



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

May / 2025

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

Office/Facility Incident

Incident Summary

One of our contractors called in over the phone to get dispatch to remotely install a hotline tag on a circuit in a substation with SCADA. The dispatcher placed the hotline tag on a different circuit in a different substation. We did not realize it had been placed at the wrong location until they called back in later that day to remove the hotline tag.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Retraining for the employees, changed the verbiage on the procedure when installing a hot line tag remotely with SCADA, and implemented new changes with all dispatchers.

Possible Corrective Action

Confirm through multiple verbal confirmations that correct remote operations are being conducted through SCADA. Ensure that Operating Procedures address the use and protocol for SCADA control.

Task Performed
OHD Restoration/Repair

Report #2

Incident Summary

Electrician called and stated a customer hit secondaries and caused fuses to blow and damaged disconnect switch. The bayonet fuse was blown, and the bolts holding the knife blades in the switch box were busted off. Crew straightened the disconnect switch, put in new screws to repair the box, and replaced the bayonet fuse.

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
OHD Restoration/Repair

Report #3

Incident Summary

Farm sprayer hit meter with boom, breaking the meter.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

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.

Task Performed**Report #4**

Driving

Incident Summary

Employee was traveling 30 mph when he heard a loud noise from the truck. He was able to pull over at a safe place along the road, and proceeded to open the hood as there was smoke coming from the engine. When he opened the hood, flames came shooting out.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Use defensive driving techniques to identify and avoid hazards on or near the roadway, and be prepared to maneuver through vehicle mechanical issues.

Task Performed**Report #5**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Disconnected open secondaries to fix a bad spot in the wire in the meter loop. Disconnected the one-bolt connectors on the bare wire. Repaired the bad spot in underground wire. Went back up on the transformer pole to reconnect the service. When connecting the first phase wire, lineman's forearm pushed the bare wire going up to the transformers into the neutral wire. The wire started sparking and arcing. Lineman bent down in the bucket until sparking stopped. Opened the cutouts to open up the transformers so the service was deenergized. Finished the connections and reenergized the service.

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

Cover up bare wires or disconnect the service.

Possible Corrective Action

When energized work is performed, ensure all differences of potential are covered and a designated observer is in place.

Task Performed**Report #6**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

Incident Summary

Employees were performing routine maintenance changing out an OCR on an A6. When removing the bypass jumper with a hot stick, the line broke at the basket and fell to the ground. No injury or property damage occurred. Employees were able to isolate the line and make repairs. Conductor was 8D copper weld. Employees were following proper working procedures and using the correct PPE.

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

Continue to educate employees to stand clear of work area while work is performed on overhead lines. Discussed with the crew using caution when working with copper weld conductor. Reminded employees that following proper procedures prevented this near miss from becoming an accident.

Possible Corrective Action

When energized work is performed, ensure that a member of the crew is identified to act as a designated observer to help confirm clearances are maintained, appropriate PPE is in use, effective cover-up is installed, and employees are clear of equipment that could become energized.
