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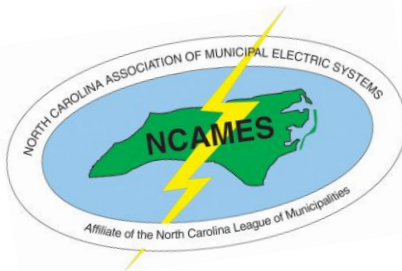
We gladly present to you our summer bulletin. This newsletter is a quarterly publication sent to safety and training contact staff in ElectriCities member cities. The bulletin includes informational items as well as items of interest to Safety & Training staff. Any critical information that you need on a timely basis will continue to be e-mailed separately to you. If you have any articles that would benefit others, please contact one of our S&T staff.

NCAMES Annual Conference & Rodeo

The NCAMES 13th Annual Lineman's Conference was held on May 17-20, 2010, in Hickory, N.C., at the Hickory Convention Center.

The rodeo was held in Newton, N.C. at the American Legion Fairgrounds on May 19, 2010. Doug Wesson, NCAMES President for 2009-2010, hosted the event. The rodeo went very well this year and this was our first year using 100% fall protection in all of the events. The participants did very well adjusting to this new safety equipment and competing with each other.

Below are the rodeo winners. From left-4th place to right, first place: Chris Bosnick, New Bern; Connie McGowan, Greenville; Keith Gaskins, Greenville; and Mike Harper, New Bern. These winners will also proceed to the 11th Annual APPA Lineworkers Rodeo in Nashville, Tenn., in March 2011.



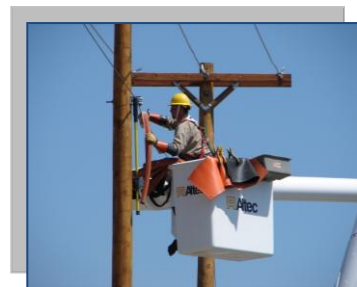
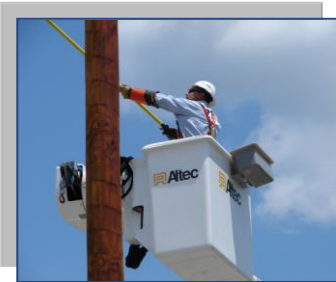
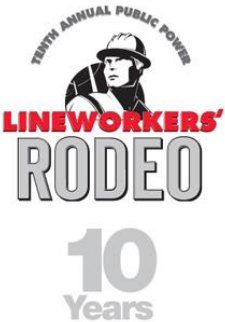
2011 Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo

March 18-19, 2011
Nashville, Tennessee

Established in 2001 by the American Public Power Association (APPA), the Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo is the foremost showcase of public power lineworker skill and knowledge. At the rodeo, journeyman and apprentice lineworkers can compete for professional recognition, attend training courses and practice essential skills in a safe environment. Furthermore, attendees will have a unique opportunity to connect with and learn from the nationwide community of lineworker professionals.

Cities that hosted the APPA Lineworkers Rodeo:

2001 Myrtle Beach, South Carolina (Santee Cooper)
2002 Colorado Springs, Colorado (CSU)
2003 Jacksonville, Florida (FMEA/JEA)
2004 San Antonio, Texas (CPS)
2005 Memphis, Tennessee (MLGW)
2006 Sacramento, California (SMUD)
2007 Marietta, Georgia (Marietta Power)
2008 Indianapolis, Indiana (IMEA/RPL)
2009 Walter E Long Lake Austin, Texas (AES)
2010 Nebraska (OPPD)



APPA Safety Rules Task Force 2010

Michael Byrd, Supervisor, Safety and Training with Electricities of North Carolina has been selected to serve on the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Safety Manual Revision Task Force. Mike will be representing Electricities of North Carolina and the North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems (NCAMES).



The APPA organization was only accepting one person from each APPA region and one person from a Joint Action agency or state association. Electricities of North Carolina is in Region 5, which encompasses the following states: Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The task force will focus on making necessary and proper revisions regarding safety to ensure safer and better work practices.

The task force will meet twice a year or as needed, and will only review changes to proposals that are submitted in writing, in a timely manner. As part of the Safety Manual Revision Task Force, Mike will assist in overseeing development and make final revisions to APPA's Safety Manual in its 15th edition.

ElectriCities Safety & Training

Below is the contact information for our S&T staff. Please feel free to contact them anytime for information or if you have any questions.

