



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: Indiana Earth Incorporated

UPPAC Database Record ID: 5215

Report Date: 10/15/2013

Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 7/30/2013 10:24:58 AM

Damage Address: W Chippewa Ave, Portage, St Joseph

### The Parties

Excavator: **Indiana Earth Incorporated**

Address: 10343 Mckinley Highway, Osceola, In 46561

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

### Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Trencher

Type of Work Performed: Curb / Sidewalk

### 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  
7/26/2013

Indiana 811 Ticket Number: 1307242066

Original Start Date:

Locate Instructions: LOCATE A 75 FOOT RADIUS OF THE INTERSECTION

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

**Synopsis:** Excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while performing curb/sidewalk work.

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 9/6/2013. The excavator had a valid locate ticket and the gas operator provided accurate locate markings; however, the excavator performed work outside the scope of the locate ticket which called for a 75 foot radius of the intersection and with damage occurring 109 feet from the intersection edge.

**Conclusion:** There was a failure to provide adequate notice of excavation to include the entire scope of excavation.

**Violation: IC 8-1-26-16(g)(out) Failure to provide notice of excavation - damage occurred outside requested locate area.**



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. 5215  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 5215

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: 7/30/2013  
Event Location: W Chippewa Ave  
City: Portage  
Facility Owner: Nipsco  
Excavator: Indiana Earth Incorporated  
Other Party: N/A  
Pipeline Division Case No. 5215

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. 5215</b>	
Date of Event	7/30/2013
Event Location	W Chippewa Ave
Event City	Portage
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	Indiana Earth Incorporated
Date of IURC Information Request	May 1, 2013
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	Indiana Earth Incorporated
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	10343 McKinley Highway
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Osceola / IN / 46561
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	574-674-6488
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	<a href="mailto:earth92inc@sbcglobal.net">earth92inc@sbcglobal.net</a>
<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	3775 S Main Street
CITY/STATE/ZIP	South Bend / IN /
NEAREST INTERSECTION	W Chippewa Avenue
<b>PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)</b>	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
<b>FACILITY TYPE (Select One)</b>	
DISTRIBUTION	
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	X
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	1/2"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	35
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
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	X
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	
Waterway Improvement	
Unknown/Other	
RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y – 1307301005
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1307242066
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)	N
<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>Excavator dug outside scope of ticket.</p> <p>NIPSCO Emergency Repair Ticket# 1307301253.</p>	

# NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA So Bend MAXIMO WO # \_\_\_\_\_  
 OPERATING AREA CONTACT Tim Armstrong JOB ORDER # 602958  
 TRACKING NUMBER 0182013 0730 005 LOCATE REF # 1307242066  
 Locate Performed By: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT 7-30-13 2013 M DATE OF REPORT 7-30-13  
 PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 3775 S. Main St., So. Bend IN

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

**GAS:** SERVICE ( MAIN ( ) SIZE 1/2 MATERIAL: PLASTIC ( STEEL ( ) METER ( ) REG STATION ( ) STUB ( )  
 OTHER (DESCRIBE) \_\_\_\_\_

DEPTH OF FACILITY (inches) 18" 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 10:00 am TIME SHUT OFF 10:30 am TIME RESTORED 11:30

DIAMETER/MEASUREMENT OF HOLE IN GAS FACILITY: 1/2"

LOCATE MARKS ON SITE: YES ( DISTANCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND LOCATE MARKS 3' NO ( )  
 HOW LOCATED: PAINT ( FLAGS ( ) BOTH ( ) WHITE LINED ( )

PARTY THAT CAUSED DAMAGES (NAME) Indian Earth Inc. 674-6488

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) \_\_\_\_\_

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS NAME AND ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

AGENCIES NOTIFIED / ONSITE: POLICE ( ) AGENCY N/A REPORT # \_\_\_\_\_  
 FIRE ( ) AGENCY N/A REPORT # \_\_\_\_\_  
 OTHER ( ) N/A 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
- |  |                                     |   |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE/FARMING | <input type="checkbox"/> CABLE TV   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CURB/SIDEWALK | <input type="checkbox"/> TELECOMMUNICATIONS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BLDG CONSTRUCTION   | <input type="checkbox"/> DEMOLITION | <input type="checkbox"/> DRAINAGE                 | <input type="checkbox"/> WATER              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DRIVEWAY            | <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRIC   | <input type="checkbox"/> SURVEYING                | <input type="checkbox"/> DRAINS/CULVERTS    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FENCING             | <input type="checkbox"/> GRADING    | <input type="checkbox"/> IRRIGATION               | <input type="checkbox"/> MOWING             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPING         | <input type="checkbox"/> PIPELINE   | <input type="checkbox"/> MILLING                  | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> POLE/SIGN POST      | <input type="checkbox"/> ROAD WORK  | <input type="checkbox"/> SEWER                    |   |

- TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED** - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW
- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUGER             | <input type="checkbox"/> HAND TOOLS          | <input type="checkbox"/> BACKHOE/TRACKHOE  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MILLING EQUIPMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PROBING DEVICE      | <input type="checkbox"/> BORING / DRILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLOSIVES        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRENCHER | <input type="checkbox"/> FARM EQUIPMENT    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VACCUUM EQUIPMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> GRADER              | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____       |

- REASON DAMAGE OCCURRED** - CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW
- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOTIVE ACCIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> EXCAVATING BEFORE LOCATES DUE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARELESS MACHINE OPERATOR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO NOTIFICATION     | <input type="checkbox"/> MARKS DISTURBED               | <input type="checkbox"/> STUB                                 |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____                          |

COMMENTS:

HIT service with equipment

PERSON PREPARING REPORT

U 122124

FIELD SUPERVISOR

Tim Armstrong

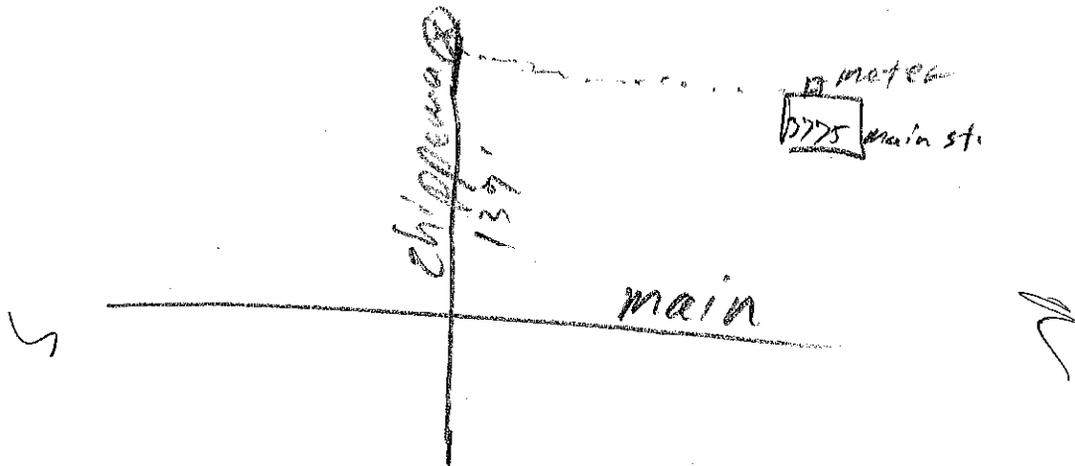
FIELD MANAGER

Gary King

Raymond

- 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 00363 IUPPSa 07/30/2013 11:00:51 1307301253-00A EMER NEW STRT

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307301253 Date: 07/30/2013 Time: 10:57 Oper: BLIEVERTZ Chan:058

State: IN Cnty: ST JOSEPH Twp: PORTAGE  
Cityname: SOUTH BEND Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 3775  
Street : S MAIN ST  
Cross 1 : CHIPPEWA AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY  
:  
Grids : 4138C8615D 4138D8615D  
Boundary: n 41.638774 s 41.635630 w -86.252568 e -86.250935

Work type : GAS SERVICE REPAIR  
Done for : NIPSCO  
Start date: 07/30/2013 Time: 10:58 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 : TONY LOPEZ - CELL Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (574)876-8107  
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: 07/30/2013 Time: 10:57  
Members: AEPIN COMCN ID5610 ID6590 NIPSCO SBCIN SM

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

NIPSCO 00594 IUPPSa 07/24/2013 12:30:54 1307242066-00A NORM NEW STRT

NORMAL NOTICE REMARK SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307242066 Date: 07/24/2013 Time: 12:29 Oper: MMOELLER Chan:039  
Old Tkt: 1307220576 Date: 07/22/2013 Time: 09:13 Oper: SLUCAS Rev: 00A

State: IN Cnty: ST JOSEPH Twp: PORTAGE  
Cityname: SOUTH BEND Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address :  
Street : W CHIPPEWA AVE  
Cross 1 : S MAIN ST Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: LOCATE A 75 FOOT RADIUS OF THE INTERSECTION  
:  
Grids : 4138D8615D  
Boundary: n 41.636727 s 41.635629 w -86.252570 e -86.251106

Work type : STORM STRUCTURES INSTALL  
Done for : CITY OF SOUTH BEND/RIETH RILEY  
Start date: 07/26/2013 Time: 12:45 Hours notice: 48/048 Priority: NORM  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N  
Duration : 2 WEEKS Depth: 8 FEET

