



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Rice Contracting

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3085

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 8/17/2012

Damage Date: 5/21/2012

Damage Address: 101 E Main Holland, In 47541

City: Holland

County: Dubois

The Parties

Excavator: **Rice Contracting**

Contact:

Address: 9549 Hwy 81, Island, Ky 42350

Telephone: (270) 929-5821

Facility Owner: Community Natural Gas, Inc.

Contact: Donald Kieffer

Address: 118 N Division Street, Mt Carmel, IL 62863

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Service/Drop

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Damage Impact

Product release: No

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 2

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$55.390000000000001

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: Yes Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1205140492

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Telecommunications

Synopsis: Damage to a natural gas service occurred during excavation for a telecommunication line.

Findings: Reported by Curt Songer (Community Natural Gas); excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed on 7/13/2012. The gas operator reported the excavator was careless while trying to expose the gas facility with a shovel.

Conclusion: Excavator failed to plan excavation to avoid damage with underground facilities.

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.

Rice Contracting currently has 2 other reports of damages in the record, between 5/21/2012 and 6/13/2012.



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: May 25, 2012

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Curt Songer (Community Natural Gas)

Business address (*number and street*): 303 N Washington St.

City, State, and ZIP code: Dale, IN 47523

Telephone number (*area code*): (812) 937-2376

Fax number (*area code*): (812) 937-4860

E-mail address: cng_2376@att.net

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Rice Contracting

Business address (*number and street*): 9549 Hwy 81

City, State, and ZIP code: Island, KY 42350

Telephone number (*area code*): (270) 929-5821

Fax number (*area code*): _____

E-mail address: _____

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Telecommunications

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): May 21, 2012

County: Dubois

City: Holland

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
101 E Main Holland, IN 47541

Nearest intersection: Main St./Meridian St.

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - City Street

Was there a release of product? No

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? 2

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 \$ 55.39

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? 20

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? Yes

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: 1205140492

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Yes

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

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

Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation? Yes

Were facilities marked correctly? Yes

Type of markings used: Paint

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: --Failure to maintain clearance

Additional Comments

Was using shovel to locate service but was doing so in an improper way. Not being careful.