



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

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew had 60' basket truck set up on shoulder of the road to inspect a pole-top pin on a very wide right-of-way. When the boom hit the stop at the end of its reach, the force caused the outriggers and tires to slide on the ice, down the shoulder and ditch for an entire truck width. The pole happened to be directly between the bucket and jib, so when the truck tipped, it slid on the pole all the way from the neutral wire down to about 10' off the ground where the riggers held in the bottom of the ditch. Outrigger pad was in use, but with so much ice it was also shoved right off the shoulder of the road.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Set truck up more perpendicular to pole for counterweight advantages. Operate truck very slow and controlled at end of the reach. Be aware of solid ice and possibility of truck sliding. Use tire chains as needed.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #2**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Received a call that car hit a pole. Arrived on scene and continued to breaker pole to open breakers and ground the line so fire department could put out fire. All occupants in vehicle were already out of vehicle and were being transported to hospital. At breaker pole, two breakers were open and one breaker was still energized. Replaced pole & energized line.

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

Fire/rescue secured scene and stayed away from line until it was de-energized and grounded. Continue to educate public power line hazards..

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #3**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew was pulling old poles with hydraulic ram jack. About 10 feet from the ram, the hydraulic hose ruptured under pressure spraying oil about 10 feet in the air. All personnel were away from the equipment and no one was hurt.

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

Auto shop is reviewing the hydraulic tools are compatible with the trucks hydraulic system, verifying the hoses are rated for the pressure.

When working with hydraulic pressure review open/closed circuit hydraulic systems and the dangers of hydraulic injection.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect all tools and equipment prior to use.

Task Performed**Report #4**

Substation Work

Incident Summary

We went to substation due to several voltage complaints. When we arrived center phase fuse on transmission side of substation was down. Looked over sub and couldn't find anything that would of caused fuse to open. Opened up transmission switch. Took fuse down and ohmed it out, it was not blown. Tried to put it back in and it wouldn't go in right. Took back down and looked it over and one side of fuse was not lined up with the holder in the fuse. It was causing it not to seat properly. Fixed the problem and installed fuse and it went OK. Re-energized sub.

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

Make sure linemen know how to assemble fuse properly.
Discuss work pprocedures in job briefing.

Possible Corrective Action

Before any employee attempts a task they may not be familiar with, they should ask for help.
Before conducting work in a substation, switching procedures should be reviewed.

Task Performed**Report #5**

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

We were walking down hall heading into the warehouse, when an employee opened the door to the warehouse. A strong draft from the wind outside and with the bay doors being opened, some ceiling tiles fell near 2 other employees.

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

Clips will be added to ceiling tiles to help prevent them from getting displaced.
Be careful when opening doors during high wind.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #6**

Meter Work

Incident Summary

Service crew energized a new temporary service. Wires were not marked to identify neutral. Crew did not verify neutral and hooked up wires. Neutral and phase were swapped.

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

Neutral verification and proper voltage checks must be done every time.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #7**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew was untying phase from insulator when aluminum tie wire made contact with copper "lightning" ground that ran from ground rod to a point 2" above top of pole.

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

These types of "lightning" grounds have not been installed for several decades but are still present in our system. Some of the younger linemen do not know what they are or how to mitigate the additional hazard. This incident identified a training gap that we had.

Possible Corrective Action

When working on energized lines or equipment, all differences of potential must be insulated.

Task Performed**Report #8**

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

Employee was reaching into the back of the truck bed to throw trash into dumpster when he slipped on ice hitting truck bumper with ribs on way down.

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

Wear PPE and park on unshaded side of dumpster

Wear proper footwear for the job being done.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #9**

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

Employee was inspecting new digger truck in shop. When he was attempting to stow ladder back in place he pinched finger between ladder and truck bed removing skin from knuckle.

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

Put hands on bottom rung not on side of ladder and wear proper gloves.

Discussed incident with all employees.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #10**

Public Liability

Incident Summary

Staking engineer was walking on job site to design new work order to get power into location. It had snowed approx. 6" the night before. While staking job employee walked over a surface that flexed under her feet. Upon investigation there was a piece of plywood that was covering an open hole that could not be identified under new snow. There were not cones or tape or anything to identify hazard.

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

Contacted contractor and informed of hazard. Contractor was going to cone off area.
Be cautious while walking in areas of low or no visibility of the walking surface.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #11**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Crew was called out on a substation feeder outage. Before arriving at the substation, the crew came by a set of fault indicators on the feeder that were blinking. The crew patrolled the line from the fault indicators to end of line and found no cause for outage. They called dispatch and had them close circuit back in. approximately 5 minutes later the dispatcher got a call from 911 that there was a vehicle accident, it was located between substation and fault indicators.

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

Fault indicators removed on this feeder.
Feeder had dual feed capabilities, having engineering research why indicators were showing fault past location of indicators.

Possible Corrective Action

When patrolling an outage, patrol line from source to open point before energizing.

Task Performed**Report #12**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

While patrolling an outage, found high side bushing had broke off of a transformer. The transformer jumper hit the neutral taking line out. Lineman went up in bucket truck to use a shotgun stick to clear the problem. He was wearing his V-watch, on the ground the V-Watch did not detect any voltage. The closer the lineman got to the line the V-watch started picking up voltage.

A three phase pad-mounted transformer had recently been added in the area on this line; it is believed that there could have been back feed on the line due to the 3 phase pad-mounted transformer.

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

This was discussed in Safety Meeting.

Talked about backfeed and importance of wearing the V-watch.

Possible Corrective Action

Conduct proper job briefing and confirm understanding of all hazards before beginning tasks.

Task Performed**Report #13**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Two man crew running a small bucket truck and changing porcelain cutouts to the new polymer style. The pole they were setup on was a three phase pole with a two taps; one tap on each side of the pole. Each tap was on its own cutout, but both cutouts were mounted on the same bracket.

When the lineman opened one cutout door, the cutout on the opposite side broke in half. The top of the cutout, still energized, fell and landed on the covered primary neutral. The line never arced, didn't even fuzz, due to the rubber hose.

If the lineman hadn't covered the neutral before beginning his task he would have had a phase to ground fault occur. The line was on 6' spacing and using 8' stick so he was about level with the neutral. Covering the neutral protected the lineman and prevented a circuit out of the substation from being knocked out. The circuit was on one shot.

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

Hard to prevent cutout from breaking apart, but we do encourage our linemen to always inspect equipment before beginning work.

We discussed this incident with all employees and really pointed out the importance of proper coverup.

Possible Corrective Action

Insure proper cover-up and PPE are used for all tasks.

Task Performed**Report #14**

Driving

Incident Summary

Employee was backing trailer into bay. He was backing trailer in crooked, so he pulled forward to straighten out. He turned and the back of the trailer swung and caught the garage door seal, tearing two foot of it off.

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

Discussed checking mirrors more than once.

Use a spotter when backing.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #15**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While cutting down a pole to retire, the pole fell back toward the two linemen that were cutting it down. The linemen moved clear of the falling pole.

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

Make a better notch and make sure to give a hard push in the direction of intended fall.
Install a rope on pole to control the fall.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #16**

URD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew was installing underground service to new house. There was snow and ice on ground. Trenching had been completed and the crew was in the process of back filling the trench when the trencher began to slide down the slight slope/grade. The trencher caught bare dirt and proceeded to tip on its side, with the operator still in the drivers seat.

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

When using/driving machinery on slick surfaces, decide the best position to use machinery to prevent slipping or sliding.

Possible Corrective Action

Always wear seatbelt.