



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

October/ 2022

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 Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Had shut road down to pull wire back up after replacing broken pole. Had two pickups blocking Rd, with lights and cones when a driver came through the work zone at a higher rate of speed and never stopped.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

When working in roadway signs, cones, and traffic vest Shall be used per MUTCD standards.

Possible Corrective Action

Consider involving Law Enforcement and/or additional employees to setup an approved road closure per MUTCD standards.

Task Performed**Report #2**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

DISPATCH CALLED IN A HIT POLE AND WIRES CROSSING THE ROAD. LINEMAN'S NEIGHBOR CALLED HIM TO INFORM THEM OF A HIT POLE. ONE LINEMAN ENSURED SCENE WAS SAFE AND OTHER LINEMAN MOVED GUY WIRE OFF OF THE ROAD.

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

CONTINUE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC.

Possible Corrective Action

Continue Public Education. The Safe Electricity program makes educating the public easy and provides hundreds of vetted, ready to use, customizable resources on an array of electrical hazard topics. To download these materials visit www.safeelectricity.org. If you need assistance or have questions regarding the safety resources, email: info@safeelectricity.org.

Task Performed**Report #3**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

COMBINE WAS GOING INTO FIELD UNDER THE LINE WHEN THEY CAUGHT THE NEUTRAL WITH GRAIN TANK. DRIVER NOTICED LINE MOVING AND STOPPED. CUSTOMER CALLED IN AND REMAINED IN THE COMBINE. LINEMEN LIFTED NEUTRAL UP FOR HIM TO GET UNDER AND TOLD HIM TO AVOID THAT SPAN UNTIL WE CAN CHANGE POLES TO ACCOMMODATE EQUIPMENT.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Continue Public Education. The Safe Electricity program makes educating the public easy and provides hundreds of vetted, ready to use, customizable resources on an array of electrical hazard topics. To download these materials visit www.safeelectricity.org. If you need assistance or have questions regarding the safety resources, email: info@safeelectricity.org.

Task Performed**Report #4**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Sleeving out C-8AN to a C-1. Sleeved out north phase and put it in a saddle, sleeved out the neutral and needed to pull it down to get it out of the way, used a rope with a link stick in it to pull down neutral. We were closer to one pole than the other so when we pulled down on neutral it raised up midspan and made contact with phase.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Always be aware of clearances and check adjacent structures to ensure worker safety.

Task Performed**Report #5**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew had setup digger truck to change a service pole. On the digger truck a 30 and 40 foot pole were loaded on the driver side of the digger truck. After the crew set the truck up a front-end loading trash truck pulled into the North entrance of farm, the dumpster to be emptied was on the South side of the crew working.

The crew raised the outriggers and backed the digger truck up so the trash truck could back to the dumpster. The trash truck backed past the front of the digger truck about half the length of the trash truck but then stopped and pulled up. As the driver began backing up again a Coop employee saw that the trash truck was going to hit the loaded poles so he started hollering and waving his arms for the driver to stop. The driver proceeded to back putting more pressure against the poles. The side-rail of the front pole rack broke off and the poles traveled appx 15 feet and landed on the ground. The poles remained on the back pole rack. No one was injured.

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

Poles are to have a working strobe light attached and flagged. Poles were properly flagged.

Possible Corrective Action

Be aware of workzones and limit anyone entering the zone. Make sure the ends of the poles are properly marked to avoid being hit and always use a spotter if available when backing to avoid damages to cooperative and public property.

Task Performed**Report #6**

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

Employee noticed that grab rail for dock stairs was cracked near the base. This could have broken while climbing or descending causing a fall to the concrete floor.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure stairs and other aisles and walkways are inspected during monthly facilities inspections.

Task Performed**Report #7**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

A tree skidder machine was being used while cutting trees to push them out away from the overhead transmission ROW. The skidder machine stalled momentarily while pushing on a 60' tree after the cut was made. The stalling of the machine caused the tree to fall backwards on top of machine and hit the outside conductor on the transmission line. The tree broke apart after striking conductor, but still caused an outage.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Continue Public Education. The Safe Electricity program makes educating the public easy and provides hundreds of vetted, ready to use, customizable resources on an array of electrical hazard topics. To download these materials visit www.safeelectricity.org. If you need assistance or have questions regarding the safety resources, email: info@safeelectricity.org.

Task Performed**Report #8**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While tamping pole the tamp was low so using the hydraulic hoses to hold the tamp. The hydraulic line broke shooting fluid in between my fingers.

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

Should not be holding hydraulic lines while tamping.

Possible Corrective Action

Consider adding a hose sleeve to the hoses where the employees are in contact with them to prevent employees from being exposed to high pressure hydraulic oil if a leak/rupture occurs.

Task Performed**Report #9**

URD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

In the process of changing burned up secondary spades, we decided to pull the bayonet so the secondary would become de-energized, we tried to vent it, it was an older one so it had the screw, I stood on the side with a shotgun, started to pull the bayonet once I got about a quarter way out, the flames started shooting out and we had a ball of fire

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

De-energize the transformer instead of pulling the bayonet fuse.

Possible Corrective Action

Follow proper procedures to de-energize and lock out the equipment to ensure worker safety. Confirm load break capability before using in a loadbreak situation.

Task Performed**Report #10**

Material Handling/Securing

Incident Summary

Crew needed to load side-by-side for days work. There was already a 6x6 loaded on trailer so crew hooked up to trailer and pulled over to garage. Crew was unloading 6x6 when the trailer lifted off hitch and slid backwards until the safety chains maxed out.

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

Crew did not visually inspect trailer hitch was properly secured to ball on truck. It was in the locked position but was not fully seated on ball. all trailers and balls are 2" so unmatched sizing was not a factor.

Possible Corrective Action

Prior to use drivers need to fully inspect the vehicle and trailer to ensure their safety and that of the general public.

Task Performed**Report #11**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Crew was digging hole with digger derrick to replace a pole. A dig test was called in on 9/12/2022 by our staking department and the pipeline company emailed in an "all clear" on 9/14/2022, meaning they had no lines in our work zone. When our crew began digging, they hit an abandoned pipeline. Work was shut down and all necessary steps were taken to notify all involved parties. A dig-up call was made to 811. When the representative from the pipeline company came out to verify it was their line, he commented that he had "gotten busy" and just called in the work zone as an "all clear".

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

This was an incident that should've been prevented by the pipeline company marking their lines, even if they were abandoned. Had this been under pressure, it could've definitely ended badly for our employees.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #12**

Substation Work

Incident Summary

Mobile sub indicated it had hot line tag, but it wasn't programmed. We worked on the line without hot line tag multiple times in and around the substation with multiple men and equipment on the line.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure that all settings are correct and operational prior to use to ensure worker safety.
