

14 Electrocution—Insp #1763555 Appalachian Electric Cooperative

A 39-year-old male electrician was electrocuted while working to connect temporary electrical service. After replacing a transformer, the ground wire was relocated to the field side of the pole. The victim began installation of the “framing” without insulating gloves or sleeves and without insulating the energized switch. The victim was working within 2.2 feet. While tightening the bolt, the victim’s shoulder contacted the energized switch resulting in electrocution.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1 a Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.269(l)(3)(iii)(A): The employee was not insulated from the energized part (rubber insulating gloves or rubber insulating gloves and sleeves worn in accordance with paragraph (l)(4) of this section constitutes insulation of the employee from the energized part upon which the employee is working provided that the employee has control of the part in a manner sufficient to prevent exposure to uninsulated portions of the employee's body).

In that an employee working near an energized 7620-volt switch was not insulated from the energized part by rubber insulated gloves and/or sleeves and contacted the energized part resulting in an electrocution.

Proposed Penalty: \$4000.00

Citation 1 Item 1 b Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.269(l)(3)(iii)(B): The energized part was not insulated from the employee and from any other conductive object at a different potential section.

In that an employee working within the minimum approach distance of an energized switch (7620 volts) did not insulate the switch from contact and resulted in an electrocution when the employee contacted the energized switch with his shoulder.

Proposed Penalty: \$0.00

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Citation 1 Item 1 c Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.269(l)(3)(iii)(C): The employee was not insulated from any other exposed conductive object in accordance with the requirements for live line barehand work in paragraph (q)(3) of this section.

In that an employee was not insulated from the energized high side of the switch while tightening bolts on the framing of a transformer.

Proposed Penalty: \$0.00

Citation 1 Item 2 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.269(l)(5)(ii): When an employee performs work near exposed parts energized at more than 600 volts, but not more than 72.5 kilovolts, and is not wearing rubber insulating gloves, being protected by insulating equipment covering the energized parts, performing work using live-line tools, or performing live line bare hand work under paragraph (q)(3) of this section, the employee shall work from a position where he or she cannot reach into the minimum approach distance, established by the employer under paragraph (l)(3)(i) of this section. (A) The unprotected employee did not position or work outside the minimum approach distance as required.

In that an employee entered the minimum approach distance of an energized 7620-volt switch and was not wearing rubber insulated gloves and/or sleeves and contacted the energized part resulting in an electrocution.

Proposed Penalty: \$4000.00

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