



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Richard E Contos**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3061

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 9/10/2012

Damage Date: 6/2/2012

Damage Address: 7532 Wedgefield Dr

City: Indianapolis

County: Marion

The Parties

Excavator: **Richard E Contos**

Contact:

Address: 7532 Wedgefield Dr, Indianapolis, In 46217

Telephone: 317-457-5235

Facility Owner: Citizens Gas

Contact: Tony Chan

Address: 2150 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

Investigation regarding: Richard E Contos

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3061

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 7

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$0

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: No Indiana 811 ticket Number: No locate requested

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Unknown/Other

Synopsis: A natural gas main was damaged during excavation of a mailbox post.

Findings: Reported by Tony Chan (Citizens Gas); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 8/8/2012. The excavator/homeowner failed to provide notice of excavation.

Conclusion: There was a failure to provide notice of excavation.

Violation: IC 8-1-26-16(g): Failure to provide notice of excavation.



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Jun 14, 2012

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Tony Chan (Citizens Gas)

Business address (*number and street*): 2150 Dr. M.L. King Jr. St.

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46202

Telephone number (*area code*): (317) 927-4619

Fax number (*area code*): (317) 927-4619

E-mail address: AChan@CitizensEnergyGroup.com

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: RICHARD E CONTOS

Business address (*number and street*): 7532 WEDGEFIELD DR

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46217

Telephone number (*area code*): 317-457-5235

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Occupant

Excavation or demolition equipment: Unknown/Other

Type of work performed: Unknown/Other

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Jun 2, 2012

County: Marion

City: Indianapolis

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
7532 WEDGEFIELD DR

Nearest intersection: MOULTRIE DR

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - City Street

Was there a release of product? Yes

If yes, was there an ignition of product? No

Were evacuations necessary as a result of release? No

If yes, how many evacuated? 0

Was there a customer service interruption? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 7

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 2

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ 0

Affected Facility Information

What type of pipeline was damaged? Natural Gas

What was the affected facility? Distribution

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 29

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? No

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: No locate requested

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Unknown/Other

If locates were performed, were they done so by a contractor or pipeline employee? Contractor

If a contractor locator, enter the company name, if known: USIC

Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation? No

Were facilities marked correctly? Unknown/Other

Type of markings used: Paint and Flags

If other, please specify: _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"? No

Were special instructions part of the locate request? No

Were maps used to complete the locate request? Yes

Were pipeline company representatives on site during excavation? No

Did the excavator notify the operator in the event of this damage? Yes

Did the excavator notify Indiana 811 in the event of this damage? No

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? No

Description of Cause

Select from the list the most accurate cause for the damage: --No notification made to the one-call center

Additional Comments



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COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Case Number: 3061

The Pipeline Safety Division of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission requests any and all information you can provide regarding the following criteria.

Upon completion of answers select email button for submission.

The Parties

Excavator Information:

Business Name: N/A

Responsible Party Personal Name: Richard E. Contos

Title (if any):

Address (number and street): 7532 Wedgefield Drive

City, State and ZIP Code: Indianapolis, IN 46217

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): (317) 457-5235

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): (317) 457-5235

Email Address: riccontos@gmail.com

Facility Information:

Business Name: N/A

Responsible Party Personal Name: Richard E. Contos

Title (if any):

Address (number and street): 7532 Wedgefield Drive



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6217

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): (317) 457-5235

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): (317)457-5235

Email Address: riccontos@gmail.com

Locator Service Information:

Business Name:

Responsible Party Personal Name:

Title (if any):

Address (number and street):

City, State and ZIP Code:

Preferred Telephone Number (area code):

Cellular Telephone Number (area code):

Email Address:

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (select one): Hand Tools

Type of Work Performed (select one): Unknown/Other

Other Information (Witness, Police, Fire, Other):

Personal Contact: Chad Haller

Business/Organization Name: N/A

Title (if any):

Address (number and street): 7605 Wedgefield Drive

City, State and ZIP Code: Indianapolis, IN 46217

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): (317) 750-8108



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Email Address: _____

Utility Line Impact

Location of Damage:

Address (number and street): 7532 Wedgefield Drive

City, State and ZIP Code: Indianapolis, IN 46217

Nearest Intersection: Moultrie Drive

Product Type (select one): Natural Gas

Facility Type (select one): Service/Drop

Size (Diameter/etc.): 2.5 inches in diameter

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): ?

Interruption in Service: Yes No **Number of Customers Affected:** _____

Evacuation: Yes No **If yes, How Many Evacuated?** _____

Repair Cost (if known): \$ _____

Release of Product: Yes No

Ignition and/or Fire: Yes No

Excavator Notify 811: Yes No

Locate Information

Excavator Request Locate: Yes No

Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number: _____

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- Yes No
- Locate Marks Correct:** Yes No
- Excavator "White Lined":** Yes No
- Maps Used to Mark Facilities:** Yes No
- Was Locate Provided within Two (2) Working Days:** Yes No
- Operator Employees On-site during Excavation:** Yes No
-

Incident Impact Information

Number of Outpatient Treated: None

Number of Inpatient Treated: None

Number of Fatalities: None

Fire Department Response: Yes No

Police Department Response: Yes No

Ambulance Response: Yes No

Additional Information / Comments

I was replacing a broken mailbox which had been there since before I moved into the house 8 years ago. I used the same hole that the mailbox post was already in, but wanted to make the post sturdier so I used a metal post that was spiked at the end and drove it deeper in the existing hole with a sledge hammer and the spike hit the gas line. Since I wasn't actually digging, I didn't think of calling ahead, but obviously I now know that I should have and won't make that mistake again. As soon as I realized I hit the gas line, I went inside and found the number to call and report the leaking gas line. My neighbor Chad Haller also called to report the incident and I listed his contact information in this form. Someone came out very quickly and the gas line was fixed within a few hours without any issues.



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NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Your Pipeline Safety Division Case Number: 3061

Your Full Name: Richard E. Contos

Full Name of Business / Entity (if applicable): N/A

Your Business Title (if applicable): N/A

Address (number and street): 7532 Wedgefield Drive

City: Indianapolis State: IN ZIP Code: 46217

Your E-mail Address: riccontos@gmail.com

Today's Date (month, day, year): August 8th, 2012

Your Signature: _____ Title (if any) _____

Please return your Narrative Statement to:

Pipeline Safety Division – Case Number 3061
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or scan the statement and Email to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov