



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mike Charbonneau

NIPSCO Communications & Public Affairs

574-284-2151

mcharbonneau@nisource.com

NIPSCO IDENTIFIES CAUSE OF RECENT ELECTRICAL OUTAGES IN CITY OF LAPORTE

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – The cause of recurring electric outages in a section of the City of LaPorte last week was the result of a damaged lightning arrester.

Crews from Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) worked to find the cause of the electric outages, which impacted service to more than 200 customers. A thorough investigation of the electric distribution system – which included inspecting equipment on each utility pole – revealed the cause to be a damaged lightning arrester, which has been replaced. Usually, a damaged lightning arrester can be detected by a visual check. In this case, however, the lightning arrester suffered internal damage.

“It is frustrating to experience outages like these,” said NIPSCO Public Affairs Manager Mike Charbonneau. “We appreciate our customers’ concern.”

Lightning arresters are sealed pieces of equipment mounted on utility poles that provide protection from voltage surges such as those caused by lightning.

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 712,000 natural gas customers and 445,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.7 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipsco.com.

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