

New Mexico Occupational Health & Safety

FATAL FACTS



No. 8775-022

Accident Type:	Electrocution
Number of Fatalities	1
Weather Conditions:	Cold and wet
Type of Operation:	Well drilling
Size of Work Crew:	2
Competent Safety Monitor on Site:	No
Safety and Health Program in Effect:	No
Was the Worksite Inspected Regularly:	N/A
Training and Education Provided:	Yes
Employees Job Titles:	Owner
Age & Gender:	52 Male
Experience at this Type of Work:	Thirty years
Time on Project:	1 Hour



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

The owner was positioning his well drilling rig into position to begin operations when the boom came into contact with an energized electrical line. Electrical current from the 14,400 volt line was transmitted through the equipment resulting in shock sufficient to cause death.

INSPECTION RESULTS

The investigation resulted in the issuance of a single serious citations under standard 1926.416 *General Requirements*. The citation was for not ascertaining that an energized electric power circuit was so located that the performance of work could bring a person into physical or electrical contact with the circuit.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

OHSB recommended that the company complete a construction safety course.