

NEWS



A NiSource Company

801 E. 86th Avenue
Merrillville, IN 46410

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2006

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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MEDIA ADVISORY

NIPSCO'S CUSTOMER CONTACT CENTER TO ACCEPT EMERGENCY TELEPHONE CALLS ONLY OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKENDS

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) today issued the following media advisory to announce that the toll-free telephone number (1-800-4-NIPSCO) for its customer contact center will be limiting customer calls to serve needs such as gas leaks, electric outages and Extra Service Protection service orders on the following dates:

- Sat., July 22 and Sun., July 23, 2006;
- Sat., Aug. 12 and Sun., Aug. 13, 2006;
- Sat., Aug 19 and Sun., Aug. 20, 2006; and
- Sat., Sept. 2, Sun. Sept. 3 and Mon., Sept. 4.

On these dates, which are subject to change, NIPSCO will be upgrading computer hardware equipment that supports the customer contact center. The customer contact center will be fully functional and accepting all customer calls the next business day.

About NIPSCO

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With nearly 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.nisource.com.

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