FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Dear Safety Professional: June / 2021

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**

Public Liability

Incident Summary

Customer had a water leak and hired an excavation contractor with a backhoe to dig up the leak for repairs. Contractor failed to call 811 for a locate ticket, and struck Primary underground. Two men were standing nearby in several inches of water at the time of the strike. Primary Load break elbows pulled off at transformers. Arcing occurred inside the transformer, likely saving the lives of the individuals standing in water near the excavation.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Provided information to customer and contractor pertaining to calling in locate requests/811 before any excavation.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

P.O. Box 15147, Lenexa, KS 66285-5147 ■ 7725 Renner Road, Shawnee, KS 66217-9414
Phone: (800) 356-8360 / (913) 541-0150 ■ Fax: (913) 541-9004 ■ Web site: www.federatedrural.com

Task Performed **Report #2**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew was changing out an A-2, A5-1. The takeoff was deenergized,tested for voltage, grounded, and dropped. The A-2 was being changed out hot. When the employee started to install the new armor rod the steel leader in the 4 7/1 ACSR broke approximately 3 ft. n of A-2. This caused the energized phase to drop to the ground. OCR was in one-shot and tripped open.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Use rubber gloves within 4 ft. and sleeves within minimum approach of energized equipment. Positive control when moving energized conductors. Trucks grounds attached to the neutral. All crews stay out from under the line and off of trucks when hot work is being performed.

The near miss investigation concluded that there is no effective way to predict the failure of ACSR steel core. Please visually inspect ACSR the best that we can. To prevent the near miss from becoming an accident/injury follow the established protocol and work procedures, as this crew did. During hotwork 1. Stay out from under the line. 2. Stay out of the bite (A-2). 3. Do not touch the trucks. 4. Place the OCR in one-shot. 5. Use the appropriate PE and PPE. 6. Ground trucks. Safety Committee released a statement "This is an excellent example of why we follow our safety protocols and have our barriers in place. Good job."

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed **Report #3**

Line/Substation Switching

Incident Summary

Foreman A and Journeymans B and C were changing VWVE breaker in substation for annual maintenance. Foreman A was positioning mini derrick journeyman B was on ladder on low side while journeyman C was working on ladder on the high side of the VWVE. The breaker was bypassed on low side with the blades pulled. journeyman C was on ladder on high side when journeyman B saw that the blades on high had not been pulled. All work stopped immediately the crew discussed what had happened called the safety coordinator and explained the incident. Work resumed after a period of time the blades were pulled and the removal of the breaker completed.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Revision of procedure to make sure that the appropriate formal documentation of step by step switching procedures are completed prior to approach of the breaker.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed **Report #4**

Driving

Incident Summary

Driving down Hwy 91 and heard a rattling sound. Pulled over and the auger came out of the caddle. Set up the truck and put the auger back away.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Confirm all equipment and tools are stored properly before travel.

Task Performed **Report #5**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

A crew was intercepting a primary dip on a single-phase dead-end pole. There was also a single-phase overhead transformer. As the crew were hand digging with shovels to expose the underground cable, the pole fell away from the crew digging and hit the ground due to sub surface butt rot. The primary line remained energized. The crew contained the scene and went to the nearest protective device, deenergized the line, and continued with proper clearance procedures.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Always hammer test poles that are to be worked on or around. Use a digger truck or pole spikes if pole is questionable prior to digging below grade test.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed **Report #6**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Worked line conversion - got the phase into the neutral mid span. We changed the framing on a pole from a VA2.1 into a VC5.21. I had dropped the neutral down the pole and tied it off to the pole so it would not go into the truck. After I untied the phase, I was taking the pole top pins off with the phase rolled back in the jib of the truck. That is when crew told me that it was getting close to each other. I proceeded to move the truck so I could take some of the slack out of the wire and the boom started to bounce as I went to move. With the bounce from the boom it bounced the wire and it slapped together mid span.
Things I should have done different. I should have taken an outage on the line. I could have let the neutral clear down and let it hit the truck that would have slack the neutral enough for more clearance. The last thing I can think of would be, I could have keep the jib flat out in front of the bucket witch could have caused problems at the pole I was working on.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Crew was replacing an A2.1 angle hot and got the phase into the neutral when they were moving the phase. The fault opened the fuse on the takeoff and killed the line. Nobody was injured. Procedures were discussed and it was decided that the jib rotation and extension is the best way to move the wire and not the boom of the truck. Careful movement of the boom is very crucial when changing out any energized pole. Communication did happen between the guy in the air and the safety watch on the ground, but when the boom was moved, it jumped and sent a “wave” down the conductor and got into the neutral mid span. It was also discussed that the work could have been done deenergized.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed **Report #7**

Driving

Incident Summary

Entered a narrow drive and was backing to enter a different and made contact with an old wire spool. After an Inspection I saw there was damage to the truck.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** No

Corrective Action Taken

When backing in a in a restricted space perform a "walk around" of the vehicle.

Possible Corrective Action

Utilize a spotter when possible.

Task Performed **Report #8**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While moving large boulders >100# out of row w/skid steer. Rock was caught on top of forks as lifted and tilted mower deck. The rock catapulted onto cap of skid steer

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** No

Corrective Action Taken

Visually inspect mower deck for debris prior to tilting or raising.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed **Report #9**

Meter Work

Incident Summary

Crew installed new 400 amp meter pedestal. Energized secondary feeding pedestal and checked for voltage. Engaged bypass switch and meter socket arched over. After investigating found that wrong bolts were used at factory when installing breaker which resulted in the grounding of breaker and lower meter jaws.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes **Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Perform all steps of voltage checks on meter socket before installing meter. Phase to ground, phase to phase, and top to bottom.

Possible Corrective Action

All meter connections should be inspected and Ohm readings taken to confirm the abscence of a short circuit prior to energizing service.
