



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

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Federated's Near-Miss Program is designed to identify and communicate incidents and hazards experienced by cooperatives nationwide. The data collected can be used by your system to develop training programs designed to eliminate future accidents. This report is provided to you as a training tool to review with employees in an effort to eliminate future incidents.

Corrective Action is the action taken by the group reporting the incident.

Possible Corrective Action is provided as another possible action that could be taken based on the limited information available.

Task Performed

Report #1

Material Handling/Securing

Incident Summary

Pole was strapped down on the pole rack and the derrick truck was parked on an incline. After a heavy rain the 40' CCA pole slid out from under the straps, off the rack, and onto the ground. There was no damage to person or property.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Pole was strapped down properly. Need to install a grip on the pole rack to keep the pole from sliding off. Also could double wrap the strap to grip the pole better.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #2**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Cutting limb off with extendable saw in private right-of-way. Had saw all the way extended. As tree was falling, pulled the saw out to keep from getting pinched. Limb fell on extendable saw and bent the shaft.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Insure direction of cut limb/tree by use of rope or other tool.

Task Performed**Report #3**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Changed bad transformer energized bank and checked voltage in base. Began to close PT switches and while closing the second switch a flash occurred in meter base. Under the PT switches something created an arc from switch to switch.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

Put meter on and leave all blades closed, then energize the transformer bank. After all is energized, we would then approach meter base and check our voltages and rotation.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #4**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Got out of truck to open gate, slipped on ice, fell on my right side and caught myself with right arm. Hurt the wrist and shoulder on the right side.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - No****Corrective Action Taken**

Regular training sessions on slips, trips and falls have occurred in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, & 2016. New training session to be scheduled.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #5**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Received a call about a car hitting a pole. 911 dispatch said pole was still standing and was okay. Drove to site and pole was completely busted off, at the ground. Officer on the scene said lady driving her car moved over for a passing car and lost control and hit our pole. She had driven another span, to the west, and vehicle was sitting there in the ditch.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - Yes****Corrective Action Taken**

Continue informing public and first responders of the hazards of electrical contacts.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #6**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Cutting trees along the transmission line. Employee went to kill the line so we could cut and not have to worry about the line. When we finished the cedar trees, . I was cutting my last branch when the branch fell on the truck. The end branches fell first and the tree sprung up and landed on the front window of the truck.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

Move the truck forward so you are working off the back of the truck.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #7**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Will pulling up the neutral wire #6 Amerducter put slack in the phase and and automatic sleeve came loose in the phase wire. Every one was standing clear of the fall area of the wire as required. Phase wire fell to the ground without incident.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

Stay in the clear when pulling and sagging wire and always beware of your surroundings.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #8**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

The crew was cutting a secondary conductor which fed from an old meter pole to a barn. They cut the conductor at the barn and as they let it down the pole broke at ground level and fell toward the member's house, damaging the home.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - Yes****Corrective Action Taken**

The rule is to check the pole being worked on and each adjacent pole for stability.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #9**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

The crew was on a call out to replace a pole that had been broken and had caused an outage. They set the digger derrick up in the snow covered lane of the state highway. The proper work zone was set up with warning signs, cones, and warning lights. The outriggers of the digger derrick were off the road going down into the ditch, so the crew cut pieces of the old pole to crib up the outriggers. Once they felt satisfied with the outriggers, the boom was swung over to see if it could reach the pole location. When the boom got over to the ditch side of the truck the truck took off sliding into the ditch. When the truck stopped they reassessed and re-cribbed the outriggers and continued to finish the work.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - Yes****Corrective Action Taken**

All lineman have been through the Altec Sentry training program for digger derricks which emphasizes leveling the trucks before use. The crews were doing what they needed too, however the snowy and icy conditions and lack of good cribbing material factored into this near miss.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #10**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

The crew had de-energized the section of line so they could make repairs to the downed portion. After making the repairs, they took steps to reenergize the section of line and closed in the OCR. The OCR did not remain closed, so the source side and load side jumpers were removed and the OCR was inspected. Upon inspection, the lineman found that the source side jumper had broken off inside the animal guard. The lineman felt fortunate the broken jumper did not contact anything inside the animal guard because of the possibility of an arc occurring.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - Yes****Corrective Action Taken**

