

FATAL FACTS



No. 8775-020

Accident Type:	Electrocution
Number of Fatalities:	1
Weather Conditions:	Dry and Calm
Type of Operation:	Pole Erection
Size of Work Crew:	5
Competent Safety Monitor on Site:	No
Safety and Health Program in Effect:	Yes
Was the Worksite Inspected Regularly:	Yes
Training and Education Provided:	Yes
Employees Job Titles:	Lineman
Age & Gender:	41 Male
Experience at this Type of Work:	Two years
Time on Project:	3-4 Hours



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

The employee grabbed loose wires attached to a replacement pole that was being raised close to an active power line. As the pole neared the power lines, electrical current traveled between the power line and the wires attached to the pole, electrocuting the employee.

INSPECTION RESULTS

The investigation resulted in the issuance of three serious citations related to standard 1910.269 *Electrical power generation, transmission, and distribution*. The first citation was for not having a designated employee other than the operator to observe the approach distance to an exposed line. The second citation was for not protecting employees from electrical hazards. The third citation was for not ensuring that employees handling a pole were wearing electrical protective equipment or using insulated devices.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

The primary recommendation was to ensure that a designated employee is always available to observe the approach distances to exposed electrical lines.