



## Pipeline Safety Division Investigation Report

### Investigation regarding: **Richard Schultz**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3340

Investigator: Howard Friend

Report Date: 10/30/2012

Damage Date: 7/9/2012 10:38:29 AM

Damage Address: 412 Alexander St

City: La Porte

County: Laporte

### The Parties

Excavator: **Richard Schultz**

Contact: Richard Schultz

Address: 415 A St, La Porte, In 46350

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: Richard Schultz**

UPPAC Database Record ID: 3340

**Damage Impact**

Product release: Yes

Ignition: No

Service Interruption: True

Number of Customers Affected: 2

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 0

Repair Cost (if known): \$211

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

Excavator request locates: No    Indiana 811 ticket Number:

Type of Equipment: Hand Tools

Type of work performed: Construction

**Synopsis:** A natural gas service was damaged during excavation for a building footer.

**Findings:** Reported by Indiana 811; excavator did not respond to initial notice mailed 8/16/2012. The homeowner failed to provide notice of excavation.

**Conclusion:** The homeowner failed to provide notice of excavation.

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



Date: 08/21/2012

MAIL MAIL:

The following is in response to your 08/21/2012 request for delivery information on your Certified Mail(TM)/RRE item number 9214 8901 0661 5400 0002 6830 23. The delivery record shows that this item was delivered on 08/20/2012 at 08:16 AM in LA PORTE, IN 46350. The scanned image of the recipient information is provided below.

Signature of Recipient:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Schultz".

Address of Recipient:

A handwritten address in black ink: "415 A ST.  
La Porte, IN 46350".

Thank you for selecting the Postal Service for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office or postal representative.

Sincerely,

United States Postal Service

The customer reference info shown below is not validated or endorsed by the United States Postal Service. It is solely for customer use.

3340  
RICHARD SCHULTZ  
RICHARD SCHULTZ  
415 A ST  
LA PORTE IN 46350-5026



101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1707  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

September 14, 2012

*Via Electronic Transmission – [PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov](mailto:PipelineDamageCase@urc.in.gov)*

Pipeline Safety Division – Case No. 3340  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Investigation Request for Information; Pipeline Division Case No. 3340

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: 7/9/2012

Event Location: 405 A St, LaPorte

Facility Owner: Northern Indiana Public Service Company

Excavator: Richard Schultz

Other Party: N/A

Pipeline Division Case No. 3340

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher C. Earle".

Christopher C. (Kit) Earle  
NiSource Corporate Services - Legal  
Phone: 317-684-4904  
Fax: 317-684-4918  
Email: [cearle@nisource.com](mailto:cearle@nisource.com)

<b>IURC INFORMATION REQUEST</b>	
<b>Pipeline Safety Division Case No. 3340</b>	
Date of Event	7/9/2012
Event Location	405 A St, LaPorte
Facility Owner	Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Excavator	Richard Schultz
Date of IURC Information Request	8/16/2012
<b>THE PARTIES</b>	
<b>EXCAVATOR:</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	Richard Schultz
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	415 A. Street
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Laporte, IN 46350
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	219 324-8094
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<b>FACILITY INFORMATION - OWNER/OPERATOR OF UTILITY LINE:</b>	
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	<a href="mailto:LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM">LSELKING@NISOURCE.COM</a>
<b>LOCATOR SERVICE INFORMATION</b>	
BUSINESS NAME	USIC Locating Service
RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERSONAL NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	
ADDRESS	9045 North River Road, Suite 300
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	Indianapolis, IN 46240
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<b>OTHER (WITNESS, POLICE, FIRE, OTHER) INFORMATION</b>	
PERSONAL CONTACT	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME	
TITLE (IF ANY)	

ADDRESS	
CITY/ STATE/ZIP	
PREFERRED TELEPHONE	
CELL PHONE TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<b>UTILITY LINE IMPACT</b>	
<b>LOCATION OF DAMAGE</b>	
ADDRESS	412 Alexander St. – correct address
CITY/STATE/ZIP	LaPorte, IN 46350
NEAREST INTERSECTION	A St.
<b>PRODUCT TYPE (Select One)</b>	
NATURAL GAS	X
LIQUID PIPELINE	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
<b>FACILITY TYPE (Select One)</b>	
DISTRIBUTION	
GATHERING	
SERVICE/DROP	X
TRANSMISSION	
UNKNOWN/OTHER	
SIZE (DIAMETER/ETC.)	5/8 plastic
PRESSURE (PSIG/INCHES)	40
INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE (YES/NO)	Yes
NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	2
EVACUATION (YES/NO)	No
IF YES, HOW MANY EVACUATED	N/A
REPAIR COST (IF KNOWN) (\$)	210.77
<b>CAUSE OF DAMAGE INFORMATION:</b>	
<b>TYPE OF EQUIPMENT (Select One)</b>	
Auger	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	
Boring/Drilling	
Directional Drilling	
Explosives	
Farm Equipment	
Grader/Scraper	
Hand Tools	X
Milling Equipment	
Probing Device	

