



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: Merryman Excavating

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3217

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 8/27/12

Damage Date: 6/27/2012

Damage Address: 5875 Sylvan Dr

City: Indianapolis

County: Marion

### The Parties

Excavator: **Merryman Excavating**

Contact: Joe Merryman

Address: 1501 Lamb Road, Woodstock, IL 60098

Telephone: 815-337-1700

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: Merryman Excavating**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3217

### **Damage Impact**

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 1

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$0

### **Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:**

Excavator request locates: Yes    Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1206152831

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

**Synopsis:** A natural gas service was damaged during excavation for a sewer line.

**Findings:** Reported by Citizens Gas; excavator failed to respond to initial notice which was delivered and signed for on 7/16/2012. The excavator had a valid locate request and the operator provided accurate locate markings. The excavator failed to maintain clearance and failed to notify the association and the local fire department after the damage.

**Conclusion:** There was a failure to maintain two (2) feet of clearance. There was a failure to call the association and the local fire department after the damage.

**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.**



## DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)  
INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Jun 29, 2012

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### 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

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### Excavator Information, if known

Full name: MERRYMAN EXCAVATING

Business address (*number and street*): 7940 ZIONSVILLE RD

City, State, and ZIP code: Indianapolis, IN 46268

Telephone number (*area code*): 317-228-9775

Fax number (*area code*): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Contractor

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Sewer (Sanitary/Storm)

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## Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Jun 27, 2012

County: Marion

City: Indianapolis

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):  
5875 SYLVAN DR

Nearest intersection: NORTHGATE 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? 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

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## 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

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## Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? Yes

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: 1206152831

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Yes

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? Yes

Were facilities marked correctly? Yes

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? Yes

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? No

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### **Description of Cause**

Select from the list the most accurate cause for the damage: --Failure to use hand tools where required

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### **Additional Comments**