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SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES

Working Near Overhead High-Voltage Lines SOP 10-22

Hazard Review		
Electrocution	Fire	Moving Equipment
Burns	Electrical Arc Flash	Moving Traffic
Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (Based on job specific hazard review)		
Safety Vest	Hard Hat	Safety Shoes
Gloves		

1. Prior to beginning job, examine the worksite to determine if there are any overhead high-voltage lines (600 volts or higher) at the worksite. Conduct a Hazard Assessment to determine steps to ensure no part of equipment or personnel will be within 10' of the overhead power line. If it is necessary to perform work within 10' of overhead high-voltage lines (600 volts or higher), the project supervisor shall immediately contact the utility company no later than 48 hours prior to the beginning of the job. The project supervisor shall provide the utility company or their representatives the following information:
 - His/her name, address and telephone number
 - The location of the proposed work
 - The name, address and telephone number of the person responsible for the work
The field telephone of the worksite if available
 - The type, duration and extent of the proposed work
 - The name of the person for whom the proposed work is being performed
 - The time and date of the notice
 - The approximate date and time when the work is to begin
2. If it is necessary to perform work within 10' of overhead high-voltage lines (600 volts or higher), the project supervisor shall make precautionary safety measures with the utility company that may include any or all of the following:
 - The overhead high-voltage lines being de-energized
 - Temporary placement of mechanical barriers being done to separate and prevent contact between equipment, material, other objects, or persons and high-voltage lines
 - Temporary relocation or raising of the high-voltage lines by the utility company
 - Other precautionary safety measures as recommended by the utility company
3. Perform pre-operational checks of the equipment prior to beginning the job.
4. Ensure that a competent safety observer is always assigned to ensure equipment and/or personnel do not get within 10' of energized overhead power lines.

5. Ensure that warning signs that state "OVERHEAD POWER LINES" are placed within the area of work near overhead power lines and is readily visible to the equipment operator and other personnel at the work site.
6. All personnel on the worksite shall wear Class E hard hats which provide protection against high voltage. Additionally, any other electrical protective devices (e.g., rubber insulating gloves, rubber matting, etc.) shall be used as applicable.
7. No materials or any covered item is to be stored within ten feet of the overhead high-voltage line.
8. The overhead high-voltage line is not to be raised, moved, or displaced for any reason unless precautionary safety measures have been made with the utility company.
9. No excavation of any portion of any foundations of the structures, including guy anchors which support any overhead high-voltage lines is permitted.
10. If the equipment does contact an overhead high-voltage line, the equipment operator and other on-board personnel shall remain on that piece of equipment until the overhead high-voltage line is de-energized.
11. If fire breaks out from the contact between the equipment and the overhead high-voltage line, the equipment operator, and any other persons, shall jump off the piece of equipment with both legs against each other (not spread apart). These individuals shall then "bunny" jump/hop with both legs against each other for no less than 25 feet but as far as the individuals can get away from the overhead high-voltage line. Once clear, call 911, and do not return to the equipment until emergency services declares it safe.

Related SOP's	
General SOP's.....Chapter 10	Self-Propelled Equipment.....12A-6

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