



Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

Investigation regarding: **Columbia City Water Department**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3129

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 7/27/2012

Damage Date: 6/5/2012 10:16:45 AM

Damage Address: S Line St

City: Columbia City

County: Whitley

The Parties

Excavator: **Columbia City Water Department**

Contact: Michael Dear, Superintendent

Address: 920 East Van Buren Street, Columbia City, In 46725

Telephone:

Facility Owner: NIPSCO

Contact: Kit Earle

Address: 101 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Pipeline Facility

Facility Type: Natural Gas

Facility Function: Distribution

Investigation regarding: Columbia City Water Department

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3129

Damage Impact

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: False

Number of Customers Affected: 0

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$

Excavator Activities/Cause of damage information:

Excavator request locates: Yes Indiana 811 ticket Number: 1205101504

Type of Equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Water

Synopsis: A 2” natural gas line was damaged during excavation for a water line.

Findings: Reported by Indiana 811; excavator’s response to initial notice was received on 7/19/2012. Excavator requested locates on 5/10/2012 and damaged the facility 26 days later. The damaged line was not located for the original locate request; however, the excavator was working under an expired locate.

Conclusion: Excavator failed to request facility locates.

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

Columbia City Water Department has no other report of damages in the record.

NO

LOCATE

TICKET

PROVIDED



DAMAGE INFORMATION REPORT – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

State Form 54122 (R2 / 7-11)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Submitted to IURC-Pipeline Safety on: Jul 2, 2012

Who is submitting this information?

Name of person providing this information: Carrie Ludwig NIPSCO

Business address (*number and street*): 3511 East 15th Ave

City, State, and ZIP code: Gary, IN 46403

Telephone number (*area code*): 219 962 0422

Fax number (*area code*): 219 962 0404

E-mail address: cludwig@nisource.com

Excavator Information, if known

Full name: Columbia City Water Department

Business address (*number and street*): 920 East Van Buren St

City, State, and ZIP code: Columbia City, IN 46725

Telephone number (*area code*): 260 248 5118

Fax number (*area code*): 260 248 4162

E-mail address: TCOYLE@COLUMBIACITY.NET

Excavation or Demolition Information

Excavator type: Municipality

Excavation or demolition equipment: Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of work performed: Water

Date and Location of Damage

Date of damage (*month, day, year*): Jun 5, 2012

County: Whitley

City: Columbia City

Street address (*number and street, city, state, and ZIP code*):
202 S Line St Columbia City IN

Nearest intersection: W Van Buren St

Right of way where damage occurred: Public - Other

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? No

If yes, how many affected? 0

Time to restore service (*in hours*): 0

Enter number of injuries, if applicable and known: 0

Enter number of fatalities, if applicable and known: 0

Property damage, Estimate \$

Affected Facility Information

What type of pipeline was damaged? Natural Gas

What was the affected facility? Distribution

What was the depth of the facility, in inches? 27

Notification, Locating, Marking

Did excavator request locates prior to commencing work? Yes

Enter Indiana 811 ticket number, if known: 1205101504

Was the locate request completed within two working days? Yes

If locates were performed, were they done so by a contractor or pipeline employee? Contract Locator

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? No

Type of markings used: Paint

If other, please specify: _____

Was site marked by "White Lining"? No

Were special instructions part of the locate request? Unknown/Other

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? No

Did the excavator notify Indiana 811 in the event of this damage? Yes

Did the excavator notify 911 in the event of a release of product? Unknown/Other

Description of Cause

Select from the list the most accurate cause for the damage: --Facility marking or location not sufficient

Additional Comments

Damage ticket #: 1206051286

Excavator was working under an expired locate ticket number. Had the excavator called to renew the locate ticket, there would have been the opportunity for the facility to have been located. MAO 7/3/2012.

This damage was reported by IN811 in Spreadsheet CE. MAO 7/3/2012.



INFORMATION REQUEST

State Form 54909 (2-12)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION – PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Case Number: 3129

The Pipeline Safety Division of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission requests any and all information you can provide regarding the following criteria.

Upon completion of answers select email button for submission.

