



**FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC**  
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

*A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.*

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

June/ 2023

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.

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**Task Performed**

**Report #1**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

**Incident Summary**

Employee got bulldog grip off of truck to attach guy to anchor. Employee noticed a large crack in the shaft of the grip.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

**Corrective Action Taken**

Grip was thrown away and replaced.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #2**

Substation Work

**Incident Summary**

Contractor was disconnecting terminal underground primary cables on the low side of the 2 way feed switches inside of the substation. Before disconnecting cables, tested for voltage and decided that test results were from static energy. Disconnected red labeled primary cable and cut neutral. Lowered terminal cable and it arced against ground cable on riser. Contractor contacted a cooperative employee who de-energized circuit at breaker and red phase terminal was reconnected. Contractor ceased work pending near miss investigation. Risers and cabinet were clearly labeled. A thorough preconstruction meeting was performed by cooperative with contractor prior to construction.

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

Before doing work on de-energized primary cable or equipment:

Identify: identify the cable or equipment to be worked on

Isolate: a visible open break (air gap) shall be provided

Tag: danger tags shall be installed

Test: a voltage test shall be made

Ground: the equipment shall be grounded on both sides of the work area

Review of near miss.

When a contract crew changes personnel, another preconstruction meeting required.

**Possible Corrective Action**N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #3**

URD Construction/Maintenance

**Incident Summary**

A three person crew was installing primary underground for a residence in a mountainous terrain area of our territory. Conduit had been placed above the ditch to feed UG wire through, measuring approximately 1,000 ft. A side-by-side was used, down the hill, to begin feeding the wire through with mule tape. After starting to pull, the wire began sliding uncontrollable down the conduit. The wire had gained speed inside the conduit due to the slope of the terrain, and was launching out of the conduit end around 40 ft into the air, into the trees. The wire was unravelling so quickly from the reel, that smoke was observed coming from the reel trailer. Once the wire had completely unraveled (around 2400ft of UG primary), it jerked the reel and bar off of the reel trailer and propelled the reel into the air, 70 feet down the hill. No injuries. Wire sustained some damage to insulation. Reel trailer only sustained minor damage to the bar cotter pins.

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

To ensure slope or angle is not too severe to cause any unwanted action. To discuss ALL potential hazards during pre-job tailgate meeting.

The utilization of a Kellem grip will help prevent a similar incident. In addition, the co-op will potentially be purchasing a reel trailer or attachment that allows the use of a tensioning brake.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #4**

Driving

**Incident Summary**

While driving southbound on county road 600 E, a northbound oncoming vehicle crossed the center of the road. To avoid a collision, I went off the right side of the road, contacting a trash can alongside the road. Contact with the trash can caused damage to right front fender.

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

Not sure anything can be done to completely prevent this but maintaining constant awareness of other drivers can help prevent a more serious accident.

**Possible Corrective Action**N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #5**

Driving

**Incident Summary**

I turned off of Highway 41 and noticed an SUV driving on the wrong side of the road. I slowed down and stopped. The lady acted as if I wasn't even there. She barely missed running into the front of the truck and got back into the wrong lane after she passed.

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

N/A

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #6**

Driving

**Incident Summary**

Employee was pulling trailer with digger truck and trailer came off pintle hitch. Safety Chains and Emergency Brakes were hooked and successfully controlled trailer, as employee brought combination to safe stop.

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

All trailers in use shall be inspected by driver.

We had a discussion about the near miss in our safety meeting. Were also going to require that safety pins be attached to storage chains at hitch of truck, along with powder coating or painting safety pins a high visibility color to heighten the likelihood of a pin not being properly installed while hooking up trailer. All connections were made from truck to trailer, except fastening the hitch and installing safety pin.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

**Task Performed****Report #7**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

**Incident Summary**

An employee and a utility assistant were pulling up an existing overhead triplex in town because of low clearance. Employee had the triplex jacked up and had to remove a piece of tape where the wires were secured together in order to get his wedge grip re-installed. One of the phases shorted to the neutral creating a large arc in front of the employee. Triplex fell to the ground and was still energized. De-energized 50 KVA transformer and spliced wire back together. No injuries.

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

N/A

**Possible Corrective Action**

When energized work is performed inspect all equipment, structures, and conductor prior to beginning task. If inspection cannot be completed consider de-energizing until inspection or task is completed..

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**Task Performed****Report #8**

URD Restoration/Repair

**Incident Summary**

Company was boring in fiber and the depth that their machine was saying they were at was incorrect. They hit secondary wire feeding house. Power was shut off a transformer that fed multiple homes in order to better expose the wire and splice it.

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

N/A

**Possible Corrective Action**

Before boring begins all marked utilities should be potholed to confirm location.  
Boring depth should be confirmed to ensure actual depth of unit matches desired setting.

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