Company : INDIANA EARTH INCORPORATED Type: CONT  
Co addr : 10343 MCKINLEY HIGHWAY  
City : OSCEOLA State: IN Zip: 46561  
Caller : NATALIE NARAGON Phone: (574)674-6488  
Contact : KEITH STEVENS - OFFICE Phone:  
BestTime:  
Mobile : (574)674-6488  
Fax : (574)674-6480  
Email : EARTH92INC@SBCGLOBAL.NET

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

Submitted date: 07/24/2013 Time: 12:29  
Members: AEPIN COMCN ID5610 ID6590 NIPSCO SBCIN SM

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

NIPSCO 00287 IUPPSa 07/30/2013 10:25:08 1307301005-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1307301005 Date: 07/30/2013 Time: 10:18 Oper: SLUCAS Chan:060

State: IN Cnty: ST JOSEPH Twp: PORTAGE  
Cityname: SOUTH BEND Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address :

Street : W CHIPPEWA AVE

Cross 1 : S MAIN ST Within 1/4 mile: Y

Location: LOCATE A 75 FOOT RADIUS OF THE INTERSECTION

:

Grids : 4138D8615D

Boundary: n 41.636727 s 41.635629 w -86.252570 e -86.251106

Work type : STORM STRUCTURES INSTALL

Done for : CITY OF SOUTH BEND/RIETH RILEY

Start date: 07/30/2013 Time: 10:18 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER

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

Duration : 2 WEEKS Depth: 8 FEET

Company : INDIANA EARTH INCORPORATED Type: CONT

Co addr : 10343 MCKINLEY HIGHWAY

City : OSCEOLA State: IN Zip: 46561

Caller : NATALIE NARAGON Phone: (574)674-6488

Contact : KEITH STEVENS - OFFICE Phone:

BestTime:

Mobile : (574)674-6488

Fax : (574)674-6480

Email : EARTH92INC@SBCGLOBAL.NET

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

A NIPSCO GAS LINE HAS BEEN HIT ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION -  
CREW IS ON SITE - GAS LINE IS NOT BLOWING - LINE IS APPROX 1/2 INCH THICK AND  
PINCHED OFF - CALLER DID CALL THE UTILITY BUT DID NOT CALL 911 BUT WAS ADVISED  
TO DO SO - PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER IS 1307242066 - THANK YOU

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

:

Submitted date: 07/30/2013 Time: 10:18

Members: AEPIN COMCN ID5610 ID6590 NIPSCO SBCIN SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

**Notification ID** 01820130730003  
**Damage Date** 07/30/2013 10:25  
**Notified By** NATALIE NARAGON ()  
**Damage Address** W CHIPPEWA AVE & MAIN  
SOUTH BEND, IN  
**District** Northern Indiana  
**Notification Date** 07/30/2013 10:30

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**Damaged Customer** NIPSCO

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**Investigation Date From** 07/30/2013 10:45:00 **To** 07/30/2013 11:35:00

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**Excavator Involved** INDIANA EARTH

**Type of Excavation** STORM STRUCTURES INSTALL

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**Orig. Locate Request** 1307242066 **Start Date** 07/26/2013 12:45  
**Type of Ticket** Ongoing Project **Locate Req. Info** N/A

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**Damage Request #** 1307301005 **Start Date** 07/30/2013 10:20

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**Pictures Taken By** Allen O'Donnell **Date** 07/30/2013 10:45  
**Photography Type** Digital **Frame #** see 1307301005

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**Investigator Emp. #** 130534 **Investigator Name** Josh Scheibelhut  
**Based on your investigation, is further investigation needed?** No

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Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

**Facility Description** Low Profile **Facility ID** Gas Service

**Locator Name & EMP #** O'Donnell Allen - 124207 **Locator Not Known**

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**Investigation Findings**

Contractor Dug Outside Marking Instructions

**Other Notes**

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**Investigation Methods**

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

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**Investigator Statement/Causal Factors**

Damage occurred outside the scope of the ticket. Ticket called for LOCATE A 75 FOOT RADIUS OF THE INTERSECTION, Contractor hit a gas service 109ft from the edge of the intersection. Old paint was still visible in the street from an older locate request.

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

n/a

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

n/a

**Other individuals on site**

Allen O'Donnell, USIC

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**Were any markings visible on the damage site upon arrival?** Yes

**Were any other indicators of facility present in the area?** No

<b>Was the excavation within the tolerance zone of marks?</b>	Yes
<b>Extent of facility damage</b>	cut
<b>Replacement Footage</b>	splice
<b>Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?</b>	No n/a
<b>What contractor equipment was used?</b>	n/a
<b>Is the facility shown on the utility records?</b>	No
<b>If yes, list record numbers</b>	n/a