



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Lynn Jackson**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3069

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 9/10/2012

Damage Date: 5/6/2012

Damage Address: 4736 Moss Creek Ter

City: Indianapolis

County: Marion

The Parties

Excavator: **Lynn Jackson**

Contact: Lynn Jackson

Address: 4736 Moss Creek Ter, Indianapolis, In 46237

Telephone: 317-783-7183

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: Service/Drop

Investigation regarding: Lynn Jackson

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Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$200

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: Landscaping

Synopsis: A natural gas service was damaged during excavation for landscaping.

Findings: Reported by Tony Chan (Citizens Gas); excavator's response to initial notice was received on 8/5/2012. The excavator/homeowner was digging out a tree stump and cut the gas service with an axe. The operator reported the line to be 18" deep while the homeowner reported the line being 30" deep.

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: May 7, 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: LYNN JACKSON

Business address (*number and street*): 4736 MOSS CREEK TER

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46237

Telephone number (*area code*): 317-783-7183

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*): May 6, 2012

County: Marion

City: Indianapolis

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
4736 MOSS CREEK TER

Nearest intersection: MOSSY ROCK LIN

Right of way where damage occurred: Private - Land Owner

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? 1

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 1

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? Service/Drop

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 18

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? No

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? Yes

Description of Cause

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

Additional Comments



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: August 6, 2012

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Lynn E. Jackson (spouse of homeowner)

Business address (*number and street*): 4736 Moss Creek Ter

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46237

Telephone number (*area code*): 317-908-2813

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: stpeter1@comcast.net

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Lynn E. Jackson

Business address (*number and street*): 4736 Moss Creek Ter

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46237

Telephone number (*area code*): 317-908-2813

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: stpeter1@comcast.net

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Occupant

Excavation or demolition equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Landscaping

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): May 6, 2012

County: Marion

City: Indianapolis

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
4736 Moss Creek Ter

Nearest intersection: Grey Road and Southport Road

Right of way where damage occurred: Private - Land Owner

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? _____

Was there a customer service interruption? Yes

If yes, how many affected? 1

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 1.5

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$ 200

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? 33

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? No

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: _____

Was the locate request completed within two working days?

If locates were performed, were they done so by a contractor or pipeline employee? Unknown/Other

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

Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation? No

Were facilities marked correctly? Unknown/Other

Type of markings used:

If other, please specify: _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"?

Were special instructions part of the locate request?

Were maps used to complete the locate request?

Were pipeline company representatives on site during excavation?

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

Did the excavator notify Indiana 811 in the event of this damage?

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? Yes

Description of Cause

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

Additional Comments

Karen and I had the house built and took possession in the summer of 1991. Shortly thereafter, we began to install our own landscaping. Among other things, we planted an 8 foot River Birch on the south side of the driveway, approximately 18 feet from the corner of the garage and five feet south of the driveway.

The tree was purchased from Brehob Nursery. An 8 foot River Birch, according to Brehob Nursery, has a ball approximately 24 inches in diameter and approximately 24 inches deep. Since the tree was planted on an uneven grade, the deepest part of the hole would have been approximately 30 inches in order to have the entire ball at ground level. At the time of planting the tree, no gas line or other utility was detected.

In the spring of 2012, the tree died at which time I cut the tree down and decided to remove the stump rather than grind it below ground level.

The tree that was originally planted was directly over the gas line as I found out when I was digging around the roots and chopping the roots in order to remove the stump. While chopping a root, the gas line was cut by the ax, along with the root.

Since I detected no gas line or other utilities when the tree was planted, and all utilities were installed prior to planting the tree, I saw no reason to believe any utility or gas line was under the tree.