Jim Shill, Manager, Safety Programs

800-768-7697, extension 6263
jim.shill@electricities.com

Mike Byrd, Supervisor, Safety & Training

800-768-7697, extension 6297
mike.byrd@electricities.com

David Young, Sr. S&T Specialist (Western Cities)

704-795-4750, extension 3
david.young@electricities.com

Woodie Wilson, Sr. S&T Specialist (Eastern Cities)

919-218-0720
woodie.wilson@electricities.com

Jill Presto, S&T Technician

800-768-7697, extension 6301
jill.presto@electricities.com

Remaining 2010 Safety & Training Schools/ Workshop Schedule

Troubleshooting

August 31-September 2
Concord, N.C.

Substation

September 13-17
High Point, N.C.

Leadership Skills

October 13-14
ElectriCities

Distribution Overcurrent School

December 7-8
ElectriCities

OSHA General Duty Clause

The General Duty Clause, found in the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, has become increasingly important to employers in the last few years, as OSHA has begun to utilize the clause in more and more of its penalty and enforcement actions. The following information describes the General Duty Clause and how it is being used by OSHA to ensure a safe work environment.

What is the General Duty Clause?

Section 5(a)(1) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 requires that every working man and woman must be provided with a safe and healthful workplace. The section, more commonly known as the General Duty Clause, specifically states:

“Each employer shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees.”

In simple terms, this statement means that you, as an employer, may be obligated to protect your employees from recognized hazards in the workplace even if there is not an OSHA standard which applies to the situation.

OSHA may also use the General Duty Clause when a standard exists, but it is clear that the hazards involved warrant additional precautions beyond what the current safety standards require.

OSHA's action on qualified employees (linemen) climbing or changing location on poles or similar structures is a good example of the application of the General Duty Clause.

When the current rule 1910.269(g)(v) was originally written, climbing poles without full fall protection was allowed since there was no fall protection equipment available such as the “buck squeeze”.

At the present time many utilities have adopted the requirement for linemen to utilize full fall protection when climbing poles or structures. OSHA clearly recognizes this work practice and available protective equipment.

Cite: Source: OSHA



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Our lineman schools are observed by Nash Community College as part of the two-year associate degree program in “Electrical Lineman Technology.”

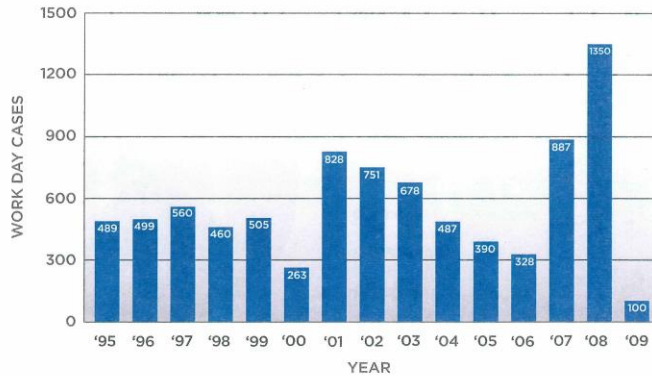


2009 Best Year in Safety

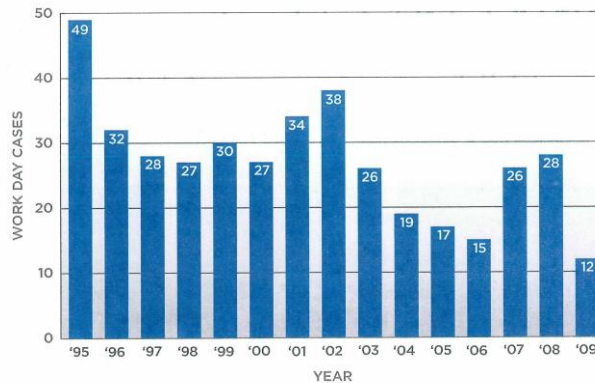
In the year 2009, all of ElectriCities member cities and towns had 12 accidents that resulted in days away from work. The lost workday accidents have been reduced from 38 in the year 2002, to 12 in 2009. These 12 accidents achieved an accident rate of 0.94 accidents per 200,000 man hours of exposure. We are proud to announce this rate is below the investor utility rate of 1.2. Not only is this number of accidents at an all time low, the total days lost in 2009 was only 100 days, which is also a record low in days lost.

The charts below indicate both total lost workdays and cases for 1995 – 2009.

Safety First!



Total Lost Workdays



Total Lost Workday Cases 1995-2009