



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

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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

Line work

Incident Summary

Pulled into member's drive and black dog came out. Dog appeared to be very aggressive. Got out of truck approximately 100 feet from house but stayed on truck step. Decided not to engage with dog, so as dog was walking away, I opened the truck door to climb back in. Dog turned around at a full run and bit my left foot near the ankle. I pushed back and dog let go and came at me again. Swung hard hat at dog which bought me enough time to get back in truck. Couldn't find any bite marks on skin - work boots saved me.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Note bad dog on customer information.

Task Performed**Report #2**

Driving

Incident Summary

Light bar fell off of pole trailer. It wasn't strapped down properly and fell off going down road and was drug a couple of miles.

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

Circle for safety

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #3**

Reframing pole top

Incident Summary

While tightening guy, with chain hoist, tension from guy caused chain hoist to spin around and strike hard hat. Had it hit him in the jaw, this could have been an accident instead of a near miss.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Insure hoist strap/chain and wire to be pulled is straight and free of twist.

Task Performed**Report #4**

Loading mower on trailer

Incident Summary

Employees loaded a machine on a trailer. The trailer was not parked on a level surface so the machine started sliding off the trailer. Other equipment was brought in to pull it back onto the trailer.

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

Trailer should have been parked on level surface.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #5**

Repairing broken bells

Incident Summary

We received a call that lighting had struck a pole. When we arrived we had a broken set of bells. Dead-end shoe was broke off bells, hanging energized by jumper. We discussed during our job briefing , that we could de energize line and work line like it was energized with rubber gloves and sleeves. Employee #1 went up in bucket, and replaced bells on pole. Employee #1 could not attach conductor to bells. Employee #1 came down and got Employee #2 to assist in repinning conductor to bells. Both employees noticed after pinning the conductor that there was a bad stirrup. Both employees removed the jumper(jumper had to be unbolted) and replaced the stirrup. As employee #1 and #2 replaced jumper employee #1 took rubber glove off to install nut.

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

Rubber gloves and sleeves must be worn at all times. When you are within minimum approach distance.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #6**

N/A

Incident Summary

Checking connections on 3 phase, went to check neutral and #2 7 strand was running between X1 and X2 bushing, grabbed 7 strand with left hand to isolate. When went to grab speed wrench, turned body and unintentionally shoved 7 strand into hot bushing and flashed. Pulled away immediately.

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

De-energize transformer

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #7**

Change out of C1 Pole

Incident Summary

Floating field phase on C-1 change-out. Phase made contact with crops in field that had dew on them with 3 men standing in it to tie off phase to temporary post. Concern was that crops were wet and could have made contact through wet foliage to men standing near phase.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #8**

Transformer Change

Incident Summary

There was an outage reported. The S-man called for a crew to bring a new transformer. There were no CSP's in stock so they brought a 2 bushing conventional with a stand off bracket with a fused cutout. This required that the pole be reframed to accommodate the cutout bracket and repositioning of the transformer. The pole was an A-1 that in addition to the transformer had a URD primary riser on it with a bracket holding a fused cutout and lightning arrestor. While in the process of drilling for the fuse bracket for the new transformer the lineman was exposed to three large arc flashes. Which resulted in locking out the 100 Amp OCR that controlled that circuit. Upon closer inspection it was determined that the arrestor was blown on the URD riser. The ground lug had separated from the bottom of the arrestor, but only a little. The blown arrestor and the separated ground had not been observed by anyone. When drilling contact was made with the ground and raised into the faulted arrestor.

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

Any time the line worker is within minimum approach distance rubber gloves and sleeves are to be worn.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect all material/line prior to beginning work on pole.

Task Performed**Report #9**

Switching UG primary

Incident Summary

Crew was performing switching operations on underground line. When lineman pulled the elbow off the transformer, the load-break tip broke creating a fault at the transformer. The fault current continued downstream breaking the next bushing and swelling the next elbow at the next transformer. Crew was wearing proper PPE and following proper safe switching procedures resulting in no accident.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #10**

Phone Line Repair

Incident Summary

A telephone company employee was working out of an un-insulated bucket truck where a broken phone line was over a 7200 primary line. He attempted to remove the phone line from the primary wire using class 2 rubber gloves. This attempt shorted out the primary line causing a 20 amp primary line fuse to blow. The worker told the line crew that he had not made contact; however, he was sent by his employer to a local emergency room where he was evaluated and released back to work with no signs of contact with energized lines.

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

This incident involved a telephone lineman. I am not sure of their policy for this situation. We were surprised to find out that he had Class 2 rubber gloves available. Their policy should be to call the Cooperative to have the phone line removed from the equipment.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #11**

Applying truck grounds

Incident Summary

Lineman applied truck ground to energized primary and not system neutral. Lineman stated he thought it was the system neutral, the framing on pole was three phase dead-end single phase take off the back, it was a flat top framing.

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

All coworkers on the crew will observe and stay away from equipment until the truck ground is applied properly.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #12**

Putting air in forklift tire

Incident Summary

Lineman got on forklift and drove about 20 ft. before noticing a flat tire. He notified the warehouse supervisor of it. Warehouse supervisor used a portable air compressor to fill the tire enough to drive it closer to the work bench so he could remove the tire to take to get fixed. He filled it like and other person would when they put air in a tire. He then got on the forklift to drive it away when there was a loud explosion. The forklift has "split rims", which we found out are very dangerous! The split rim was damaged when the lineman drove it 20 ft. on a flat tire. When the warehouse supervisor filled up the tire and started driving the split rim blew off of the forklift and hit our Hotline Demo Trailer that was about 8 ft. away causing a dent that was the perfect shape of the rim. We were fortunate nobody was hurt in this incident. It could have blown off at any time. Very few of our employees knew anything about split rims and how dangerous they can be.

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

We have daily forklift inspections.

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed**Report #13**

Upgrade service from overhead to underground

Incident Summary

Crew tasked with changing from overhead to underground service at a farm. Apprentice sent with long stick to remove tap stinger. Crew leader had to leave to check on a local outage call. When crew leader returned the apprentice still had not gotten the stinger off. Crew leader took the stick and removed the hot line clamp. Then called out to other apprentice in the bucket that line was dead and to ground it. Bucket apprentice grounded the line and saw a flash. The wrong line had been de-energized. Through the use of PPE the apprentice was not harmed. Tap fuse downline opened up.

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

All lines should be tested for voltage before applying grounds.

Possible Corrective Action

Review Lockout/Tagout & Clearance procedures.

Task Performed**Report #14**

Meter reading

Incident Summary

While driving on right of way, driver heard and felt a rock hit the under side of truck. Driver stopped truck and inspected undercarriage and did not see any damage. Driver finished meter reading and continued to next work location. While in route to next location the front steering tie rod broke in half and the tires on the truck angled away from each other. Luckily driver was on dirt road and at a slow rate of speed so no accident occurred.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective ActionN/A

Task Performed
Member Registration

Report #15

Incident Summary

This incident happened at the company Annual Meeting registration desk. As usual member registration was set up using folding tables as registration desks. The tables are covered with a cloth and two employees per table were seated with laptop workstations to register members as they enter. During the event a member leaned over on one of the workstation tables and the table collapsed. The table came down on one employee's knees as the computer and other items fell to the ground. Fortunately the employee, the member and equipment were not hurt, but it was realized that the incident could have been much worse. It was determined that the table legs were not properly locked during setup. After the incident, coworkers checked other tables in the room and found the same "trap" elsewhere.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

When using folding tables double check to insure that locking device is properly secured before use.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed
Changing out a Fuse Cut-Out Switch

Report #16

Incident Summary

Employee was changing out a damaged switch, and did not remove the source side jumper (hot line clamp) from the primary line first. The fuse broke apart, causing a flash.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

1. When a line reclosure, sectionalizer or fused cutout is used to de-energize a conductor on which work is to be performed, the handle shall be opened, the source jumper removed and grounds installed. Only then will the line will be considered de-energized.
2. All exposed energized lines or parts other than those temporarily exposed to perform work and maintained under positive control, located within maximum reach of the employee's work position, shall be covered with insulating protective equipment.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #17**

Street light work

Incident Summary

While tracking down an issue with an underground street light circuit, the circuit became energized. It was found out that a mapping contractor energized the circuit in an attempt to determine routing of the light circuits. Contractor covered the photo-cell. The circuit was not locked and tagged.

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

There is not a safety policy written specifically for street light circuit safety but circuit safety procedures are spelled out through the LOTO program

Possible Corrective Action

Review Lockout/Tagout & Clearance procedures.

Task Performed**Report #18**

Replacing pole that was hit by car

Incident Summary

Consumer on way to Hospital ER, hit and broke off utility pole- part of pole still on vehicle- All lines on pole were still energized, only blink 34.5kv line twice- Distribution on pole was a two-way feed coming from two different Substations- In order too make scene safe it was decided to kill the line from the sub so we could work on getting lines in clear and have as many people on as possible. When vehicle hit pole it broke cross-arms on three different poles making the job of clearing lines more difficult. We killed the line at sub and went to work. The mistake was made that switch down the street from the other substation was assumed open. In the process of cutting in bells to isolate problem it was realized that switch from sub was closed so he was cutting open an energized line that we had thought was de-energized. Without grounding the line he was required to wear all his PPE which this a near miss instead of an accident.

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

Lockout/Tagout- 4-110 After the employee in charge of the work has been given clearance by system operator,(provided one is on duty) the lines and equipment to be worked shall be tested to ensure that they are de-energized. (Sec.1910.269(m)(3)(v))

Possible Corrective Action

N/A