Trencher	
Vacuum Equipment	
Unknown/Other	
<b>TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED (Select One)</b>	
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 1207091464
<b>LOCATE INFORMATION:</b>	
EXCAVATOR REQUEST LOCATE (YES/NO)	No

INDIANA 811 LOCATE TICKET NUMBER	N/A
LOCATE MARKS VISIBLE (YES/NO)	N/A
LOCATE MARKS CORRECT (YES/NO)	N/A
EXCAVATOR "WHITE LINED" (YES/NO)	N/A
MAPS USED TO MARK FACILITIES (YES/NO)	N/A
OPERATOR EMPLOYEES ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION (YES/NO)	No
<b>INCIDENT IMPACT INFORMATION</b>	
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)	
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/COMMENTS</b>	
No notification made to the one-call center	

# Fact Based Investigation Report

01820120709005  
Northern IN  
7/9/2012 10:25:00 AM  
7/9/2012 10:40:15 AM  
RICHARD SCHULTZ  
405 A ST  
LA PORTE  
ST: IN ZIP:

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

NIPSCO

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DAMAGED CUSTOMER:

07/09/2012  
10:35:00  
10:45:00

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INVESTIGATION DATE:  
FROM:  
TO:

Homeowner  
Footers

---

EXCAVATOR INVOLVED:  
TYPE OF EXCAVATION:

Yes

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

1207091464

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

Jeff Crandall  
7/9/2012 10:40:00 AM  
Digital

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

116375

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INVESTIGATOR EMP#:  
INVESTIGATOR NAME:

Joe Hendrickson  
**BASED ON YOUR INVESTIGATION, IS FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED?**  
No

## Fact Based Investigation Customer Information

01820120709005

NIPSCO

(optional)

**NOTIFICATION ID:**

**SELECT A CUSTOMER:**

**CUSTOMER #:**

LOWPROF

Gas Service

Yes

**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

**INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT/CAUSAL FACTORS:**

Richard Schultz started to dig a footer for his garage on the north side of 405 A ST and did not have locates called in to cover his work. Due to survey issues, the service to 412 ALEXANDER ST was on his property along with 2' of the house. Richard also said that he didn't think he had to call in locates on his own property if he knew where his gas line was.

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

N/A

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

Richard Schultz - see above

**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?**

Yes

**WAS THE EXCAVATION WITHIN THE TOLERANCE ZONE OF MARKS?**

No

**EXTENT OF FACILITY DAMAGE**

Cut gas service

**REPLACEMENT FOOTAGE**

N/A

**WAS CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE REQUIRED? IF YES, WHO?**

No N/A

**WHAT CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT WAS USED?**

Shovel

**IS THE FACILITY SHOWN ON THE UTILITY RECORDS?**

No

**IF YES, PLEASE LIST RECORD #(S)**

N/A

NIPSCO 00380 IUPPSa 07/09/2012 10:38:30 1207091464-00A EMER DAMG STRT

DAMAGE SEE REMARKS

Case 3390

Ticket : 1207091464 Date: 07/09/2012 Time: 10:25 Oper: BLIEVERTZ Chan:025

State: IN Cnty: LAPORTE Twp: CENTER  
Cityname: LA PORTE Inside: Y Near: N  
Subdivision:

Address : 405  
Street : A ST  
Cross 1 : 4TH ST Within 1/4 mile: Y  
Location: AS FACING THE PROPERTY LOCATE THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PROPERTY  
:  
Grids : 4136D8643D 4136C8643D  
Boundary: n 41.604446 s 41.602436 w -86.720100 e -86.718506

Work type : LOCATING GAS LINE  
Done for : RICHARD SCHULTZ  
Start date: 07/09/2012 Time: 10:35 Hours notice: 0/0 Priority: EMER  
Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: N Boring: N Railroad: N Emergency: Y  
Duration : 1 DAY Depth: 2 FEET

Company : RICHARD SCHULTZ Type: HOME  
Co addr : 415 A ST  
City : LA PORTE State: IN Zip: 46350  
Caller : RICHARD SCHULTZ Phone: (219)324-8094  
Contact : NONE Phone:  
BestTime:  
Email : SCHULTZ\_RICHARDL@COMCAST.COM

Remarks : All tickets are taken and processed on Eastern Daylight Time  
A NIPSCO GAS LINE WAS HIT ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PROPERTY AS FACING THE HOUSE  
FROM THE STREET - LINE IS NOT BLOWING - LINE IS 5/8 INCH SALMON COLORED PLASTIC  
- CALLER HAS CALLED 911 - NIPSCO CREW IS ON SITE - CALLER HAS CALLED NIPSCO TO  
REPORT THE DAMAGE - THERE IS NO PREVIOUS TICKET NUMBER  
Will you be white-lining the dig site area? NO  
:

Submitted date: 07/09/2012 Time: 10:25  
Members: COMCN ID2354 ID8000 NIPSCO SM