



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC  
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

*A reciprocal exchange managed by Federated Rural Electric Management Corp.*

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

November / 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.

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**Task Performed**

**Report #1**

URD Construction

**Incident Summary**

Catted machine into ditch to bore a secondary service. Completed bore and when catting back to trailer, track came off and machine tipped over. There was a slight incline, but had no issue until track came off.

**Safety Equipment in Use** - Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted** - No

**Corrective Action Taken**

Inspect tracks on unit before operation

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #2**

Vehicle/Maintenance Shop

**Incident Summary**

An employee was using a cutting torch. The regulator froze up and caused a hose to blow (right by the employee's hand). This could have resulted in serious injury.

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

Employees are to properly check all equipment prior to use (regulators). Employees should also refrain from touching a hose while using the cutting torch.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #3**

OHD outage

**Incident Summary**

While responding to a part power call, worker opened the meter base to find the hot leg had come out of the lug and was making contact with the meter base energizing the base.

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

PPE and IPE worn lock to lock.

**Possible Corrective Action**

Always wear proper PPE and confirm the situation. Contacting an energized meterbase can result in serious injuries

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**Task Performed****Report #4**

Driving

**Incident Summary**

While pulling up to the jobsite, worker was sitting in the truck looking at paperwork when he smelled smoke. He noticed that the exhaust had set the weeds on fire while he was setting there. Worker had to exit vehicle and put the fire out with the use of the fire extinguisher.

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

Employees shall be familiar with both the location and the operation of all fire protection equipment in the vicinity of their work area.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #5**

Line/Substation Switching

**Incident Summary**

Substation worker installing bypass cutout door over substation recloser. Fuse door fell, caught on the structure, swung down and contacted hot jumper on recloser. Fuse blew. Cap hit worker in the chest.

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

Crew installed insulating cover on all recloser jumpers in the station. This will be done at all stations with these particular bypasses.

**Possible Corrective Action**N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #6**

URD Construction

**Incident Summary**

While making secondary connections in a 37.5 KVA pad Mount transformer a line worker made contact with the secondary side of the transformer. The contact happened above the rubber glove cuff.

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

All written procedures and safety rules were followed. Expanding of current safety rules and procedures are currently being looked at by the safety committee.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #7**

Equipment Inspection

**Incident Summary**

Service Bucket was travelling back to warehouse from last job when driver noticed that the bucket had rotated out of its normal resting position. Once back at warehouse, we investigated and found that bucket was free floating on the rotation axis at the end of boom. 8 bolts that connected bucket to rotation cylinder had sheared off causing the bucket to free float. Bucket was not in any danger of falling off of truck, but operator could have been injured if he would have lost control of rotation while within reach of energized conductor.

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

Pre trip inspections are performed to identify any issues with equipment.

**Possible Corrective Action**N/A

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**Task Performed**  
OHD Construction

**Report #8**

**Incident Summary**

Apprentice hooked primary deadend directly to eyebolt on single phase D. E. Pole without insulating bells attached. Line was energized and remained hot until later that night when rain caused the breaker to trip due to fault. No one was working on the pole when it became energized. The lack of insulators was not noticed by the apprentice, his journeyman, or the crew foreman.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

**Corrective Action Taken**

Crew foreman should visually inspect all work before line is energized

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed**  
Driving

**Report #9**

**Incident Summary**

Backing up along road to position truck better and moved too close to shoulder and passenger rear slid into steep ditch

**Safety Equipment in Use -** Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted -** No

**Corrective Action Taken**

N/A

**Possible Corrective Action**

Use spotter if available.

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**Task Performed**  
OHD Maintenance

**Report #10**

**Incident Summary**

The crew was pulling poles from an abandoned line. The operator had a pole in the pole claws and was getting ready to lower the pole to the ground when it slipped out of the pole claws. The bottom end of the pole came up and hit the line truck operator station.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** No

**Job Briefing Conducted -** No

**Corrective Action Taken**

Make sure all equipment is spaced properly on the pole before pulling the pole out of the ground.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed**  
OHD Maintenance

**Report #11**

**Incident Summary**

Lineman was opening a Westinghouse Porcelain cutout when it broke at the attachment point. The other lineman was able to kill the line so the cut out could be fixed without hazard.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** No

**Job Briefing Conducted -** No

**Corrective Action Taken**

Use buddy system when working on or around any old or porcelain products. The cutout was changed to a new polymer type and a system wide inventory is taking place to note existing locations with porcelain cutouts.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #12**

OHD Outage

**Incident Summary**

Crew was changing pole following a car accident. The police had the road blocked off on all lanes to assist with the safety. A driver went past the police road block, went into the ditch and back onto the road where employee was walking. The others yelled at him to watch out as the car pulled back onto the road. The police went after the guy who was driving on a suspended license and took him to jail.

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

Be aware of your surroundings at all time.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #13**

OHD Maintenance

**Incident Summary**

Lineman was up in bucket putting up triplex on pole that had just been changed out. Other linemen, on site, were finishing tamping pole. When lineman in bucket pulled the wire up, it caught on impact in blue bag. It fell out hitting lineman on the ground in the hard hat and arm.

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

Make sure everyone is away from pole when people are working above.

**Possible Corrective Action**

Tools should remain inside the bucket, when not in use.

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**Task Performed****Report #14**

Public Liability

**Incident Summary**

Farmer was drilling in seed and hit pole causing wires to hit together and pull two spans of wire out of sag. Re-sagged two spans of wire and put red ribbon on pole. Talked to farmer and made him aware of what happened and charges that may apply.

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

Continuing education to the public.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #15**

OHD Construction

**Incident Summary**

Connecting a new overhead 120/240 400 amp residential service, which had 2 risers on the panel with 4/0 wire coming out of both risers. Hooked up 4/0 triple. Hooked up one leg from each riser to one leg on the overhead service wire. Then hooked up the other legs to the other overhead service wire. CSP tripped when tried to close.

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

Open panels to check wiring and verify phasing. Follow appropriate established procedures.

**Possible Corrective Action**

Services with multiple runs should be ohmed out to confirm marking before connection.



**Task Performed**  
OHD Maintennace

**Report #16**

**Incident Summary**

Crew was working on a straight line single phase primary pole changing out a 35' pole to 45' pole. The wire had slack and the lineman in the bucket was raising the wire up when it broke at a sleeve. The up line device, where the Hold Tag was applied on a one shot, operated as designed and tripped open. All crew members were wearing the appropriate PPE and old pole was covered properly. No one was injured.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

**Corrective Action Taken**

N/A

**Possible Corrective Action**

Always inspect adjacent structures, lines & ROW. Crew members should not be under line when line is being moved.

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