



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

May / 2018

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

Equipment Operation

Incident Summary

Linemen unloaded skid steer off of tilt bed trailer. They lowered the bed back down and locked it in place. The design of the locking lever put the lineman's hand in a pinch point between the lever and the trailer bed causing him to bruise his hand in the action of locking the bed down.

Safety Equipment in Use - Yes

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

A "D" shaped handle has been welded on the the original trailers handle eliminating the hazard of the linemans hand being placed in a pinch point when locking down the trailer.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #2**

Material Handling

Incident Summary

Driver was going to worksite when he was beginning to make a right turn. He looked in his side mirror and saw a transformer come off the back of his bucket nearly missing a car that was in the turning lane.

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

Make sure each driver do a walk around to make sure all objects are secure

Possible Corrective Action

Insure all material and equipment are secured before travel.

Task Performed**Report #3**

ROW Maintenance

Incident Summary

Moving from the tree, just cut to the next tree, trudging through snow. Stumbled, chain saw was moving and made contact with left leg just above the knee cap. Resulted in a cut through bibs and blue jeans. 3 stitches.

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

Wear chainsaw chaps when cutting trees.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #4**

Pre-Trip Inspection

Incident Summary

Failure to properly latch pental latch to secure towed trailer, led to trailer coming loose and settled between safety chains which supported trailer until coming to a stop.

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

Insure trailer is properly secured, and perform a walk around before driving away

Possible Corrective Action

Complete pre-trip inspection of vehicle before travel.

Task Performed
URD Maintenance

Report #5

Incident Summary

Hit 7200 kv urd with frost bar while hand digging near pole to find old wire.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Locate and shield cable while digging in close proximity.

Task Performed
OHD Outage

Report #6

Incident Summary

Crew was troubleshooting afterhours outage. Went into substation to verify everything was OK and noticed high side transmission buss had broken off and was hanging down about 5 feet from ground still energized at 115kv. Had they not had flashlights and not taken the time to inspect sub, could have easily walked into energized buss.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Inspect jobsite and substation for all possible hazards

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed
OHD Maintenance

Report #7

Incident Summary

Crew was changing pole out. Placed the circuit on hot line tag. Had C phase tagged out in field. A phase was secured in a phase handler. B phase was held by lineman on bucket. While phase was being pulled out, A phase broke on the north span falling to the ground. With HLT on, took the circuit out immediately

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

While working on circuit place the feeder on Hot Line Tag

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect adjacent line and structures before moving.

Task Performed
ROW Maintenance

Report #8

Incident Summary

Topping out pine trees under 3 phase line. Apparently one of the branches rolled from top of tree, struck side of truck, and put a hole in the side door.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Insure a safe area to drop limbs.

Task Performed
OHD Maintenance

Report #9

Incident Summary

Changing pole and replacing wire phase breaks at splice and one side drops to ground. The guy in the bucket has a hold of the wire, which is in the gut. The guys on the ground remove hook from the pole and move the digger truck to open cutout to turn off line.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

wire stringing, make all crews aware of the problems with old #4 wire and splices.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect adjacent line and poles to note possible hazards.

Task Performed
Material Handling

Report #10

Incident Summary

Framing poles in shop, went to load a framed pole and the pole had a dog leg in it. When placed on trailer, the dog leg caused the framed pole to roll. The butt end of the pole rolled off the trailer while the top stayed loaded on the trailer. Could have struck someone in the way. No injuries from incident.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Standards should be in place on pole trailers.

Task Performed**Report #11**

OHD Outage

Incident Summary

While working in members yard, crew noticed smoke coming from truck. Found to be a box on bed of truck burning. Possibly a cigarette had been thrown into bed of truck and the wind caused the box to ignite. Crew was able to put fire out without damages to truck.

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

No smoking in company vehicles

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed**Report #12**

Driving

Incident Summary

Drove service truck across unseen open trench and across rock drive causing back glass to shatter.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect area before driving through and consider uneven surfaces.

Task Performed**Report #13**

OHD Maintenance

Incident Summary

Sent linemen out to tie 2 lines together that had been done in the past. They checked phasing and closed airbreak switch. Switch was sizzling so they opened it. It drew a pretty good arc. Transmission feeding these 2 subs had been changed causing potential difference.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

When tying circuits together always test phasing and test ohasing sticks prior to use for accuracy.

Task Performed**Report #14**

Public Liability

Incident Summary

Tree service order had been written for danger tree and sent to tree contractor. Tree fell through line before contractor could take care of the tree, causing conductor to fall. Member started cleaning up tree before line crew were on-site to make downed conductor safe.

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

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Downed wire safety campaign should be addressed.

Task Performed**Report #15**

Driving

Incident Summary

Trailer bounced off hitch. Truck was missing cotter pin for hitch. Truck went over big bump and trailer bounced violently and opened the hitch.

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

Don't move trailer without cotter pin in place.

Possible Corrective Action

Insure all equipment is safe to operate on roadway.

