

ACCIDENT REPORT

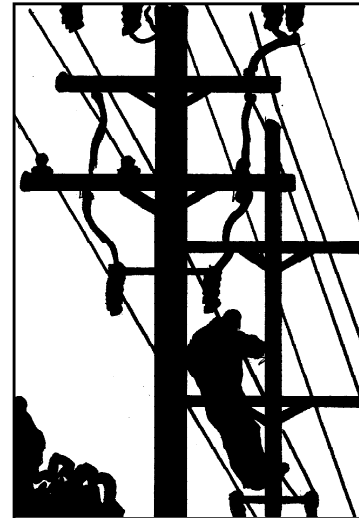
DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 75

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Contact with Overhead Power Lines
Weather Conditions: Clear, Sunny
Type of Operation: Earth Drilling Company
Size of Work Crew: 2
Union or Non-Union: Union
Worksite inspection conducted: No
Competent safety monitoring on-site: Yes
Safety and Health Program in effect: Minimal
Training and education for employees: Minimal
Craft of deceased employee: Operator
Age/Sex: 19/Male
Time on job: 1 day
Time at task: 15 minutes



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

A two man crew were in the process of setting up a mobile drilling rig to drill a pier foundation hole. One employee was operating the drilling rig to move the boom into an upright vertical position, when the boom contacted an uninsulated energized overhead power line rated at 7,200 volts phase to ground. One employee was electrocuted and one employee was hospitalized with life threatening injuries.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Equipment shall not be operated within 10 feet of electrical distribution or transmission lines rated 50kv or below, unless the lines had been de-energized and visibly grounded or insulating barriers have been put in place to prevent physical contact with the lines.
2. When it is difficult for the operator to maintain the desired clearance by visual means, a person shall be designated to observe the clearance of the equipment and give timely warning.
3. All employees are to be trained in the hazards, and applicable standards, associated with the type of work they are performing.
4. Before the start of work it shall be determined whether any part of an energized electric power circuit, exposed or concealed, is so located that the performance of the work may bring any person, tool, or machine into physical contact with the electric power circuit.

SOURCES OF HELP

• OSHA Standards, regulations, documents and technical information are available on the Internet World Wide web at: <http://www.OSHA.gov/>. That information also is on CD-ROM, which may be purchased from the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800 or fax (202) 512-2250, Order No.729-13-00000-5; Cost \$79 annually; \$28 quarterly.

• For hard copies of OSHA Construction Standards [29 CFR Part 1926], which include all OSHA job safety and health

rules and regulation covering construction, contact Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250, order number 869-022-00114-1, \$33.

• OSHA-funded free consultation services listed in telephone directories under U.S. Labor Department or under the state government section where states administer their own OSHA programs.

• OSHA Safety and Health Training Guidelines for Construction, Volume III (Available from the National Technical

Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161; phone (703) 487-4650; Order No. PB-239-312/AS. \$25 to help construction employers establish a training program.

• Courses in construction safety are offered by the OSHA Training Institute, 2020 Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, (847) 297-4810, and the Metropolitan Community Colleges Business & Technology Center, 6899 Executive Drive, Kansas City, MO 64120, (816) 482-5210.

Note: This case described was selected as being representative of improper work practices which likely contributed to a fatality from a fall and/or electrocution. The accident prevention recommendations do not necessarily reflect the outcome of the legal aspects of the incident case. Your company or organization is eligible to receive one free copy of this leaflet which you may duplicate and share with your co-workers. To be placed on the distribution list, send your name, title and address to: U.S. Department of Labor-OSHA, 1100 Main, Suite 800, Kansas City, MO 64105, Attn. TECFAP, or e-mail to cynthia.dearing@osha.gov.