



National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, D.C. 20594

Water Treatment Plant Factual Report, Addenda 1

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|---------------------|---|
| Accident No.: | DCA-99-MP-008 |
| Type of System: | Hazardous Liquids Pipeline |
| Type of Accident: | Rupture and fire |
| Location: | Dakin-Yew Water Treatment Plant, Bellingham, Washington |
| Date and Time: | June 10, 1999; 17:02 P.D.T. |
| Owner/Operator: | Olympic Pipe Line Company |
| Fatalities: | Three |
| Injuries: | Eight |
| Material Released: | Gasoline |
| Component affected: | 16" steel pipeline |

Party Representatives

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1 **City of Bellingham Potholing**

2
3 On February 18, 1993, the City of Bellingham excavated its existing underground water
4 facilities at several locations throughout the area of the proposed modification project to
5 determine the exact elevations. Stakes were installed at these locations so that the elevations
6 could be readily determined during the future construction project. On this same day, the crew
7 also excavated Olympic's pipeline at the three locations depicted on the Olympic Diagram of
8 Changes. One of Olympic's inspectors noted on Olympic's copy of the one-call report for this
9 excavation: "2-18-93 Potholed OPL line in 3 places. Future 72" water line installation. Will
10 notify O.P.L." The Olympic inspector's planner page contains a notation that indicates he was
11 present on February 18, 1993, for these excavations.
12

13 On April 8, 1993, Christenson Engineering (a subconsultant to Barrett) placed a one-call
14 requesting that the various utilities "Locate entire 200' by 300' area W of building, E of treeline,
15 S of access rd, N of S end." Notations made by a Olympic inspector on Olympic's copy of the
16 one-call report indicate that this locate work was completed on April 12, 1993.
17

18 In June of 1993, the City of Bellingham again excavated its underground facilities at
19 several locations to verify the elevations used for the design of the plant modifications. A City of
20 Bellingham Interoffice Correspondence indicates that the request for the potholing activity was
21 initiated on June 10, 1993. Even though a one-call was not placed for these excavations, Olympic
22 was notified and a notation on the Olympic inspector's planner page indicates he was present on
23 June 11, 1993, for the potholing work.
24

25 The Olympic inspector who observed the potholing on both of these occasions reported
26 that the pipeline was not hit while he was present. There are no records of any other potholing
27 conducted near the water treatment plant.
28

29 Appendix A – February 1993 Pothole Locations

30 Appendix B – June 1993 Pothole Locations

31 Appendix C – Olympic Inspector's Records for February 1993 Potholing

32 Appendix D – Olympic Inspector's Records for June 1993 Potholing
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34 Allan Beshore, IIC