



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Wallene Swentko**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2975

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 8/10/2012

Damage Date: 5/18/2012 12:35:14 PM

Damage Address: 7102 Howard Ave

City: Hammond

County: Lake

The Parties

Excavator: **Wallene Swentko**

Contact: Wallene Swentko

Address: 7102 Howard Ave, Hammond, In 46324

Telephone:

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Contact: Kit Earle

Address: 101 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

Investigation regarding: Wallene Swentko

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2975

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$645.07000000000005

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: Yes Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1204303635

Type of Equipment: Unknown/Other

Type of work performed: Bldg. Construction

Synopsis: A natural gas service was damaged during excavation of a deck.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 6/18/2012. Excavator had a valid locate request and the operator provided accurate locate markings.

Conclusion: There was a failure to plan excavation to avoid damage.

Violation: IC 8-1-26-20(b): Failure to plan excavation to avoid damage or interference with underground facilities; Failure to maintain two (2) feet clearance with mechanized equipment.

Wallene Swentko currently has no other report of damages in the record.



101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

July 25, 2012

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 2975
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 2975

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: 5/18/2012

Event Location: 7102 Howard Ave, Hammond

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Wallene Swentko

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 2975

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. 2975	
Date of Event	5/18/2012
Event Location	7102 Howard Ave, Hammond
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Wallene Swentko
Date of IURC Information Request	7/5/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Wallene Swentko
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	Wallene Swentko
TITLE (IF ANY)	Property Owner
ADDRESS	7102 Howard Avenue
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Hammond, IN 46324
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 Locating Service
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	9045 North River Road, Suite 300
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Indianapolis, IN 46240
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
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	7102 Howard Avenue
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Hammond, IN 4624
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)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	645.07
CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:	
TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	X
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	X Deck
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)	
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y 1205181836
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Yes

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1204303635
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	Yes
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	Yes
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	Yes
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	Yes
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	No
INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION	
NUMBER OF OUTPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF INPATIENT TREATED	0
NUMBER OF FACILITIES	
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	
FPOLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO)	
AMBULANCE RESPONSE (YES/NO)	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS	
Excavator hit accurately marked facility Nipsco emergency repair ticket #: 1205181860	

NIPSCO 00539 IUPPSa 05/18/2012 12:35:16 1205181836-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1205181836 Date: 05/18/2012 Time: 12:31 Oper: CALEVI Chan:031

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: NORTH
Cityname: HAMMOND Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

2975

Address : 7102
Street : HOWARD AVE
Cross 1 : 171ST ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE MIDDLE OF THE BACKYARD
:
Grids : 4135D8730D
Boundary: n 41.585228 s 41.583702 w -87.503342 e -87.501877

Work type : INSTALL TWO DECKS
Done for : WALLENE SWENTKO
Start date: 05/18/2012 Time: 12:31 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 3 WEEK Depth: 36 INCHES

Company : WALLENE SWENTKO Type: HOME
Co addr : 7102 HOWARD AVE
City : HAMMOND State: IN Zip: 46324
Caller : WALLENE SWENTKO Phone: (219)931-3406
Contact : WALLENE SWENTKO - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)730-2207
Email : WALLBOSSY2@AOL.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
PER WALLENE -HAVE NICKED A GAS LINE IT IS SMELLING NOT SPEWING-IN THE BACK
YARD--HAVE CALLED THE FIRE DEPARTMENT-AND HAVE CALLED NIPSCO-CALLER IS NOT
OUTSIDE TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF LINE IT IS -FIRE DEPARTMENT IS ON SITE--PREVIOUS
TICKET-1204303635

Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES

:

Submitted date: 05/18/2012 Time: 12:31
Members: COMCN IB ID6405 ID6428 NIPSCO SM

NIPSCO 01167 IUPPSa 04/30/2012 18:05:25 1204303635-00A NORM NEW STRT

NORMAL NOTICE JOB EXTENSION

Ticket : 1204303635 Date: 04/30/2012 Time: 17:54 Oper: KLEWIS Chan:032

State: IN Cnty: LAKE Twp: NORTH
Cityname: HAMMOND Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

#2975

Address : 7102
Street : HOWARD AVE
Cross 1 : 171ST ST Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE THE MIDDLE OF THE BACKYARD
:
Grids : 4135D8730D
Boundary: n 41.585228 s 41.583702 w -87.503342 e -87.501877

Work type : INSTALL TWO DECKS
Done for : WALLENE SWENTKO
Start date: 05/02/2012 Time: 18:00 Hours notice: 48/48 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 3 WEEK Depth: 36 INCHES

Company : WALLENE SWENTKO Type: HOME
Co addr : 7102 HOWARD AVE
City : HAMMOND State: IN Zip: 46324
Caller : WALLENE SWENTKO Phone: (219)931-3406
Contact : WALLENE SWENTKO - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)730-2207
Email : WALLBOSSY2@AOL.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
REMARK AS NEEDED PLEASE - PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER 1204123521 - THANK YOU
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? YES
:

Submitted date: 04/30/2012 Time: 17:54
Members: COMCN IB ID6405 ID6428 NIPSCO SM

Fact Based Investigation Report

01820120518010
Northern IN
5/18/2012 12:31:00 PM
5/18/2012 12:40:10 PM
WALLENE SWENTKO
7102 HOWARD AVE
HAMMOND
ST: IN ZIP:

NOTIFICATION ID:
DISTRICT:
DAMAGE DATE:
NOTIFICATION DATE:
NOTIFIED BY:
DAMAGE ADDRESS:
CITY:

NIPSCO

DAMAGED CUSTOMER:

05/18/2012
11:50:00
12:15:00

INVESTIGATION DATE:
FROM:
TO:

HOMEOWNER
install decks

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED:
TYPE OF EXCAVATION:

1204303635
5/2/2012 6:00:00 PM
Routine

ORIG. LOCATE REQ.:
START DATE/TIME:
TYPE OF TICKET:
LOCATE REQ. INFO N/A:

1205181836
5/18/2012 12:30:00 PM

DIG UP/DAMAGE REQ.:
START DATE/TIME:

guillermo garcia
5/18/2012 11:50:00 AM
Digital

PICTURES TAKEN BY:
DATE/TIME:
PHOTOGRAPHY TYPE:
FRAME #:

131985

INVESTIGATOR EMP#:
INVESTIGATOR NAME:

guillermo garcia
BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?

No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

01820120518010

NIPSCO

(optional)

NOTIFICATION ID:

SELECT A CUSTOMER:

CUSTOMER #:

LOWPROF

Gas Service

Nagel Brad - 131807

FACILITY DESCRIPTION:

FACILITY ID:

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #:

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO INVESTIGATION:

Facility Marked Accurately

Other:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO METHOD OF INVESTIGATION (at least one must be checked):

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation

INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:

old marks still visible on site at time of investigation, and are accurate. post locate photos are missing from original ticket. supervisor will meet with tech to find photos

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

na

NAMES OF EXCAVATOR'S REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

na

LIST ANY 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

cut service

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE

unknown

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO?

No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?

unknown

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS?

No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)