

OVERHEAD POWER AND UTILITIES

Purpose

The purpose of this program is to set forth safe work procedures for work being performed on or near overhead utilities by Pulsar Helium (the company) employees.

Scope

This program represents the minimum requirements of Pulsar Helium employees, temporary employees and contractors when work is performed on a company owned, operated or controlled site. The contractors program shall take precedence, however, this document may be adopted for use a contractors program doesn't exist or is less stringent.

Requirements

Before Working on Poles

Before employees are allowed to climb or perform work on poles or towers the structures are capable of sustaining the additional or unbalanced stresses. Before elevated structures, such as poles or towers, are subjected to such stresses as climbing or the installation or removal of equipment may impose, the employer shall ascertain that the structures are capable of sustaining the additional or unbalanced stresses. If the pole or other structure cannot withstand the loads which will be imposed, it shall be braced or otherwise supported so as to prevent failure.

Electrical Personal Protective Equipment

When a pole is set, moved, or removed near an exposed energized overhead conductor, the employer shall ensure that each employee wears electrical protective equipment or uses insulated devices when handling the pole and that no employee contacts the pole with uninsulated parts of his or her body.

- Employees working in areas where there are potential electrical hazards shall be provided with, and shall use, electrical protective equipment that is appropriate for the specific parts of the body to be protected and for the work to be performed.
- Equipment shall be maintained in a safe, reliable condition. Such protective equipment shall be periodically inspected and/or tested.
- If the insulating capability of protective equipment may be subject to damage during use, the insulating material shall be protected. (An example might be an outer covering of leather used for the protection of rubber insulating material.)
- Employees shall wear nonconductive head protection wherever there is a danger of head injury from electric shock or burns due to contact with exposed energized parts.
- Employees shall wear protective equipment for the eyes or face wherever there is danger of injury to the eyes or face from electric arcs or flashes or from flying objects resulting from electrical explosion.
- Each employee shall use insulated tools or handling equipment if they might make contact with conductors or parts. Program shall state that if the insulating capability of insulated tools or handling equipment is subject to damage, the insulating material shall be protected.
- Ropes and handlines used near exposed energized parts shall be nonconductive.
- Protective shields, protective barriers, or insulating materials shall be used to protect each employee from shock, burns, or other electrically related injuries while that employee is working near exposed energized parts. When normally enclosed live parts are exposed for maintenance or repair, they shall be guarded to protect unqualified persons from contact with the live parts.
- Alerting techniques used to warn and protect employees from hazards which could cause injury due to electric shock, burns or failure of electric equipment parts can take the form of safety signs and tags, barricades & attendants).

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Protection of Employees from Falling Into Holes Which Poles Are to be Placed

To protect employees from falling into holes into which poles are to be placed, the holes shall be attended by employees or physically guarded whenever anyone is working nearby.

Tension Stringing and Other Methods

Tension stringing, barriers or other equivalent measures will be used to minimize the possibility of contact with energized power lines or equipment during installation or removal. Pulsar Helium shall use the tension stringing method, barriers, or other equivalent measures to minimize the possibility that conductors and cables being installed or removed will contact energized power lines or equipment.

Reel Handling Equipment

Reel handling equipment, including pulling and tensioning devices, shall be in safe operating condition, shall be leveled and aligned.

Load Ratings

Load ratings of stringing lines, pulling lines, conductor grips, load-bearing hardware and accessories, rigging, and hoists may not be exceeded.

Adverse Weather

Work will not be performed if adverse weather conditions make the work unsafe. Work may not be performed when adverse weather conditions would make the work hazardous even after the work practices required by this section are employed.

Signalling

A signal person must be utilized when operating equipment near an overhead line if the operator's view is obstructed. A signal person responsible for giving signals to the operator of equipment or machinery must have an unobstructed view of the operator, signal the operator when the equipment or machinery being operated may come into contact with the electrical line and make all reasonable efforts to notify persons who are not required to be engaged in the work that they are prohibited from entering the worksite, and prevent persons, other than the operator, from touching the equipment or machinery until it is safe to do so.

When it is not possible for the signal person and the operator of the equipment or machinery to have an unobstructed view of each other, Pulsar Helium must ensure that the signal person and the operator of the equipment or machinery are provided with a suitable means of communication or a person is posted in a location where he or she can see both the signal person and the equipment or machinery, and relays all signals between the signal person and the operator.

Training

- Live line bare-hand work is not performed by Pulsar Helium or not allowed to be performed.
- Employees will receive training on the contents of this procedure before performing any work on or near overhead lines.
- Workers are provided training on working near overhead power lines. Pulsar Helium must train workers who may perform work or operate equipment or machinery near overhead electrical lines in those safe work procedures.
- Training shall be documented and retained in the worker's training file.