



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

May / 2024

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

Winch line was not in roller guide in fiberglass boom.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect equipment prior to use to ensure manufactures specifications are met and equipment is setup properly to complete task.

Task Performed**Report #2**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Lineman suffered from seizure while on the job site. Incident happened while removing grounds from line to finish job. No one was touching truck, but first thought and reaction was that of potential electrical contact due to truck being energized. Crews surveyed the scene before taking action to secure the scene.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

When energized work is performed, ensure employees are clear of equipment that could become energized, and proper truck grounding/barricading procedures are followed.

Task Performed**Report #3**

Meter Work

Incident Summary

We were sent to set meters at an apartment complex. Once we arrived, we set out to energize the transformer that would feed the building. Once the transformer was energized we went over to the meter cluster and visually inspected everything. We then decided to energize the meter cluster via the members main breaker, so we could proceed with voltage checks and meter sets. As soon as we flipped the main breaker we heard a loud pop and smoke came out of a meter can. We de-energized the transformer feeding the building making it safe and called the electricians. They found a bolt behind the socket in the bus.

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

Ohm out each meter socket.

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure that all appropriate PPE is in use when energizing equipment.

Task Performed**Report #4**

Driving

Incident Summary

I slid forward in the parking lot while attempting to stop to back into the parking spot. I did slide towards a line truck and lineman although they were a good ways away. The parking lot was snowy and icy from a weather event the night before.

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

Slow down, due to the conditions in the parking lot. Also, look for a spot I could pull through rather than back up.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #5**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

While attempting to temporarily guy a pole during a wind event I drove a ground rod and had made a temporary guy out of a tag line. I had a hot line clamp on the ground rod to keep the rope from slipping off the ground rod. While attempting to take up tension on the tag line with a chain hoist, the hotline clamp let loose and the chain hoist recoiled and hit my hand. No damage was done and we were able to re-secure the temporary guy.

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

Use a digger to secure pole if possible (none were available due to outages).

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure the equipment to be used is designed for the task and is properly rated.

Task Performed
OHD Restoration/Repair

Report #6

Incident Summary

We were driving up the canyon on an outage call and heard a loud noise on the truck. We made it to the road that the outage was on and got out and inspected the truck. We found there were only three studs remaining on the passenger rear dual. We parked the truck and had it towed in.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

When doing your pre-trip make sure all studs and lug nuts are tight. Checking the green indicators is an easy way to tell if the lugs are loose.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect vehicles and equipment to ensure they are road worthy prior to travel.

Task Performed
Meter Work

Report #7

Incident Summary

Received scratch from a bent data plate on a transformer sitting outside of the transformer shop while picking up meters.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Remove/repair damaged data plate. Have warehouse material handlers set meters on ground and not on pallets where damaged transformers are stored.

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure that all appropriate PPE is worn when handling objects that pose a puncture or cut hazard.

Task Performed
OHD Restoration/Repair

Report #8

Incident Summary

A very large tree landed on our line between two A3s, which caused the line to sag to the ground. We made a cut on the tree on one side of the line, which put the tree in a bind. When we cut on the other side of the line the bind cut loose and threw a 5' section of tree roughly 20' in the air.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

We could have let the line down with a chain hoist to take some tension off the line before cutting it. We could have also tied the line to the ground to lessen the amount of kick back when the tree came loose.

Possible Corrective Action

Recommend refresher training to all employees to confirm understanding of the hazards of down trees, lines, and equipment.

Task Performed
Office/Facility Incident

Report #9

Incident Summary

While replacing signs around the building, I had just entered the exercise room and turned the light on. I turned to go around the bike and notice the pull bar on weight set was perfectly inline with my eye. Before proceeding further I put the pull bar in its holder so it wasn't low.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Replace pull bar in its holder after using the equipment. We will also be adding a motion detected light switch to illuminate the area allowing for individuals to see equipment upon entry.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #10**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

We were headed out to install a new transformer and conduit. Once we arrived we started to assemble the meter loop. When we got to the transformer to start prepping it we noticed the bushing and arrester being smaller and proceeded to check the name plate. We established that it was a 7,200V transformer. At that time we double checked the system voltage in the area and confirmed we had the wrong voltage transformer.

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

Going forward we should check transformers at the yard and verify we have the right one before leaving.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect all equipment to confirm the equipment meets voltage, insulation, and current requirements prior to installing.

Task Performed**Report #11**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Lineman and apprentice had repaired broken phase wire, failed to raise one outrigger and as they were driving away caught a tree stump which resulted in the outrigger getting bent.

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

360 walk around

Possible Corrective Action

The cooperative's safety rules should require drivers to walk completely around a parked vehicle to complete a "Circle Check" of the vehicle to be driven before it is moved.

Task Performed
OHD Restoration/Repair

Report #12

Incident Summary

Farmer was planting and drove through a ditch and turned around on the road. The planter marker caught the neutral wire and he continued planting and on the way back to where he hit the wire he noticed a pole in the field and wires laying in field so he called it in. OPS Manager arrived on scene to make sure he was okay and in the clear of the wires needing put back up. Line was disconnected to the west feeding the area and we put the breaker back in to get other customers on and called in a crew to replace the pole and get wires back up.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Keep alerting the public to be careful of overhead lines.

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 #13

Driving

Incident Summary

We have had numerous times on our one-ton bucket trucks the wheel studs breaking off on the rear axle. We have never actually lost a wheel, but we have been down to 5 studs left on a ten stud axle. There have been no property damage or injuries from these incidents.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Do your daily pre trip and inspect wheel studs.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect vehicles and equipment to ensure they are road worthy prior to travel.

Task Performed**Report #14**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Jumper on A4 broke at hot-tap. Climbed pole to replace hot-tap and remove old tap off basket. Installed new hot tap on jumper wire, went to tighten the hot tap, #4 ACSR broke at deadend shoe & phase fell down into neutral, operated and burned neutral down but stayed energized.

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

Discussed looking at old facilities and equipment before working on them.

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.

Task Performed**Report #15**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While driving west bound I came across a communication company performing work on their communication lines attached to our pole. The person was in a bucket working in the hot zone roughly 2' from the pot head on an energized primary riser. I witnessed the individual cut some communication lashing with a utility knife. In doing so, his hand shot forward, and he came within inches of striking the pot head with his hand. I stopped my truck and made the worker lower his bucket so that I could speak with him. The worker was not wearing any PPE other than a hard hat. I explained to the worker that he was a couple of feet from equipment that was energized to 7,200 volts. I explained how unsafe it was, and that their communication line was not in compliance with code. I told the worker that he had to stand down. I explained that he was not allowed to continue working on the pole until he had someone who was certified, with the proper PPE, move the comm line out of the hot zone.

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

Educate our contractors and communication workers on NESC code regarding communication attachments on overhead poles. Outreach communication companies with safety education materials on the dangers of working near high voltage equipment.

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
Office/Facility Incident

Report #16

Incident Summary

Upon entering the building from the patio entrance at ~ 7 am, the door to the employee lounge was partially closed and not locked. It was noted that the security sensor to alarm when the door was not shut was removed.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Security sensor needs to be put back into service so the security alarm functions as designed. Adjust the door closing mechanism so door will close better.

Possible Corrective Action

Recommend employees stay aware of their surroundings and report any suspicious activity or behaviors.

Task Performed
OHD Construction/Maintenance

Report #17

Incident Summary

We were cutting leads on a three-phase C8 that was macked out when I felt a tingle under my armpit. I realized that the bolt cutters that I was using were not insulated. I stopped what I was doing and adjusted how I was working to use my rubber gloves and sleeves to protect myself.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

We should make sure that all bolt cutters for aerial use are insulated. As well we shouldn't cut hot conductors with the side of the body or under the armpit area.

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure the equipment to be used is designed for the task. Ensure all appropriate PPE is worn within MAD and safe work practices are followed when working energized equipment. .
