STATE OF INDIANA

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: David Christopherson

UPPAC Database Record ID: 5321

Report Date: 10/21/2013 Investigator: Mike Orr

Damage Date: 8/21/2013 9:24:49 PM Damage Address: 882 N 350 E, Jackson, Porter

The Parties

Excavator: **David Christopherson**

Address: 10324 West 100 North, Michigan City, In 46360

Facility Owner: **NIPSCO**

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas Facility Function: Service/Drop

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools Type of Work Performed: Construction

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: LOCATE THE BACK OF HOUSE

Follow-Up Locate Instructions (if applicable):

Synopsis: Excavator struck and damaged an underground natural gas service while performing deck construction work.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 9/6/2013. The excavator failed to provide notice of excavation to the association (IN811).

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

October 11, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 5321
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 5321

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: 8/21/2013

Event Location: 882 N 350 E

City: Jackson

Facility Owner: Nipsco

Excavator: David Christopherson

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 5321

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. 5321	
Date of Event	8/21/2013
Event Location	882 N 350 E
Event City	Jackson
Facility Owner	Nipsco
Excavator	David Christopherson
Date of IURC Information Request	May 1, 2013
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Dave's Decks and Construction
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	David Christopherson
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	10324 West 100 North
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Michigan City / IN / 46360
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219-448-0027
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	davesdecksconstruction@comcast.net
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	882 N 350 E
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Chesterton / IN /
NEAREST INTERSECTION	US RT 6
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)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	N
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/Scrapper	
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	
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	X – Building Deck
RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	N
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y – 1308211240
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	N

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	N
INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION	
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
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS	
No notification made to the one-call center.	

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
FACILITY DAMAGE REPORT

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

REPORTING OPERATING AREA Valpo **MAXIMO WO #** CO70197820008210949

OPERATING AREA CONTACT Tommy Parker **JOB ORDER #** 601309-5

TRACKING NUMBER 018 2013 0821 004 **LOCATE REF #** No Locates

Locate Performed By: _____

DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT August 21, 2013, 09:49 M DATE OF REPORT 08/21/13

PLACE OF DAMAGE (INCLUDE CITY) 882 N 350 E Chesterton

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) 12" 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 09:49 TIME RESTORED 12:30PM

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) Daves Decks (219) 448-0027 Lic plate RZV642 TRUCK

ADDRESS OF PARTY (INCLUDE CITY) 1032 W 100 N Michigan City, IN

WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE WORK SITE AT TIME OF DAMAGE Dave Christopherson

WITNESS NAME AND ADRESS None

WITNESS REMARKS None

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

FIRE ( ) AGENCY _____ REPORT # _____

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

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

MEDIA ON SITE YES ( ) NO (✓)

WORK IN PROGRESS WHEN FACILITY DAMAGED – CHECK APPROPRIATE CHOICE BELOW

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

TYPE OF EQUPMENT 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 No Locates

- **SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS AND DIAGRAM**

COMMENTS : Hit service w/hand posthole digger while setting post for deck. Contractor was installing deck over existing gas meter. We are rerouting gas meter.

