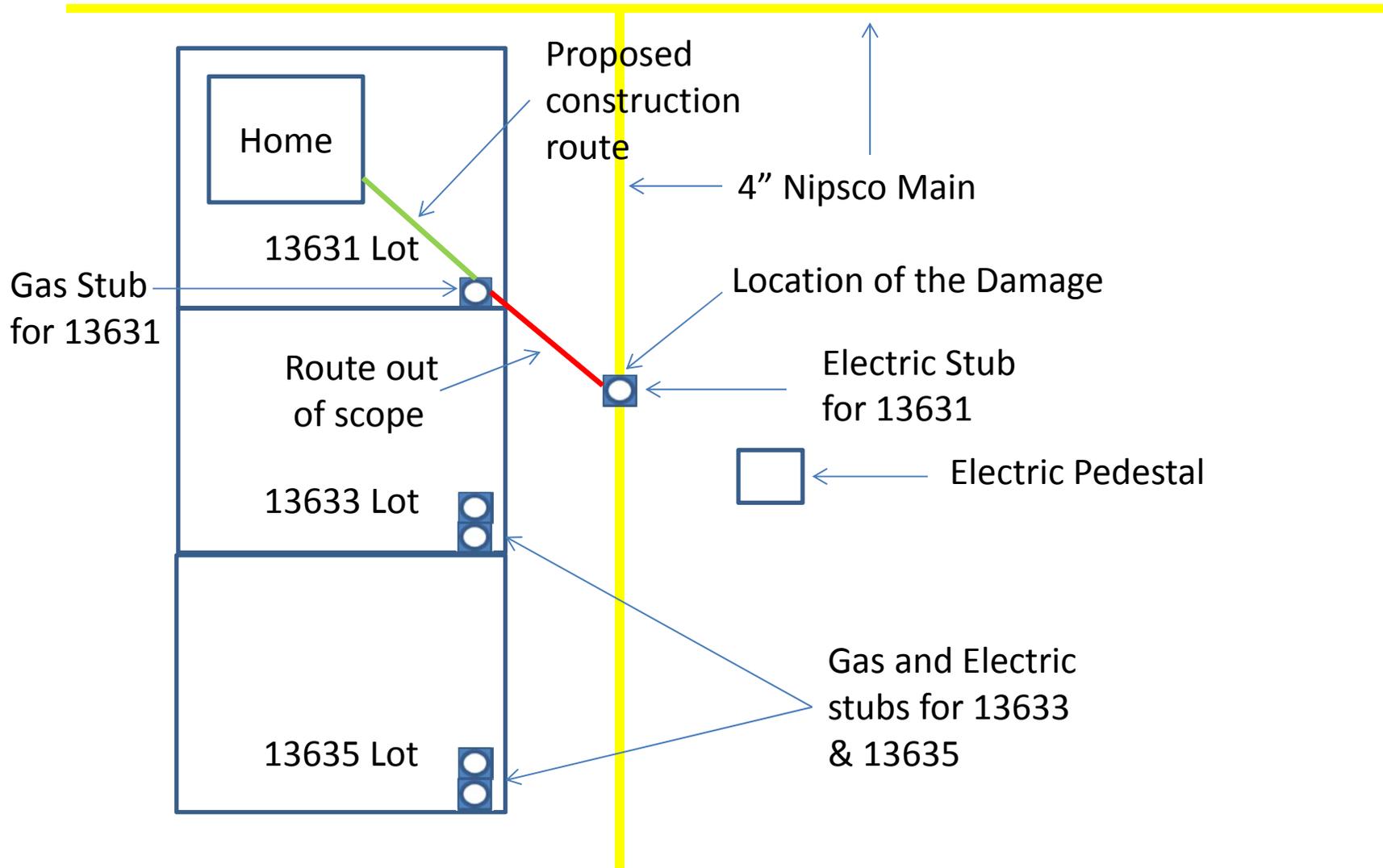
1. Employee was MEO qualified on this equipment and OQ'd for this installation.
2. Locates were accurate within the area of the original scope.
3. The GIS had shown this main in the area of the hit.
4. The operator failed to verify information provided on the GIS.

## **Corrective Actions:**

1. Proposed to Engineers while designing projects to incorporate all elements of records including as-builts. Drawings could have potentially shown this stub in the wrong location. While conducting field inspections verify locations and include the entire scope of the project.
2. Advised Gas O&M Crew to never work outside of the scope of the locate ticket.
3. Advised Gas O&M Crew to always validate locates whenever possible that could have potentially shown the location of the damaged unmarked main.

**Proposed Procedural Remedial Action:** To build a project folder at the design phase from the Engineers to incorporate all elements of records including proposed design, as-builts, linens, service cards, GIS and a Google earth white lined scope for each project. To be delivered to the Supervisors and crews and kept on site until work is completed.

# Diagram Of Damage & Location





Property of United States Infrastructure Corporation

Photo taken on 7/24/2013 9:52:37 PM