

POWERLINE HAZARDS CERTIFICATION TRAINING

PARTICIPANT
WORKBOOK



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Legislative Requirements

The legislation is a minimum guide for developing occupational health and safety (OH&S) policies and procedures in workplaces. In addition to the legislation, best practices should be incorporated into all areas of workplaces to increase the effectiveness of the OH&S program.

The majority of employers in Newfoundland and Labrador must follow **provincial legislation** for occupational health and safety:

- *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulations
- Other associated legislation

For official copies of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations please contact the following:

Office of the Queen’s Printer
Ground Floor
Confederation Building, East Block
St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador
Telephone: (709) 729-3649

Some employers fall under **federal jurisdiction** and must follow the *Canada Labour Code-Part II (Code)*. The *Code* applies to the following inter-provincial and international industries:

- railways
- highway transport
- telephone and telegraph systems
- pipelines
- canals
- ferries, tunnels and bridges
- shipping and shipping services
- radio and television broadcasting and cable systems
- airports
- banks
- grain elevators licensed by the Canadian Grain Commission, and certain feed mills and feed warehouses, flour mills, and grain seed cleaning plants
- the federal public service and **persons employed by the public service** and about 40 Crown corporations and agencies
- employment in the operation of ships, trains and aircraft and
- the exploration and development of petroleum on lands subject to federal jurisdiction

Note: Part II of the *Canada Labour Code* **does not apply** to certain undertakings regulated by the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.

For an official copy of the *Canada Labour Code* please contact:

Canadian Government Publishing, Communication Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0S9
Telephone: (613) 941-5995 or 1-800-635-7943
FAX: (613) 654-5779 or 1-800-565-7757
Internet: <http://publications.gc.ca>

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Note to participants of the Power Line Hazards (PLH) Certification Training

When you receive your certification card from the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission, you **must**:

1. check the expiry date
2. give a **copy of the card** to your employer
3. have it with you at all times when working near power lines and
4. have it available to show an officer from Occupational Health and Safety Branch, Service NL

1. Welcome

1.1 Purpose and Objective of Training

Title	Power Line Hazards Training
Purpose	To increase participants’ awareness of the dangers of working near power lines and how to prevent injury and death due to this work.
Course Objective	Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to work safely near power lines by recognizing hazards and putting controls in place to prevent injury to people and property damage.

1.2 Administrative Details

1.3 Registration Forms

- **Fully complete** the “participant registration form”
- **Clearly print all information**

You will receive a **power line hazards certification card** from the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission.

1.4 Certification Requirements

The *Power Line Hazards Certification* must be renewed every three years!!

When you receive your power line hazards certification card from the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission (Commission), check the expiry date. The expiry date should be three years from the date of your training.

NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS

- Check the expiry date on your certification card..
- When you receive your certification card, you **must** give a copy of the card to your employer.

1.5 Training Materials

- *Participant’s Workbooks* contain information needed for this training. Participants will be expected to work on their own or in small and large groups to complete the activities.
- There are additional documents at the end of this booklet:
 - Appendix A – Costs
 - Appendix B – Legislation
 - *OH&S Act*
 - OH&S regulations
 - Appendix C – Permits
 - Appendix D – Right of Worker to Refuse Work

NOTE: The legislative references in Appendix B are not considered the official legislation.

2.Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Discuss the need for power line hazards training.
2. Recognize power line structures.
3. Distinguish between conductors and insulators.
4. Identify characteristics of electricity.
5. Identify how electricity travels.
6. Discuss the effects of electricity.
7. Identify steps in the emergency response to contact with power lines.
8. Use sections of the OH&S Regulations to answer practical questions dealing with power line hazards.
9. Review employers’ and workers’ rights and responsibilities

3.Introduction

3.1 Introductory Activity

Answer the following questions. You will use the answers to these questions to introduce yourself to the other participants.

Why are you attending this training?

What do you expect to learn in this training?

What kind of work do you do near power lines; for example, drive a vehicle (what kind), work as a spotter, work as a labourer (carry materials), etc.?

