STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
101 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1500E
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3407

http://www.in.gov/iurc
Office: (317) 232-2701
Facsimile: (317) 232-6758

Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: Dig Excavating

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3157

Investigator: Chuck Weindorf

Report Date: 09/13/2012

Damage Date: 6/7/2012 1:55:29 PM

Damage Address: 8195 North St

City: Koontz Lake

County: Starke

The Parties

Excavator: **Dig Excavating**

Contact: Don Green

Address: 4421 Lilac Road, Plymouth, In 46563

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: Dig Excavating

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3157

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: 1206011645

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

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

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 7/13/2012. The excavator had a valid locate request and the operator provided accurate locate markings.

Conclusion: There was a failure to maintain two (2) feet of 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.

101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

August 13, 2012

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 3157
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 3157

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: 6/7/2012

Event Location: 8195 North St, Koontz Lake

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Dig Excavating

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 3157

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. 3157	
Date of Event	6/7/2012
Event Location	8195 North St, Koontz Lake
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Dig Excavating
Date of IURC Information Request	7/13/2012
THE PARTIES	
EXCAVATOR:	
BUSINESS NAME	Dig Excavating
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	4421 Lilac Rd
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Plymouth, IN 46563
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	574 292 6814
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	574 2926814
EMAIL ADDRESS	digexc@gmail.com
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	
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	USIC
TITLE (IF ANY)	Morgan Thompson
ADDRESS	Claims Coordinator
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	9045 N. River Rd. Suite 300
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	Indianapolis, IN 46240
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	1-317-538-7301
EMAIL ADDRESS	Same
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	8195 North St
CITY/STATE/ZIP	Walkerton, IN
NEAREST INTERSECTION	E Kanney Ave
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.)	5/8”
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	X
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scrapper	
Hand Tools	
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trancher	
Vaccuum 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	
Landscaping	
Liquid Pipeline	
Milling	
Natural Gas	
Pole	
Public Transit Authority	
Railroad Maintenance	
Road Work	
Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)	X
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 1206072792
LOCATE INFORMATION:	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	Y

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	1206011645
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 failed to use hand tools where required Nipsco emergency ticket #: 1206072988	

Fact Based Investigation Report

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820120607015

DISTRICT: Northern IN

DAMAGE DATE: 6/7/2012 1:53:00 PM

NOTIFICATION DATE: 6/7/2012 2:00:09 PM

NOTIFIED BY: DON GREEN

DAMAGE ADDRESS: 8195 NORTH ST

CITY: KOONTZ LAKE

ST: IN **ZIP:**

DAMAGED CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

INVESTIGATION DATE: 06/07/2012

FROM: 15:30:00

TO: 15:45:00

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED: Dig Excavating

TYPE OF EXCAVATION: SEWER LINE

ORIG. LOCATE REQ.: 1206011645

START DATE/TIME:

TYPE OF TICKET:

LOCATE REQ. INFO N/A:

DIG UP/DAMAGE REQ.: 1206072792

START DATE/TIME:

PICTURES TAKEN BY: BRAD IRWIN

DATE/TIME: 6/7/2012 3:40:00 PM

PHOTOGRAPHY TYPE: Digital

FRAME #: NA

INVESTIGATOR EMP#: 131107

INVESTIGATOR NAME: BRAD IRWIN

BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?
No

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

NOTIFICATION ID: 01820120607015

SELECT A CUSTOMER: NIPSCO

CUSTOMER #: *(optional)*

FACILITY DESCRIPTION: LOWPROF

FACILITY ID: Gas Service

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #: Hanselman Dick - 121917

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):
Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation,
Investigator Verified Existing Marks By Hooking Up

INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:
THE MARKS WERE RIGHT ON UP TO ABOUT 10 FT FROM DAMAGE SITE, THEN THEY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY EXCAVATION. CONTRACTOR STATED THEY HAD SERVICE EXPOSED AND ACCIDENTLY CAUGHT IT WITH TOOTH WHILE DIGGING UNDER IT.

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:
NA

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

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:
NA

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 TOLERENCE ZONE OF MARKS? Yes

EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE CUT PL. SERVICE

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE 2 FT

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO? No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED? NA

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS? No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)

NIPSCO 00986 IUPPSa 06/07/2012 13:55:40 1206072792-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1206072792 Date: 06/07/2012 Time: 13:53 Oper: CSCOTT Chan:001

State: IN Cnty: STARKE Twp: OREGON
Cityname: KOONTZ LAKE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 8195
Street : NORTH ST
Cross 1 : E KANNEY AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS--LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4125D8629D
Boundary: n 41.420742 s 41.419350 w -86.485298 e -86.483788

Work type : SEWER LINE INSTALLATION
Done for : JOE MALEC
Start date: 06/07/2012 Time: 13:53 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 7 FEET

Company : DIG EXCAVATING Type: CONT
Co addr : 4421 LILAC ROAD
City : PLYMOUTH State: IN Zip: 46563
Caller : DON GREEN Phone: (574)292-6814
Contact : DON GREEN - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)292-6814
Fax : (574)936-6100
Email : DIGEXC@GMAIL.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
A NIPSCO GAS LINE WAS CUT IN THE FRONT OF THE PROPERTY NEAR NORTH STREET -
CALLER HAS NOTIFIED NIPSCO AND HAS BEEN ADVISED TO CALL 911 - CALLER DESCRIBES
THE LINE AS APPROX 3/8 OF INCH IN DIAMETER AND IS YELLOW PLASTIC - GAS LINE IS
NOT BLOWING - CREW IS ON SITE - PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER 1206011645
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO
:

Submitted date: 06/07/2012 Time: 13:53
Members: ID0004 ID2034 ID2885 NIPSCO ID5857 SM

CASE # 3157

NIPSCO 00505 IUPPSa 06/01/2012 11:49:51 1206011645-00A NORM NEW STRT

NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket : 1206011645 Date: 06/01/2012 Time: 11:46 Oper: RJOHNSON Chan:002

State: IN Cnty: STARKE Twp: OREGON
Cityname: KOONTZ LAKE Inside: Y Near: N
Subdivision:

Address : 8195
Street : NORTH ST
Cross 1 : E KANNEY AVE Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS--LOCATE THE ENTIRE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4125D8629D
Boundary: n 41.420742 s 41.419350 w -86.485298 e -86.483788

Work type : SEWER LINE INSTALLATION
Done for : JOE MALEC
Start date: 06/05/2012 Time: 12:00 Hours notice: 96/48 Priority: NORM
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: N
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 7 FEET

Company : DIG EXCAVATING Type: CONT
Co addr : 4421 LILAC ROAD
City : PLYMOUTH State: IN Zip: 46563
Caller : DON GREEN Phone: (574)292-6814
Contact : DON GREEN - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (574)292-6814
Fax : (574)936-6100
Email : DIGEXC@GMAIL.COM

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: 11:46
Members: ID0004 ID2034 ID2885 NIPSCO ID5857 SM

CASE # 3157