



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Steve Schrock Excavating

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3139

Investigator: Howard Friend

Telephone: (317) 650-9105

Report Date: 9/10/12

The Parties

Excavator: Steve Schrock Excavating

Contact: Steve Schrock

Address (City, State): 1025 N 850 W, Shipshewana, IN

Telephone: 574-536-0620

Facility Owner Information:

Business Name: NIPSCO

Contact: Luke Selking

Address (City, State): 1501 Hale Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Telephone: (260) 439-1290

Utility Line Impact:

Damage Date: 6/4/12

Damage Address: 1025 N 850 W

City: Shipshewana

Pipeline Facility

Product Type: Natural Gas

Facility Type/Function: Service

Facility size: 1 1/8"

Service Interruption: Yes

Number of Customers One

Repair Cost (if known): Unknown

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Type of Equipment: Unknown

Type of work performed: Drive

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Excavator notify 811: Yes

Locate Information:

Excavator request locates: Yes

Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1206011951

Incident Impact Information:

Injuries: None

Fatalities: None

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

Findings: The excavator provided notice of excavation to install an air line on 6/1/12 to start work on 6/5/12 at 13:00. The damage occurred on 6/4/12 while installing a drive.

Conclusion: The excavator started work prior to the underground utility being located.

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



101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

August 13, 2012

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 3139
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 3139

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: 6/4/2012

Event Location: 1025 N 850 W, Shipshewana

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Steve Schrock Excavating

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 3139

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. 3139	
Date of Event	6/4/2012
Event Location	1025 N 850 W, Shipshewana
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Steve Schrock Excavating
Date of IURC Information Request	7/13/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Steve Schrock Excavating
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	1025 N 850 W
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Shipshewana, IN
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	574 536 0620
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	574 536 0620
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	1025 N 850 W
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Shipshewana, IN
NEAREST INTERSECTION	Us Rt 20
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.)	1 1/8"
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Y
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	1
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	N
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	0
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	

Trancher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	X
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)	
Agriculture	
Cable TV	
Curb/Sidewalk	
Bldg. Construction	
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	X
RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO)	Y
IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO)	
EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO)	Y 1206042329
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1206011951
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	N
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N
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	
<p>Excavator dug before locates were due Nipsco emergency repair ticket #: 1206042632</p>	

Fact Based Investigation Report

01820120604012
Northern IN
6/4/2012 12:31:00 PM
6/4/2012 12:40:10 PM
JOE SCHLABACH
1025 N 850 W
SHIPSHEWANA
ST: IN ZIP:

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

NIPSCO

DAMAGED CUSTOMER:

06/04/2012
13:00:00
13:30:00

INVESTIGATION DATE:
FROM:
TO:

STEVE SCHROCK EXCAVATING
PUTTIN A AIR LINE

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED:
TYPE OF EXCAVATION:

1206011951
6/5/2012 1:00:00 PM
Routine

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

M52103111

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

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM
6/4/2012 1:00:00 PM
Digital

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

113397
MIKEOBERLIN
BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?
No

INVESTIGATOR EMP#:
INVESTIGATOR NAME:

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

01820120604012

NIPSCO

(optional)

NOTIFICATION ID:

SELECT A CUSTOMER:

CUSTOMER #:

LOWPROF

Gas Service

Cunningham Andrew - 131784

FACILITY DESCRIPTION:

FACILITY ID:

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #:

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO INVESTIGATION:

Contractor Dug Before Ticket Due

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:

CONTRACTOR DUG EARLEY WAS FIXING GAS LINE BY THEM SELVES HAD THEM CALL IN TO GET NIPSCO OUT TO FIX IT

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

U/K

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

U/K

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:

U/K

WERE ANY MARKINGS VISIBLE ON THE DAMAGE SITE UPON ARRIVAL?

No

WERE ANY OTHER INDICATORS OF FACILITY PRESENT IN THE AREA?

Yes

WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS?

No

EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE

SERVICE

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE

U/K

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO?

No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS?

No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)

NIPSCO 00735 IUPPSa 06/04/2012 12:35:42 1206042329-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1206042329 Date: 06/04/2012 Time: 12:31 Oper: TSPAINHOWER Chan:049

State: IN Cnty: LAGRANGE Twp: NEWBURY
Cityname: SHIPSHEWANA Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 1025
Street : N 850 W
Cross 1 : US RT 20 Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: NORTH OF INTERSECTION APPROX 200FT - LOCATE FRONT RIGHT OF PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4139D8535C 4139C8535C 4139B8535C
Boundary: n 41.658829 s 41.653263 w -85.590782 e -85.589165

Work type : TRENCHING FOR AIR LINE
Done for : MARK SCHLABACH
Start date: 06/04/2012 Time: 12:32 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 15 MINUTES Depth: 18 INCHES

