



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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**NIPSCO TO PERFORM ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION
PROJECT AT HALE AVE FACILITY**

FORT WAYNE, Ind. -- Beginning Monday, Oct. 10, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) will begin a project to remove soil from portions of its Hale Avenue operating facility as part of an environmental remediation project.

NIPSCO's Hale Avenue location was originally the site of a manufactured gas plant (MPG) that operated from 1924 until the 1950s by a predecessor company. Byproducts from the operation of the plant, where coal was heated to produce "town gas" used primarily for cooking and street lighting, exceeded allowable levels in some areas of soil surrounding the building requiring removal of about one foot of soil.

"We are committed to addressing environmental issues as they are identified to protect the health and safety of the public, our employees and the local community," said NIPSCO Public Affairs Manager Larry Graham. "As environmental remediation projects go, this is a small project. But, it still needs to be addressed."

The Hale Avenue remediation project is being done in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) as part of a voluntary remediation program.

NIPSCO estimates the remediation project will take no more than two weeks to complete. Due to additional truck traffic and equipment in the Hale Avenue and Riedmiller Street areas, NIPSCO encourages anyone travelling in the area to exercise additional caution.

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the seven energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With more than 786,000 natural gas customers and 457,000 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 seven states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipSCO.com.