An important part of this training is to learn from each other. Therefore, the course has been developed to take as many opportunities as possible for discussion about the topic of working near power lines. You are encouraged to bring your experiences and knowledge to this training.

4. Training Topics

4.1 Need for Power Line Hazards Training

The following stories illustrate the need for workers to treat electricity with the utmost respect.

1. A construction worker was killed when he was on the ground guiding cast iron pipe which was being offloaded from a boom truck. The boom made contact with a 12,500 volt¹ power line.
2. A worker was assisting with the transport of a house which was on a flat-bed tractor trailer. He was standing on the roof of the house raising wires to enable the load to pass through the area. He was electrocuted when he contacted a 7,200 volt energized wire.
3. A worker was fatally injured while assisting to offload a boat from a flat-bed boom truck. He was standing on the ground and touching the truck when the boom contacted a 12,500 volt power line.
4. A worker was guiding a large piece of equipment while loading a flat-bed trailer with a boom truck. He was standing on the back of the flat-bed when the cable contacted a 12,500 volt power line killing him

¹ Volt: a unit that measures the amount of electrical pressure

4.1.1 Costs of Incidents and Injuries

Use Appendix A – Costs, to discuss the costs of workplace incidents and accidents.

Question 1 List the human costs of workplace injuries and death in the space provided.

Human Costs	

Training in PLH can prevent injuries, death and loss of property!

NOTE: Many contacts with power lines are never reported to Government Services because they happen when people are doing work around their own homes. Working safely is not just something you do at the workplace; it’s just as important in your own homes.



4.1.2 Legislation

Appendix B– Legislation contains sections of the

- *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

Unofficial copies of the *OH&S Act* and OH&S Regulations may be found on the Commission’s web site at www.whscc.nl.ca and by clicking “legislation.”

For official copies of provincial legislation, contact the Office of the Queen’s Printer at (709) 729-3649.



Caution to Participants

The legislative references in Appendix B refer only to the content in this booklet and may not be complete. You must refer to the appropriate official legislation to find complete information regarding legislative requirements for power line hazards.

For federally regulated workplaces, employers are required to review the *Canada Labour Code, Part II* for requirements for working near power lines.

4.1.2.1 Section 483 of the OH&S Regulations

Section 483 of the OH&S Regulations in Appendix B will be reviewed by the trainer.



4.1.2.2 Section 12 of the OH&S Regulations

Hazard Controls

Before beginning any work near power lines, a risk assessment should be done. This means hazards must first be recognized, then evaluated for risk, and then controlled. There are three kinds of hazard controls:

- (a) Engineering controls
- (b) Administrative controls
- (c) Personal protective equipment

Engineering controls - From an occupational health and safety perspective, it is **always best** to start controlling hazards with engineering controls. Engineering controls include ways to eliminate, substitute or isolate the hazard. In other words they take away the chance for contact with electricity.

Administrative controls encourage safe work practices and procedures. They may include having written safe work practices and procedures and providing training in safe work practices and procedures while working near power lines.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is equipment or clothing worn by workers to protect them from their environment.

In your small groups, answer Questions 3, 4, 5 (a) and (b), and 6 (a), (b) and (c). You will need Appendix B to answer some of the questions.

Question 3

What area of section 12 of the OH&S Regulations relates to the employer’s responsibility for the recognition, evaluation and control of hazards?

Answer: _____

Question 4

You contact the utility company, and the utility company de-energizes and grounds the power lines so that you can do your work near them. What kind of control is de-energizing the line?

Answer: _____

Question 5

- (a) What area of section 12 of the OH&S Regulations relates to the employer’s responsibility for developing safe work practices and procedures?

Answer: _____

- (b) Your employer has developed written safe work practices and procedures for working near power lines. What kinds of hazard controls are they?

Answer: _____

Question 6

- (a) What area of section 12 of the OH&S Regulations relates to the employer’s responsibility for orientating workers to safe work practices and procedures?

Answer: _____

- (b) All the employees in your company have received training in your company’s safe work practices and procedures for working near power lines. What kind of hazard control is this?

Answer: _____

Question 7

In your small groups, name three written safe work practices or procedures for working near power line hazards you should have in your workplace.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4.1.3 Summary

Question 8 Why is power line hazards training important?

