

PHI Utility Operations

Policy to address a Uniform Method of allowing Customers and/or Contractors to Work safely within close proximity of Aerial High Voltage Lines

Purpose

To establish a consistent policy for handling requests made by customers and/or contractors to work within dangerous proximity of Aerial High Voltage wires energized at greater than 600V consistent with the requirements of the NESC, OSHA, “High Voltage Line Safety Acts” and/or “High Voltage Proximity Acts” within the various jurisdictions in which we operate.

Policy

Aerial wires energized at greater than 600V SHALL NOT be covered with any insulating material. Customers and non-utility contractors performing work in proximity to aerial high voltage wires do not have the training or specially-designed personal protective equipment available to utility linemen. As such, insulating material tends to provide a false sense of protection for customers and/or contractors working in dangerous proximity of aerial wires.

The preferred practice will be to either de-energize and ground the circuit section in dangerous proximity to the work being performed or relocate the circuit far enough away as to make it possible for the customer and/or contractor to comply with the safe work distance requirements of NESC, OSHA, “High Voltage Line Safety Act” and/or “High Voltage Proximity Acts.” In extraordinary situations where de-energizing and grounding is not practicable, PHI may consider other applicable methods consistent with specific circumstances.

When notified by a customer and/or contractor that work will be performed near the company’s aerial wires, a Company Representative shall inform the customer and/or contractor of the safe work distance requirements dictated by each State’s NESC, OSHA and “High Voltage Line Safety Act” and/or “High Voltage Proximity Acts”. The representative shall also require the customer and/or contractor to complete and sign the applicable “High Voltage Act” form. The work may be performed only after measures to prevent contact with the applicable high voltage line(s) have been established by the customer and/or contractor and we have given written approval to take such preventive measures and perform the work. Thereafter, such work shall be performed only in accordance with the preventive measures.

The Company Representative shall also inform the customer and/or contractor that no equipment and/or personnel will be allowed to contact any of the aerial wires, transformers, or any other company equipment, even in situations where the wires are de-energized and grounded.

The customer and/or contractor will be required to pay any and all fees, costs, expenses and/or lost revenue to the company associated with reconfiguring, de-energizing, grounding, relocating and/or restoring and any other action taken by the company related to any and all aerial circuits, lines and other equipment in order to make it possible for the customer or contractor to perform the proposed work consistent with the requirements of any and all NESC, OSHA, “High Voltage Line Safety Act” and/or “High Voltage Proximity Act” safe work distance requirements.

Emergency situations may require the company to re-energize aerial circuits originally removed from service. The company shall immediately notify the contractor/customer when this situation occurs and that no additional work may continue until the emergency situation is corrected and the aerial circuit is once again removed from service.

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