

NEWS



A NiSource Company

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801 E. 86th Avenue
Merrillville, IN 46410

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tom Cuddy
NIPSCO Communications
219-647-6556

NIPSCO REMINDS CUSTOMERS TO KEEP AREAS AROUND PAD-MOUNTED TRANSFORMERS FREE OF OBSTACLES

Utility Provides Electric Safety Tips

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) reminds electric customers to keep areas around pad-mounted transformers clear of obstacles such as fences and vegetation.

“Permanent structures such as trees and fences near our pad-mounted transformers can, and do, cause unnecessary delays when restoring electric service or performing routine maintenance,” said NIPSCO General Manager of Operations Tim Dehring. “We need the room to work safely and our crews certainly appreciate any help we can get from our customers.

NIPSCO requests customers keep all permanent structures, fences and vegetation at least eight feet away from the front of the transformer and three feet away from the sides and back of the transformer.

Pad-mounted transformers – green square boxes typically placed in rear or side yards – are designed to safely and reliably deliver electricity in neighborhoods where the electric distribution infrastructure is buried. Each transformer typically delivers electricity up to four homes.

Other summer-time electric safety tips include:

- Do not climb up utility poles or onto pad-mounted transformers;
- Never climb a tree with wires running near or through tree limbs;
- Keep kites, balloons, model airplanes and other toys away from power lines. Never throw an object onto or over power lines; and
- Always stay away from power lines and report all downed lines to NIPSCO at 1-800-4-NIPSCO.

Editor’s Note: Attached to this news release is a photograph that shows a transformer with two fences built close to and around it. It’s these situations that make restoring power or performing routine maintenance difficult and unsafe for NIPSCO crews.

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 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipSCO.com.



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