The Parties

Excavator Information:

Business Name: columbia city water dept

Responsible Party Personal Name: todd coyle

Title (if any): supervisor

Address (number and street): 112 s chauncey st

City, State and ZIP Code: columbia city, in 46725

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 260-248-5118

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): 260-229-0537

Email Address: tcoyle@columbiacity.net

Facility Information:

Business Name: columbia city water dept

Responsible Party Personal Name: mike dear

Title (if any): superintendent

Address (number and street): 112 s chauncey st

City, State and ZIP Code: columbia city, in 46725

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 260-248-5118

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): 260-229-0536

Email Address: mdear@columbiacity.net

Locator Service Information:

Business Name: Indiana underground

Responsible Party Personal Name: Jeff Jagger

Title (if any): locator

Address (number and street): _____

City, State and ZIP Code: _____

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): _____

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): 260-503-5160

Email Address: _____

Cause of Damage Information

Type of Equipment (select one): Backhoe/Trackhoe

Type of Work Performed (select one): Water

Other Information (Witness, Police, Fire, Other):

Personal Contact: mike dear, mark hawn, cory dear, scott buckles

Business/Organization Name: columbia city water

Title (if any): _____

Address (number and street): 112 s chauncey st

City, State and ZIP Code: columbia city, in 46725

Preferred Telephone Number (area code): 260-248-5118

Cellular Telephone Number (area code): _____

Email Address: _____

Utility Line Impact

Location of Damage:

Address (*number and street*): 200 block s line st. _____

City, State and ZIP Code: columbia city, in 46725 _____

Nearest Intersection: line & market _____

Product Type (*select one*): Natural Gas

Facility Type (*select one*): Distribution

Size (Diameter/etc.): 2" _____

Pressure (PSIG/Inches): _____

Interruption in Service: Yes No **Number of Customers Affected:** 0 _____

Evacuation: Yes No **If yes, How Many Evacuated?** 2 _____

Repair Cost (if known): \$ _____

Release of Product: Yes No

Ignition and/or Fire: Yes No

Excavator Notify 811: Yes No

Locate Information

Excavator Request Locate: Yes No

Indiana 811 Locate Ticket Number: 1205101504 _____

Locate Marks Visible: Yes No

Locate Marks Correct: Yes No

Excavator "White Lined": Yes No

Maps Used to Mark Facilities: Yes No

Was Locate Provided within Two (2) Working Days: Yes No

Operator Employees On-site during Excavation: Yes No

Incident Impact Information

Number of Outpatient Treated: ⁰ _____

Number of Inpatient Treated: ⁰ _____

Number of Fatalities: ⁰ _____

Fire Department Response: Yes No

Police Department Response: Yes No

Ambulance Response: Yes No

Additional Information / Comments

The paint marks were visible on all the lines that were located. The line that got hit was never marked. The locator was unable to pick it up. After hit was hit another guy from Indiana Underground came out and was having the same trouble. Nipsco had trouble trying to locate it also when on the scene to repair it. We had already uncovered one gas line in the alley that had been marked, but had no idea a second line was there.

We thought we had 20 business days instead of calendar days. We did call that same day to have everything remarked, but if it was a non locatable line it really would not have helped.

Indiana Underground took pictures of the yellow paint marks and also pictures with white paint around the yellow marks. I took pictures myself but my phone crashed during a storm and lost the pictures.

I do not think we should be held responsible when the gas line was not marked do to the fact three different people all had the same trouble when trying to locate and all ended up picking up the other gas line we did have uncovered.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Your Pipeline Safety Division Case Number: 3129

Your Full Name: Michael Dear

Full Name of Business / Entity (if applicable): Columbia City Water Dept

Your Business Title (if applicable): Superintendent

Address (number and street): 112 S Chauncey St

City: Columbia City State: IN ZIP Code: 46725

Your E-mail Address: mdear@columbiacity.net

Today's Date (month, day, year): 7/19/12

Your Signature: _____ Title (if any) Supt.

Please return your Narrative Statement to:

Pipeline Safety Division – Case Number 3129
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 West Washington Street, 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or scan the statement and Email to:

PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov