



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

November / 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

I was walking around a house to knock on the door, when two dogs spotted me and immediately went into attack mode. They were biting at me from my front as I was hollering and swinging my glove bag at them. The dogs then surrounded me and were attempting to bite from both sides. I jumped and swung my glove bag at them until crew members were able to run over and help scare them off.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

If possible; survey the scene well from the truck before walking around a house. Carry dog deterrent spray and some other means of keeping a dog at a distance, like a shovel or pole stake when possible.

Possible Corrective Action

Stay aware of personal safety at all times.

Task Performed**Report #2**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

While backing in the new tree truck, I nearly hit the pressure tank for the geo thermal heat with the box on the truck. The box sits back and is longer on the new tree truck and doesn't fit in that bay.

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

We looked at how close the new tree truck was to the rack and knew it had to be moved. I followed up with the tree crew and reminded them of our backing policy. Have a spotter when backing. I reminded them that the new bucket truck is a little bigger than the old one. This knowledge will also be beneficial for getting into tight spots out in the field also.

Possible Corrective Action

Recommend drivers survey the area where trucks are being parked to prevent damage.

Task Performed**Report #3**

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

While removing the pole top dummy from the rack, the front brace came out of its position and fell two notches lower.

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

Ensure the shelves have the safety pins installed so the rails cannot come out. We are fortunate that this didn't result in injury and/or damage. We inspected this further and learned that there is a safety pin on our shelving units that should be used to prevent the shelves from lifting off the brackets when items are moved on the shelves.

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure that proper tools and equipment are available and utilized for the job to be performed, and that manufacturer's recommendations are followed.

Task Performed**Report #4**

Driving

Incident Summary

While I was merging onto the Interstate, the driver side fire extinguisher come out of its holder and landed in the roadway. One car drove over it but did not cause any damage. We grabbed the extinguisher out of the road once traffic had cleared.

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

Make sure the fire extinguishers holder is tight and locked in properly. We will conduct a safety check on all vehicles to determine if all extinguishers are properly latched and identify brackets that need replaced.

Possible Corrective Action

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

Task Performed**Report #5**

ROW Clearing/Maintenance

Incident Summary

I was trimming a spruce tree away from some open secondary. The spruce tree had over grown the secondary wires. I would trim a little and remove the trimmings so they didn't stack up on the wires that were about 2" apart. After removing a limb I used my insulated tool with my rubber gloves on to remove the limb and made contact with both phases with the metal end of my insulated tool.

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

We could have maneuvered the bucket under the lines and pulled away from the wires.
We also could have planned an outage and coordinated with a line crew to replace and upgrade the secondary wire to triplex.

Possible Corrective Action

Ensure all appropriate PPE is worn within MAD and safe work practices are followed when trimming ROW.

Task Performed**Report #6**

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

While practicing a team building event, I was stepping backward and tripped on the fork of a parked forklift causing me to fall back. I used the fall techniques taught in the Slips, Trips and Falls training video of rolling my spine and tucking my chin to avoid hitting my head. I firmly believe this technique prevented me from getting hurt.

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

I should have continually looked around me to better orient myself to where I was stepping in relation to the forklift. Everyone needs to be aware of their surroundings and speak up if you see something.

Possible Corrective Action

Stay aware of personal safety at all times.

Task Performed**Report #7**

OHD Restoration/Repair

Incident Summary

Received a call from the office that a car hit a pole. A phase and B phase opened and C phase was opened remotely. Occupant of car and rescue were gone when linemen arrived on scene. Field phase and center were floating. Tied phases back in and tied field phase on first pole east. Pole will need replaced.

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

Continued education to 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.