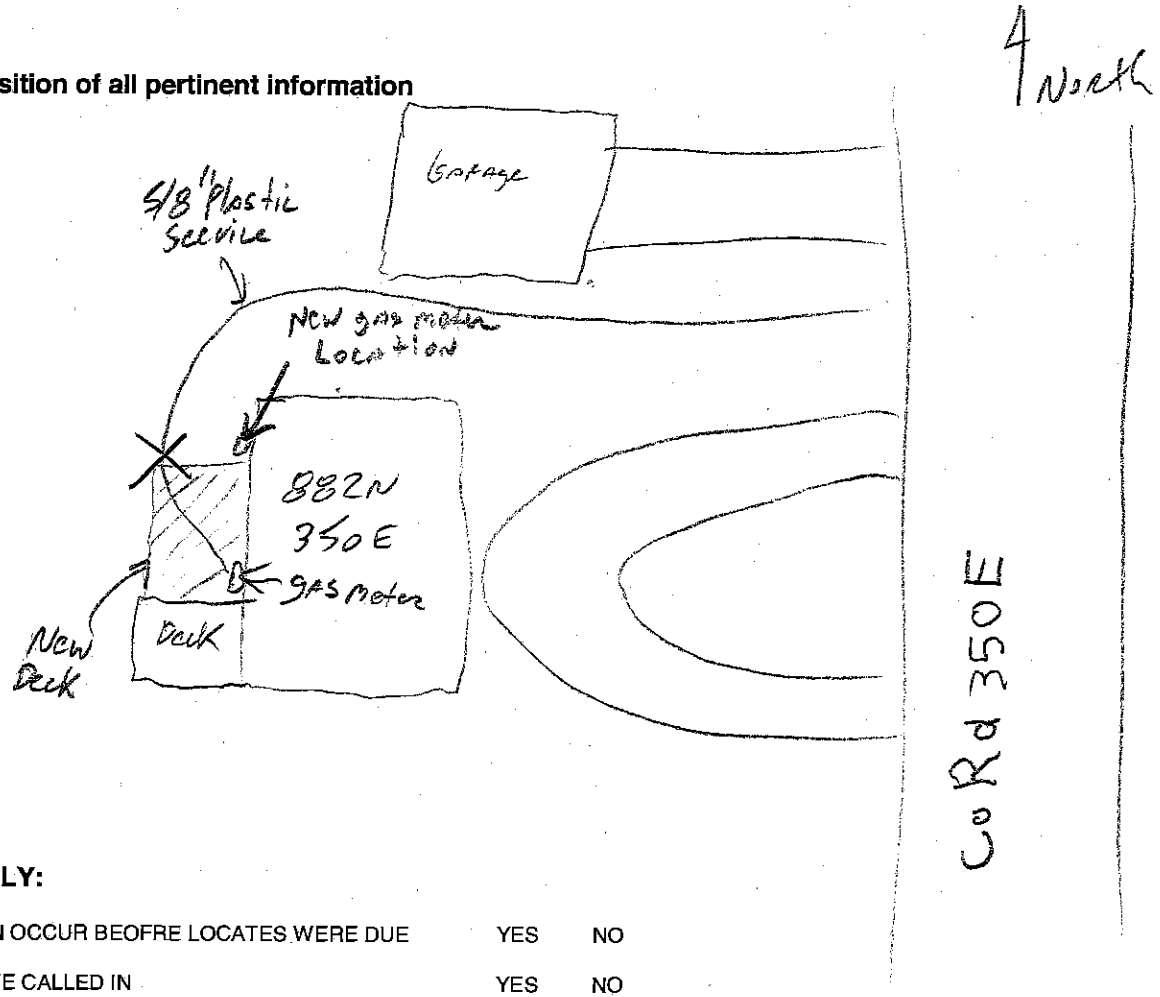
PERSON PREPARING REPORT Ryan Walsh

FIELD SUPERVISOR Tommy Parker

FIELD MANAGER John Todd

- **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 BEOFRE 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 00421 IUPPSa 08/21/2013 11:01:56 1308211240-00A EMER NEW  GRID

EMERGENCY SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1308211240 Date: 08/21/2013 Time: 10:57 Oper: SPOPE Chan:044

State: IN Cnty: PORTER Twp: JACKSON
Cityname: CHESTERTON  Inside: N Near: Y
Subdivision:

Address : 882
Street  : N 350 E
Cross 1 : RIDGEVIEW DR   Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids   : 4133A8659A   4133A8659B   4133A8700C   4133A8700D   4133B8659A
Grids   : 4133B8659B   4133B8700C   4133B8700D   4134D8659A   4134D8659B
Grids   : 4134D8700C   4134D8700D
Boundary: n 41.567173    s 41.559588    w -87.004374    e -86.992247