Using an insulated stick to energize lines and equipment to keep the lineman at a distance in case an arc occurs. Also, wearing proper FR clothing and rubber gloves and sleeves.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #11**

URD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Removed damaged UM33. B ph 4pt was still hot so we put the feeder on hotline tag. 3 ph 4 pt had a damaged elbow and the 4 pt was bad so we tested & grounded cable & replaced bad elbow & 4 pt. We grounded & floated all 4 pt plates & put all elbows back on proper 4 pt, removed grounds & returned the sub feed back to normal. We proceeded to switch, which was back feeding the circuit & opened it-returned to normal with that circuit. Everyone returned to shop. 30 min later B ph OCR locked out. Upon returning to the temporary UM33 it was discovered that B ph west elbow had blown up & caught on fire

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - Yes****Corrective Action Taken**

Discussed at safety meeting. We came to the conclusion that all elbows need to be de-energized and thoroughly inspected after being damaged in a scenario similar to this.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #12**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

336 phase wire burnt down during storm, step down transformer failed because of the fault, spliced 336 wire back together, hooked up new step down transformer wrong, high voltage on line blew lightning arresters and bunt up single phase meters.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - No****Corrective Action Taken**

Conduct job briefing before starting work,

Possible Corrective Action

Review wiring diagrams prior to instalation and confirm all connections before energizing.

Task Performed**Report #13**

Material Handling/Securing

Incident Summary

Was driving the forklift and heard a rattle. I parked forklift and checked where the noise came from and noticed the roll over protection system (ROPS) had a cracked weld and was not secured to the forklift. It may have been broken for a while because the two pieces are rusty.

Safety Equipment in Use - No**Job Briefing Conducted - No****Corrective Action Taken**

ROPS was repaired by certified welder. Forklift inspections need to be completed as required.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #14**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Wire slipped through grip when I went to cut it open. I had two grips and isolator. I did not use a hoist. I should have used a hoist with grips and grips with the isolator.

Safety Equipment in Use - No**Job Briefing Conducted -** No**Corrective Action Taken**

Heavy items should be raised by crane or hoist.

Possible Corrective Action

Insure proper tool used for every task.

Task Performed**Report #15**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Occurred when we adjusted the pole chain on pole trailer to get ready to set new pole. The chain popped open after pole was elevated at about 10 feet off the trailer. Pole dropped to the ground.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** No**Corrective Action Taken**

Crews will verify that the hook on the chain is in the proper position before lifting

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #16**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While we were stowing the auger after digging around a pole, the bolt that goes through the power head shaft and the auger broke, allowing the auger to become detached. The winch line for the auger stow was still attached so the auger could not fall. We replaced the broken bolt with another grade 5 bolt and discussed with supervisor.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted - No****Corrective Action Taken**

Bolts are now inspected on a monthly basis

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #17**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Cutting secondaries of members going from our yard pole to an old house that is to be burned down and an old set going to an old barn. Cut the first hot leg. While cutting the second hot leg, contact was made between the first wire and the bolt cutter. First wire cut should have been taped/covered before cutting second.

Safety Equipment in Use - No**Job Briefing Conducted - No****Corrective Action Taken**

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Deenergize before working secondary or insure proper separation before cutting.

Task Performed**Report #18**

Driving

Incident Summary

Employee was at rear of truck and noticed that metal plate cover on tailgate had been pulled away and caused a sharp edge. This could have led to a hand or other bodily injury.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

The metal plate cover was knocked back into place with a sledge hammer.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #19**

Driving

Incident Summary

Going through deep drifts all morning to fix outages. Hit a drift and tore driver side fender off of truck #21.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Drive as safely as possible.

Task Performed**Report #20**

URD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Construction crew dug into an energized 4 wire #10 copper cable that was 1-2 ft under stake. The location was mismarked.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes**Corrective Action Taken**

All locations must be marked before digging.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A