



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Ben Benedict**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3273

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 08/24/2012

Damage Date: 06/25/2012 4:13:51 PM

Damage Address: 748 S Westerfield Rd

City: Hebron

County: Porter

The Parties

Excavator: **Ben Benedict**

Contact: Ben Benedict

Address: 748 S Westerfield Rd, Hebron, In 46341

Telephone: (219) 689-6844

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: Ben Benedict

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3273

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: No Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Drainage

Synopsis: A natural gas service was damaged by homeowner while excavating for downspouts at his shed at the back of the property.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; Mr. Benedict has not submitted a response to the initial request that was mailed out on 07/13/2012. Mr. Benedict failed to call and request locates prior to beginning work.

Conclusion: Excavator failed to provide notice of excavation.

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



101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707
Indianapolis, IN 46204

August 13, 2012

Via Electronic Transmission – PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 3273
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 3273

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: 6/25/2012

Event Location: 748 S Westerfield Rd, Hebron

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Ben Benidict

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 3273

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. 3273 | |
| Date of Event | 6/25/2012 |
| Event Location | 748 S Westerfield Rd, Hebron |
| Facility Owner | Northern Indiana Public Service Company |
| Excavator | Ben Benidict |
| Date of IURC Information Request | 7/13/2012 |
| THE PARTIES | |
| EXCAVATOR: | |
| BUSINESS NAME | Ben Benidict |
| RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME | |
| TITLE (IF ANY) | |
| ADDRESS | 748 S Westerfield Rd |
| CITY/ STATE/ZIP | Hebron, IN 46341 |
| PREFERRED TELEPHONE | |
| CELL PHONE TELEPHONE | |
| 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 | 748 S Westerfield Rd |
| CITY/STATE/ZIP | Hebron, IN 46341 |
| NEAREST INTERSECTION | |
| 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.) | |
| PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES) | |
| INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO) | |
| NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED | |
| EVACUATION (YES/NO) | |
| IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED | |
| 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 | X (Post Hole Digger) |
| Milling Equipment | |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Probing Device | |
| Trencher | |
| Vacuum Equipment | |
| Unknown/Other | |
| TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One) | |
| Agriculture | |
| Cable TV | |
| Curb/Sidewalk | |
| Bldg. Construction | X |
| 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 | |
| | |
| RELEASE OF PRODUCT (YES/NO) | Yes |
| IGNITION AND/OR FIRE (YES/NO) | No |
| EXCAVATOR NOTIFY 811 (YES/NO) | Yes – Damage #1206253461 |
| LOCATE INFORMATION: | |

| | |
|---|----|
| EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO) | No |
| INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER | |
| LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO) | |
| LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO) | |
| EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO) | |
| MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO) | |
| OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO) | No |
| INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION | |
| NUMBER OF OUTPATIENT TREATED | 0 |
| NUMBER OF INPATIENT TREATED | 0 |
| NUMBER OF FACILITIES | 0 |
| FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO) | |
| POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE (YES/NO) | |
| AMBULANCE RESPONSE (YES/NO) | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS | |
| No Locate Requested. | |

Fact Based Investigation Report

01820120625015
Northern IN
6/25/2012 4:07:00 PM
6/25/2012 4:15:08 PM
BEN BENIDICT
748 S WESTERFIELD RD
HEBRON
ST: IN ZIP:

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

NIPSCO

DAMAGED CUSTOMER:

06/25/2012
15:35:00
16:25:00

INVESTIGATION DATE:
FROM:
TO:

HOMEOWNER
Unknown

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED:
TYPE OF EXCAVATION:

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

1206253461
6/25/2012 4:10:00 PM

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

John Walker
6/25/2012 3:55:00 PM
Digital
1

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

131788
John Walker
BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?
No

INVESTIGATOR EMP#:
INVESTIGATOR NAME:

Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

01820120625015

NIPSCO

(optional)

NOTIFICATION ID:

SELECT A CUSTOMER:

CUSTOMER #:

LOWPROF

Gas Service

Walker John - 131788

FACILITY DESCRIPTION:

FACILITY ID:

LOCATOR NAME & EMP #:

LOCATOR NOT KNOWN:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO INVESTIGATION:

No Locate Req. By Contractor

Other:

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO METHOD OF INVESTIGATION (at least one must be checked):

Visual, Facility Exposed At Time Of Investigation,
Investigation Results Verified By Utility Representative

INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:

The homeowner was digging on his property and hit the gas service. There were no previous locate request called in by homeowner.

NAMES OF UTILITY REPRESENTATIVES CONTACTED OR ON SITE AND STATEMENT:

Nipsco on site stated no previous ticket.

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

Homeowner on site.

LIST ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS ON SITE:

N/A

WERE ANY MARKINGS VISIBLE ON THE DAMAGE SITE UPON ARRIVAL?

No

WERE ANY OTHER INDICATORS OF FACILITY PRESENT IN THE AREA?

No

WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS?

No

EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE

Cut plastic gas service

REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE

N/A

WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO?

No

WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?

Post hole digger

IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS?

No

IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)

NIPSCO 01118 IUPPSa 06/25/2012 16:13:53 1206253461-00A EMER DAMG GRID

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Ticket : 1206253461 Date: 06/25/2012 Time: 16:07 Oper: KREED Chan:090

State: IN Cnty: PORTER Twp: BOONE
Cityname: HEBRON Inside: N Near: Y
Subdivision: FLETCHER ESTATES Lot: 1

3273

Address : 748
Street : S WESTERFIELD RD
Cross 1 : MARTIN LN Within 1/4 mile: Y
Location: LOCATE BACKYARD OF THE PROPERTY
:
Grids : 4119C8710C 4119B8710C 4119C8710B 4119B8710B
Boundary: n 41.328762 s 41.324799 w -87.175652 e -87.174133

Work type : INSTALL LEAN TO
Done for : BEN BENIDICT
Start date: 06/25/2012 Time: 16:11 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y
Duration : 2 DAYS Depth: 2 FEET

Company : BEN BENIDICT Type: HOME
Co addr : 748 S WESTERFIELD RD
City : HEBRON State: IN Zip: 46341
Caller : BEN BENIDICT Phone: (219)689-6844
Contact : BEN BENIDICT - CELL Phone:
BestTime:
Mobile : (219)689-6844

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time
HIT NIPSCO GAS LINE - LINE IS BLOWING - IT CAN BE HEARD AND SMELLED - LINE HIT
IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE PROPERTY - LINE IS BEIGE PLASTIC 3/4 INCH -
ADVISED TO CALL 911 - CREW ON SITE - HAVE CALLED NIPSCO NO PREVIOUS TICKET
THANK YOU

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

Submitted date: 06/25/2012 Time: 16:07
Members: COMCN ID2009 ID2511 NIPSCO SM

No Locate Request