Work type : REPAIR GAS LINE
Done for  : NIPSCO
Start date: 08/21/2013  Time: 10:59  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 : STEVE TAYLOR - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile  : (219)314-9567
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: 08/21/2013 Time: 10:57
Members: COMCN  ID2511 ID3133 ID6794 ID7528 ID8000 NIPSCO SM
```

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

NIPSCO 01159 IUPPSa 08/21/2013 21:24:49 1308213637-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1308213637 Date: 08/21/2013 Time: 21:13 Oper: NPICKEREL Chan:075

State: IN Cnty: PORTER Twp: JACKSON
Cityname: CHESTERTON Inside: N Near: Y
Subdivision:

Address : 882
Street : N 350 E
Cross 1 : US RT 6 Within 1/4 mile: N
Location: LOCATE THE BACK OF HOUSE
:
Grids : 4133A8659A 4133B8659A 4133C8659A 4134D8659A
Boundary: n 41.569110 s 41.558103 w -86.999658 e -86.998012

Work type : EXTENDING DECK
Done for : JIM BOYLE
Start date: 08/21/2013 Time: 21:18 Hours notice: 0/000 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 2 DAYS Depth: 1 FOOT

Company : DAVID CHRISTOPHERSON Type: OTHR
Co addr : 10324 WEST 100 NORTH
City : MICHIGAN CITY State: IN Zip: 46360
Caller : DAVID CHRISTOPHERSON Phone: (219)448-0027
Contact : DAVID CHRISTOPHERSON--CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)448-0027
Email : DAVESDECKSCONSTRUCTION@COMCAST.NET

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
PER DAVID CHRISTOPHERSON - HAS NICK A NIPSCO GAS LINE - GAS BLOWING BUT HE
PINCHED IT OFF - THIS WAS AROUND 10AM IN THE MORNING - REAR OF HOUSE - 5/8 INCH
PLASTIC - PINK IN COLOR - CREW IS NOT ON SITE - CALLER HAS CALLED NIPSCO -
NISPSCO HAS ALREADY REPAIRED THE DAMAGED LINE - ANY QUESTIONS CALL DAVID
CHRISTOPHERSON AT 219-448-0027 - NO PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 08/21/2013 Time: 21:13
Members: COMCN ID2511 ID6794 ID8000 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

Notification ID 01820130821004
Damage Date 08/21/2013 00:00
Notified By ANNISSA (Facility Owner)
Damage Address 882 N 350 E PORTER COUNTY
CHESTERTON , IN
District Northern Indiana
Notification Date 08/21/2013 11:06

Damaged Customer NIPSCO

Investigation Date From 08/21/2013 11:00:00 **To** 08/21/2013 11:35:00

Excavator Involved HOMEOWNER
Type of Excavation DECK INSTALL

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

Damage Request # M101845692 **Start Date** 08/21/2013 10:55

Pictures Taken By STEVE KRESMINSKI **Date** 08/21/2013 11:35
Photography Type Digital **Frame #** 1

Investigator Emp. # 117011 **Investigator Name** STEVE KRESMINSKI
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 # Kresminski Steve - 117011 **Locator Not Known**

Investigation Findings
No Locate Req. By Contractor
Other Notes

Investigation Methods
Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative
Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

Investigator Statement/Causal Factors
HOMEOWNER CUT 5/8 IN PLASTIC GAS SERVICE WHILE DIGGING POSTS TO ADD ON TO THE EXISTING DECK. NO LOCATES HAD BEEN CALLED IN. NO PAINT OR FLAGS IN THE AREA. I HOOKED UP TO SERVICE AND PAINTED IT OUT IN WHITE
Names of Utility Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement
RYAN WITH NIPSCO STATED NO LOCATES HAD BEEN CALLED IN.
Names of Excavator's Representatives Contacted or on Site and Statement
NONE
Other individuals on site
NONE

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 tolerence zone of marks?	No
Extent of facility damage	HOLE IN SERVICE
Replacement Footage	10'
Was contractor assistance required? If yes, who?	No
What contractor equipment was used?	NA
Is the facility shown on the utility records?	No
If yes, list record numbers	NA