Question 9(a) Name the three kinds of hazard controls.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Question 9(b) What kind of control is considered the very first line of defence against hazards?

Answer: _____

NOTE:

De-energizing a power line eliminates the potential electrical hazards to people and property. However, if a piece of equipment hits a de-energized power line or a pole, the potential for injury to workers and property damage remains. This situation points to the importance of doing a risk assessment prior to the start of work.

Administrative controls cannot guarantee, for example, that a tree or other objects will fall in the right direction or that the measurements are correct and the procedure is safe. The potential for injury to people and for property damage still exists.

Engineering controls should always be the first line of defence in preventing injury and property damage.

4.2 Power Line Structures

4.2.1 Overhead Power Line Structures

There are many kinds of power line structures. See the examples below. These can be commonly seen in industrial, commercial and residential areas.

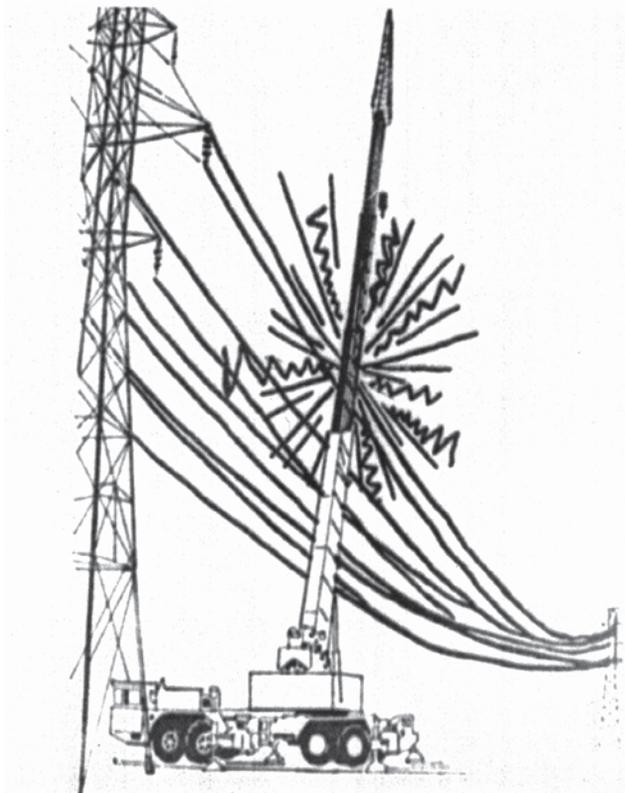
Some structures appear fairly simple while others are crowded and more complex. Operating equipment near these structures creates many dangers.

When working near power lines, a minimum distance of 5.5 metres, or 18 feet, must be maintained at all times if written clearance is unavailable (section 498. (2) of the OH&S Regulations).



CONSIDER ALL POWER LINES TO BE ENERGIZED AND DANGEROUS!!!

4.2.1.1 Wind Effects



High winds can cause power lines to sway. These lines can make contact with equipment if that equipment is too close. If equipment is very close to power lines, the electricity can arc, or jump, from the power line to the equipment. Wind can also affect suspended loads and cause cables and tag lines to move.

Remember – direct contact with power lines does not have to occur for the flow of electricity to take place. Electricity can jump or arc from power lines to equipment or to people.

4.2.2 Underground Power Lines Cables)

Underground power lines also create a grave danger to workers. Workers in most danger from contact with underground power lines are those in contact with digging equipment or those operating hand tools.

Whenever working in an area where you plan to dig, make sure you are aware of the location of the buried power cables before you start digging.



When projects require digging, **always contact the utility companies prior to starting to dig.** They will identify and mark the location of cables.

The utility companies need to be given sufficient notice to assess the job site. Therefore, to avoid a delay in the project, contact the utilities at the job-planning stage of a project. The more advanced the job-planning is, the earlier the utility can be notified. If the utility company is not given enough notice to assess the site, the project may be delayed.

Power lines are not always visible. This picture demonstrates a typical transformer you may see in your work area or near your home. Note the warning decals. This kind of transformer usually indicates that underground cables are nearby.



