



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Vegas Landscaping

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2982

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 8/10/2012

Damage Date: 5/22/2012 10:55:37 AM

Damage Address: 25 Lockerbie Dr

City: Valparaiso

County: Porter

The Parties

Excavator: **Vegas Landscaping**

Contact: Samantha Brown

Address: 126 West Us Rt 6, Valparaiso, In 46385

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: Vegas Landscaping

UPPAC Database Record ID: 2982

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: 1205102956

Type of Equipment: Trencher

Type of work performed: Irrigation

Synopsis: A natural gas service was damaged during excavation to install an irrigation line.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 6/28/2012. Excavator had a valid locate request and the operator provided accurate locate markings.

Conclusion: Excavator failed to maintain the required clearance with mechanized equipment.

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.

Vegas Landscaping 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. 2982
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 2982

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: 5/22/2012

Event Location: 25 lockerbie Dr, Valparaiso

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Vegas Landscaping

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 2982

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Earle".

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. 2982	
Date of Event	5/22/2012
Event Location	25 lockerbie Dr, Valparaiso
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Vegas Landscaping
Date of IURC Information Request	7/5/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Vegas Landscaping
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	126 West US RT 6
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Valparaiso, IN 46385
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219 476 4300
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	219 406 4583
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	25 Lockerbie Dr Lot G65
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Valparaiso, IN
NEAREST INTERSECTION	Argyle
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.)	
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	
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/Scraper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trencher	X
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	X
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 1205221578
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1205102956
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
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 service Nipsco emergency ticket #: 1205221628	

Fact Based Investigation Report

01820120522003
Northern IN
5/22/2012 10:52:00 AM
5/22/2012 11:00:12 AM
SAMANTHA BROWN
25 LOCKERBIE DR
VALPARAISO
ST: IN ZIP:

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

NIPSCO

DAMAGED CUSTOMER:

05/22/2012
10:45:00
11:55:00

INVESTIGATION DATE:
FROM:
TO:

VEGA'S LANDSCAPING
Irrigation

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED:
TYPE OF EXCAVATION:

1205102956
5/14/2012 3:30:00 PM
Routine

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

1205221578
5/22/2012 10:50:00 AM

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

Anita Whitis
5/22/2012 11:00:00 AM
Digital
1

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

131983

INVESTIGATOR EMP#:
INVESTIGATOR NAME:

Anita Whitis
BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?

No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

01820120522003
NIPSCO
(optional)

NOTIFICATION ID:
SELECT A CUSTOMER:
CUSTOMER #:

LOWPROF
Gas Service
Walker John - 131788

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):
Investigator Verified Existing Marks By Hooking Up,
Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative

INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:
The contractor thought the yellow markings were for his trench line and started trenching and hit the gas line. Area was marked accurately.

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:
Nipsco was just leaving and said marks were good and line was repaired already.

NAMES OF EXCAVATOR'S REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:
Vegas landscape on site no statement

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:
None

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 gas service with trencher

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE

N/A

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO?

No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?

trencher

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS?

No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)

NIPSCO 00476 IUPPSa 05/22/2012 10:56:01 1205221578-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE DAMAGE

Ticket : 1205221578 Date: 05/22/2012 Time: 10:52 Oper: LPORTER Chan:046

State: IN Cnty: PORTER Twp: CENTER
Cityname: VALPARAISO Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision: ABERDEEN

#2982

Address : 25
Street : LOCKERBIE DR
Cross 1 : ARGYLE Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY

:
Grids : 4126C8706A 4126C8707D 4126D8706A 4126D8707D
Boundary: n 41.438931 s 41.435234 w -87.118813 e -87.115593

Work type : LANDSCAPING
Done for : DALTON
Start date: 05/22/2012 Time: 10:52 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 2 WEEKS Depth: 24 INCHES

Company : VEGAS LANDSCAPING Type: CONT
Co addr : 126 WEST US RT 6
City : VALPARAISO State: IN Zip: 46385
Caller : SAMANTHA BROWN Phone: (219)476-4300
Contact : ALEX VEGA - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)406-4583
Fax : (219)476-4355

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
PER LEO - HIT A NIPSCO GAS LINE - GAS IS BLOWING - HAS NOT CALLED 911 - CREW
STILL ON SITE - DIGGING NORTH SIDE OF PROPERTY - LINE IS RED ORANGE IN COLOR -
HAS CALLED NIPSCO - PREVIOUS TICKET 1205102956
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 05/22/2012 Time: 10:52
Members: COMCN ID2511 ID3800 ID8000 ID9959 NIPSCO SM

NIPSCO 00944 IUPPSa 05/10/2012 15:15:29 1205102956-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1205102956 Date: 05/10/2012 Time: 15:08 Oper: TFULLER Chan:050

State: IN Cnty: PORTER Twp: CENTER
Cityname: VALPARAISO Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision: ABERDEEN

#2982

Address : 25
Street : LOCKERBIE DR
Cross 1 : ARGYLE Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:

Grids : 4126C8706A 4126C8707D 4126D8706A 4126D8707D
Boundary: n 41.438931 s 41.435234 w -87.118813 e -87.115593

Work type : LANDSCAPING
Done for : DALTON
Start date: 05/14/2012 Time: 15:30 Hours notice: 96/48 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 2 WEEKS Depth: 24 INCHES

Company : VEGAS LANDSCAPING Type: CONT
Co addr : 126 WEST US RT 6
City : VALPARAISO State: IN Zip: 46385
Caller : SAMANTHA BROWN Phone: (219)476-4300
Contact : ALEX VEGA - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)406-4583
Fax : (219)476-4355

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

Submitted date: 05/10/2012 Time: 15:08
Members: COMCN ID2511 ID3800 ID8000 ID9959 NIPSCO SM