



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

Driving

Incident Summary

An employee was backing into a member's back yard with bucket truck to change meter pole, when the truck's back tire went through the top of a septic tank. The clean out and other items were covered and not visible, which did not make it obvious that the septic tank was there. While pulling the truck out with a tow strap, the tow hook broke. The tow hook launched out into a field behind the house.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

When working in members' yards, attempt to locate all underground facilities prior to work commencing.
Use a properly rated recovery strap when extracting a vehicle or piece of equipment that is stuck.
Use a weight in the middle of the strap to reduce the sling shot effect if a break occurs.

Task Performed
Office/Facility Incident

Report #2

Incident Summary

Contractor crew was about to move fencing for new building construction. The barb wire was cut at the top of the fence and left hanging so that someone could get caught on the barbs if walking by the fence.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Be aware of the hazards at a jobsite and also the hazards we may create while conducting our work. Always barricade any hazards that could cause injury to employees or the public.

Task Performed
Material Handling/Securing

Report #3

Incident Summary

Employee noticed that locking arm for fire extinguisher mount was loose. This could have caused the arm to open and the fire extinguisher to fall off of the truck and onto the roadway.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Conduct a daily inspection of all vehicles. Fire Extinguishers should be part of your daily vehicle inspection.

Task Performed**Report #4**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

A small storm blew through the area causing a few outages. Trouble crew arrived at an outage and observed the service wire from transformer pole to lift pole was torn down due to a fallen tree. They got out of their trucks and noticed the home owner was cutting the tree off the broken service wire, which was still energized. They had him stop and informed him of the situation.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Public education should be part of the annual safety plan.
Educate the public on electrical hazards.

Task Performed**Report #5**

URD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Trouble crew received a power outage call at a residence. Upon arrival, they noticed that the URD transformer had been moved on the platform. The home owner informed them that a landscape company had backed into URD transformer. After opening the door of the transformer, they found the primary elbow was pulled off the bushing and laying against the lid still energized. The landscaper had been using the top of the transformer as a table to write a note.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Damaged or displaced equipment should be de-energized before opening.
Ensure all equipment has proper signage.
Public education should be part of the annual safety plan.

Task Performed**Report #6**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

The derrick was being used to hold the primary wire out of the way with a fiber link. The bucket operator was taking the wire off of the fiber link and hit the derrick boom with the phase. The OCR was on one shot and one flash occurred. The flash caught the grass on fire and the front of the tires of the derrick were slightly burnt. The derrick truck was not grounded at that time.

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

The fiber link to hold the phase was tested and passed inspection. The crew failed to use the proper cover up on the phase to keep it from making contact with the boom of the derrick.

Possible Corrective Action

When working with energized conductors or equipment, insulate all differences of potential that the energized part could contact.

Ground vehicles and equipment used near energized, or could become energized, lines/equipment.

Task Performed**Report #7**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Had a problem getting the kelly bar to properly slide into the auger, due to compacted dirt in the auger shaft. The crew turned the auger upside down in an attempt to loosen the dirt. The apprentice was hitting the auger with a sledge hammer to loosen the dirt. The foreman was standing close to the apprentice. The first two swings hit the auger, the third swing missed and the sledge hammer struck the foreman in the face just under his left cheek.

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

The rule should be to keep a safer distance from anyone swinging a sledge hammer. Look at different method of removing compacted dirt.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #8**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While trimming trees over a a span of a single phase wire, crew dropped a limb on the line causing a phase to ground fault which cleared itself.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Conduct a thorough observation of the jobsite, looking for any potential hazards.

Appoint a qualified observer to watch the work being conducted and stop the work if something is not right.

Task Performed**Report #9**

URD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Tying a new normal open that had not been closed before it had been installed by multiple contractors, the crew crossed a single-phase normal open. The end result was two blown fuses in the switchgear and a burned up insert and elbow that had to be changed.

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

Since the crew carries phasing sticks with them, we are initiating a new procedure for when the normal open point has never been closed to phase it out before it is to be closed.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #10**

URD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Member reported a padmounted transformer being knocked off the vault. Upon arrival, the trouble crew noticed it had been hit with a vehicle and was still energized. The primary and secondary wires were exposed. It's unknown how long it had been like this resulting in the potential for a contact.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Public education should be part of the annual safety plan.
Educate the public on electrical hazards.

Task Performed**Report #11**

URD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Farmer was mowing hay in a field that had a padmounted transformer in it. The grass was tall, hiding the transformer. Not seeing it, the farmer hit the transformer with the mower, cutting into the transformer and flipping it on its side. It knocked out the fuse that fed it, but the potential for danger was already met.

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

n/a

Possible Corrective Action

Public education should be part of the annual safety plan.
Educate the public on electrical hazards.

Task Performed**Report #12**

Public Liability

Incident Summary

Kids were driving a golf cart down a hill in a subdivision. They lost control and hit a security light pole, knocking it over. The potential for an electric shock as well as getting hit with the pole existed.

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

n /a

Possible Corrective Action

Have a program to educate the public on power line hazards.

Task Performed**Report #13**

Public Liability

Incident Summary

Member was digging a ditch to bury conduit for a new service. They dug through an unmarked primary line.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Participate and support your state "Call Before You Dig" program. Have a program to educate the public on power line hazards.