Company : STEVE SCHROCK EXCAVATING Type: HOME
Co addr : 13524 CO RT 14
City : MIDDLEBURY State: IN Zip: 46540
Caller : JOE SCHLABACH Phone: (574)536-0620
Contact : STEVE SCHROCK - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)536-0620

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
PER JOE SCHLABACH - A NIPSCO LINE WAS CUT APPROX 200 FEET OFF THE STREET - THE
GAS LINE IS NOT BLOWING - LINE IS A 1 INCH YELLOW LINE - 911 HAS NOT BEEN CALLED
- ADVISED CALLER TO CONTACT 911 - CREW IS NOT ON SITE - NIPSCO HAS NOT BEEN
CONTACTED - PROVIDED NUMBER TO NIPSCO - PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER 1206011951 -
THANK YOU

Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 06/04/2012 Time: 12:31
Members: ID2034 ID4743 ID7053 ID8240 NIPSCO ID5857

CASE # 3139

NIPSCO 00580 IUPPSa 06/01/2012 12:52:09 1206011951-00A NORM NEW GRID

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1206011951 Date: 06/01/2012 Time: 12:44 Oper: ANOE Chan:000

State: IN Cnty: LAGRANGE Twp: NEWBURY
Cityname: SHIPSHEWANA Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 1025
Street : N 850 W
Cross 1 : US RT 20 Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: NORTH OF INTERSECTION APPROX 200FT - LOCATE FRONT RIGHT OF PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4139D8535C 4139C8535C 4139B8535C
Boundary: n 41.658829 s 41.653263 w -85.590782 e -85.589165

Work type : TRENCHING FOR AIR LINE
Done for : MARK SCHLABACH
Start date: 06/05/2012 Time: 13:00 Hours notice: 96/48 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 15 MINUTES Depth: 18 INCHES

Company : STEVE SCHROCK EXCAVATING Type: HOME
Co addr : 13524 CO RT 14
City : MIDDLEBURY State: IN Zip: 46540
Caller : MARK SCHLABACH Phone: (574)536-0620
Contact : STEVE SCHROCK - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)536-0620

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

Submitted date: 06/01/2012 Time: 12:44
Members: ID2034 ID4743 ID7053 ID8240 NIPSCO ID5857

CASE # 3139



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UPPAC Database Record ID: 3139

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Telephone: (317) 650-9105

Report Date: 9/10/12

The Parties

Excavator: Steve Schrock Excavating

Contact: Steve Schrock

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Telephone: 574-536-0620

Facility Owner Information:

Business Name: NIPSCO

Contact: Luke Selking

Address (City, State): 1501 Hale Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Telephone: (260) 439-1290

Utility Line Impact:

Damage Date: 6/4/12

Damage Address: 1025 N 850 W

City: Shipshewana

Pipeline Facility

Product Type: Natural Gas

Facility Type/Function: Service

Facility size: 1 1/8"

Service Interruption: Yes

Number of Customers One

Repair Cost (if known): Unknown

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Type of Equipment: Unknown

Type of work performed: Drive

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Excavator notify 811: Yes

Locate Information:

Excavator request locates: Yes

Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1206011951

Incident Impact Information:

Injuries: None

Fatalities: None

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

Findings: The excavator provided notice of excavation to install an air line on 6/1/12 to start work on 6/5/12 at 13:00. The damage occurred on 6/4/12 while installing a drive.

Conclusion: The excavator started work prior to the underground utility being located.

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

From: [Mark Schlabach](#)
To: [IURC PipelineDamageCase](#)
Subject: CASE# 3139
Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 1:49:37 PM

TO DEANNA L. POON

HELLO THIS IS MARK AT SHIPSHE WELDING CONCERNING THE PIPELINE THAT WAS BROKEN. I CALLED THE CALL BEFORE YOU DIG 800-382-5544 ONE DAY BEFORE I MOVED ANY DIRT. THE NEXT DAY THEY CALLED STEAVE SCHROCK. STEAVE SCHROCK WAS PUTTING A DRIVEWAY IN FOR ME AT THAT TIME. THAT IS WHY I USED HIM AS A CONTACT PERSON. AND SAID THERE WAS NOTHING AT THE SPOT WE WANTED TO DIG. SO I DUG. AND HIT THE LINE. APROX. 1 HOUR AFTER I HIT THE LINE. THEY CAME OUT AND WANTED TO MARK THE LINE. SO I'M NOT SURE WHERE THE MISS UNDERSTANDING WAS. PLEASE CALL ME WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

--

MARK SCHLABACH
SHIPSHE WELDING
8435 WEST US 20
SHIPSHEWANA, IN 46565
FAX#260-768-4652
PH#260-768-7267
CELL#260-350-8183