Task Performed**Report #16**

Driving

Incident Summary

Backing truck out of shop and didn't see truck parked behind and backed into tail shelf.

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

Installing Backup camera or other personal assisting when backing truck out

Possible Corrective Action

Employ "Circle of Safety" check before moving vehicles.

Task Performed
OHD Maintenance

Report #17

Incident Summary

The crew had untied the 8ACW phase from the existing pole and moved it to a pin insulator on the new pole. While attempting to separate the line hose, the conductor fell off the insulator and landed on the neutral below. The conductor and neutral had line hose installed. The nearest OCR had been placed in non-reclose. There was no flash or operation of OCR.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

A positive control of the conductor would have prevented the conductor from falling.

Possible Corrective Action

Always maintain positive control of energized phases.

Task Performed
Substation Maintenance

Report #18

Incident Summary

A 3ph. breaker had been damaged in the substation and had been bypassed with 100 amp fuses. It was determined that peak load would be as high as 143 amps and that new blade switches should be installed to tie two circuits together. The new blade switches were installed and the crews would proceed with de-energizing the affected circuit. The crew had switching orders for the procedure and decided to add a step to de-energize and isolate the underground feed from the substation to the overhead circuit.

The intended steps in the switching procedure were performed out of sequence resulting in hot jumpers being removed at the riser pole prior to opening the fuses in the substation to de-energized the underground lines feeding these jumpers. Two jumpers were removed and floated and the third jumper was removed and taken to the neutral which resulted in an arch and the blowing of two 100 amp fuses in the substation.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

1. Switching orders are reviewed. Any changes must be reviewed and approved prior to performing work.
2. Always make sure there is a visual opening and test before grounding.
3. Good communication is essential. If something does not seem right - STOP and re-evaluate.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed
URD Maintenance

Report #19

Incident Summary

While conducting a pad mount transformer inspection, it was determined that debris needed to be cleaned out from around the secondary bushings. Clutter was so thick that employee couldn't tell that the X2 bushing was uncovered. Shovel came in contact with the X2 bushing, causing bayonet fuse to blow.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Rubber gloves are used when opening pad mount transformers during our inspections or when any type of work is being done on an energized pad mount. It was determined that the debris should have been cleaned out by gloved hands instead of using a shovel.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed
OHD Maintenance

Report #20

Incident Summary

Pole replacement-double circuit pole. Top circuit was de-energized, grounded and spread out on upper arm to allow room for new pole to be set a few feet away. Bottom circuit was still energized. Neutral was high and cut loose from the pole ground and placed on the upper arm to allow more room for the new pole. Lineman on the ground received a slight shock when he made contact with the pole ground on the old structure. Pole ground had been hit by a mower and was broke at ground level. The 10-kva pot on the old structure had no reference to ground after the pole ground had been cut loose from the neutral.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

Transformers must always have a reference to ground.

Possible Corrective Action

Inspect entire job site prior to beginning work.

Task Performed**Report #21**

Driving

Incident Summary

Two were inspecting regulators and noticed lug nut and stud laying in the road. Looked at the truck they were in to find four broken/missing studs on the driver side rear wheel. The rest were loose.

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

Have had the same issue on other trucks. Possibly torque lugnuts on inspection schedule or look into some sort of locks for lug nuts.

Possible Corrective Action

Complete pre & post trip inspections each day.

Task Performed**Report #22**

Driving

Incident Summary

Employee drove ½-ton short bed pickup truck into members' yard and parked so that upon completion of his work he could drive out forward to leave the property. After completing his inspection and while entering the data in the iPad, in the cab of the truck, the member approached him inquiring about what his purpose was there. The employee explaining there would be a crew coming by in the near future to replace the basement under the transformer and the member returned into the home. After the employee completed his paperwork and before leaving the residences, he stepped out of the truck and did his walk around again. He found two young children under the age of four with their dog in front of the truck. They were out of sight from the driver's seat and were not there when he pulled into the property or returned to the truck after his inspection.

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

Always conduct a walk around just prior to moving any vehicle or equipment.

Possible Corrective Action

N/A

Task Performed
OHD Maintenance

Report #23

Incident Summary

Wires were removed from pole and pole chain was put on pole and pushed up into place for pulling pole. After pole was pulled, we were letting it down, some slack got in winch line and chain came unhooked dropping pole about 10 ft.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - Yes

Corrective Action Taken

N/A

Possible Corrective Action

Insure all lifting tools have a keeper in good working order.

Task Performed

Driving

Report #24

Incident Summary

Driving by myself at night watching 3-phase line with spot light. Had to slam on brakes because of trees blocking road.

Safety Equipment in Use - No

Job Briefing Conducted - No

Corrective Action Taken

Any time there is any night time patrol of the power lines a second person needs to be in the vehicle. The Driver needs to watch the road and the second person can patrol the power lines.

Possible Corrective Action

Consider 2 people when patrolling line.
