



FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC  
INSURANCE EXCHANGE

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

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Safety Professional:

July/2023

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**

Material Handling/Securing

**Incident Summary**

While performing a lift of a concrete vault the rope winch line failed

**Safety Equipment in Use** - Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted** - Yes

**Corrective Action Taken**

We have changed the winch line and have a two year change out of the winch line scheduled

**Possible Corrective Action**

Inspect and confirm equipment and tools for rigging and lifting are in excellent operating condition and are designed for the task.

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**Task Performed**  
OHD Restoration/Repair

**Report #2**

**Incident Summary**

Trying to refuse transformer, a piece of fuse was stuck in crows foot. As we pushed up on the crow's foot, the arrestor separated and swung down, energized, towards the main line neutral. Lineman was able to catch the energized line with his stick while second Lineman grabbed a second stick and unhooked hot tail to get it under control.

This was the second arrestor in 2 days that had separated like that. We find several arrestors that are bad and getting worse as time goes. Neither of these looked bad.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

**Corrective Action Taken**

Needing to be discussed in safety committee meeting and see what can be done to prevent situations like this in the future.\

Bring awareness to situation, express need to inspect arrestors as well as possible before beginning work. See if there is a need for a policy or rule that might help prevent situations like this in the future.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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**Task Performed**  
Meter Work

**Report #3**

**Incident Summary**

Coop received a call that a trailer rolled down driveway and hit transformer knocking it over. Trailer was not chalked and rolled down driveway. Arrived at location and disconnected power at service to level transformer and assess damages. Service was still energized. Checked connections and reattached meter ped to ground sleeve.

**Safety Equipment in Use -** Yes

**Job Briefing Conducted -** Yes

**Corrective Action Taken**

Continue to education the public of their surroundings and potential hazards.

**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](http://www.safeelectricity.org). If you need assistance or have questions regarding the safety resources, email: [info@safeelectricity.org](mailto:info@safeelectricity.org).

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

OHD Construction/Maintenance

**Incident Summary**

Pole claws broke on digger Derrick, one side of claw hit the ground. No one was hurt

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

New bracket was purchased for the pole claws

**Possible Corrective Action**

Inspect aerial devices prior to use to ensure manufactures recommended condition is met.

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

URD Restoration/Repair

**Incident Summary**

Crew responding to an outage In the middle of the night. The crew was working on a faulted piece of primary urd cable. They had isolated the bad piece of cable and were attempting to park and ground the cables with their Shot gun and rubber gloves. While attempting to place the elbow in a 2 way connector to ground the cable they noticed the cable they thought to be deenergized was buzzing, with the experience they have they stopped to check if they were working on a hot elbow. They immediately stopped and discovered the cables were not tagged correctly. At this point they swapped the cables tagged them to show the correct feed direction. They were wearing their PPE and as a result this bad situation was averted

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

Discussed in detail better tagging, and the importance of accuracy always test, always ground.

**Possible Corrective Action**

Follow all Clearance procedures before work begins to ensure safe working conditions.

1. Confirm source has visual open and device is in a inoperable condition
  2. Apply tag
  3. Test for absence of voltage
  4. Apply Protective Grounds
    - a. Cable to be repaired should be spiked prior to cutting
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**Task Performed****Report #6**

Substation Work

**Incident Summary**

Crew was cleaning out multiple bird's nest in a substation. After all of the nests had been removed from the overhead structures the crew started collecting the nests off of the ground for proper disposal. One of the nests had landed in a shady area next to a steel beam. When the crew member reached for the nest, a rattlesnake struck at their hand.

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

Always be aware of your surroundings and what possible dangers could be present.

**Possible Corrective Action**

N/A

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

Material Handling/Securing

**Incident Summary**

While pole trailer was being backed up, one of the poles struck the truck parked behind. The pole first struck the front bumper, then the fender and ultimately the drivers door as the driver was entering the cab. This caused the drivers left leg to be caught between the closing door and the rocker panel of the cab. Luckily all motion was stopped and the pole trailer was pulled forward. Not closing the door any tighter against the drivers leg. This situation could have been extremely worse, but luckily x-ray showed nothing broken, just will be sore and swollen for a while.

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

Only one truck at a time in pole alley. Avoid backing when ever possible. Utilize your spotters.

**Possible Corrective Action**N/A

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**Task Performed****Report #8**

OHD Construction/Maintenance

**Incident Summary**

While performing a job site observation the worker climbed onto the bucket truck to inspect the bucket and bucket controls. He noticed heavy marking on the top of the boom. Standing on a metal step he turned to take a picture of the boom. Glancing down through bifocal glasses he misjudged his position to the next step. He began to slip but was able to catch himself with the large handle placed on the lower section of the boom.

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

Important to focus on three points of contact when repositioning!

Be certain to have three points of contact when repositioning on the truck. Look carefully prior to stepping.

**Possible Corrective Action**N/A

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