If you notice that a padmount structure is open or has been moved, contact the utility immediately!

4.2.3 Summary

Working in your small groups, answer Questions 10 – 13.

Question 10 What is the most important point to consider when working near power line structures?

Question 11 What are the two main types of power lines?

1) _____ 2) _____

Question 12 Before beginning to dig, what should a contractor do?

Question 13

a) What are some questions you need to ask when planning work near power lines?

The saying used by the utility companies is: **DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!**
And **STAY AWAY** until the utilities have marked the power lines.

Remember, when planning a project:

- Do a risk assessment of the job site(s)
- Take power line location into consideration
- If you’re doing underground work, call the utility companies before you start
- If there is any chance that equipment, materials or people will come within the minimum clearance (within 5.5 metres or 18 feet of a power line), call the utility companies
- Give the utility companies enough notice to assess the job site

You are not trained electrical workers; therefore

- you must never be close enough to make contact with power lines
- you should make sure equipment or materials you are using never come close enough to make contact with power lines

4.3 Conductors and Insulators

Electricity flows well through some materials and not so well through others.

A **conductor** is any material that offers little resistance to the flow of electricity; in other words, a conductor lets electricity flow through it very easily.

Examples of good conductors include: **water, metals, and wires.**

The human body is made up mostly of water and therefore is a very good conductor.

Question 14 What conductors do you use in your work?

An insulator is the opposite of a conductor in that it offers a high resistance to the flow of electricity. In other words, it does not allow electricity to flow through easily.

Examples of insulators are: **air and glass.**

The black covering over the wires is not an insulator. It is there to protect the wires from corrosion. It is not there to protect you.

Never Raise Overhead Lines!

What can happen if overhead lines are raised?

On July 19, 1986, a 26 year old man was standing on the roof of a house which was being transported down the Goulds highway. The young man attempted to raise the wires on the road to allow the house to pass under them. He came in contact with a 7,200 volt energized line and was electrocuted and died.

Special Permits for Transporting Vehicles/Equipment Exceeding Provincial Limits

Under the *Vehicle Regulations*, any vehicle or equipment which exceeds the defined limits for weight, height and/or dimensions on the Province’s roads, requires a **special permit**. These permits are for a specified period and route, and contain limitations and requirements pertaining to the use of the vehicle by the operator.

Special Permits are required for vehicles and equipment such as commercial vehicles (e.g. tractors, straight trucks and dump trucks), mobile cranes, and construction equipment (e.g. loaders, back hoes, road paving equipment and crushers) which exceed the defined limits for weight, height and/or dimensions on the Province’s roads.

To obtain a special permit, you must contact the Motor Registration Division of the Department of Government Services. The Motor Registration Division is responsible for licensing, registration and operation of all vehicles and equipment operating on the province’s roads. *Vehicle Regulations* under the *Highway Traffic Act* contain requirements relating to vehicle weight, height, dimensions, configurations and cargo load, with specific limits outlined in schedules to the *Regulations*.

For **Special Permits**, please call 1-877-636-6867 National Safety Code or visit <http://www.servicenl.gov.nl.ca/drivers/safetycode/spcl-perm-size.html>

Contact Local Utility if Vehicle or Equipment Exceeds Defined Limits!

When transporting vehicles and equipment with heights exceeding the defined limits, you must contact the local utility. The utility will determine the need to put controls in place (e.g. de-energizing lines) or the need for a utility escort.



The tires on vehicles are composed of rubber, carbon and steel. Both carbon & steel are good conductors. This means the tires on vehicles are also good conductors.

Unless materials are manufactured and rated as insulators, do not assume they are insulators. In other words, do not assume products such as rubber and plastic are insulators.

4.4 Characteristics of Electricity

Question 15 List the four characteristics of electricity.

1. Electricity is _____
2. Electricity can _____
3. Electricity is _____
4. Electricity always _____

4.5 How Electricity Travels

4.5.1 Electrical Rings

You cannot see or smell, electricity. **You don’t even need to be near it** to be in danger. This makes electricity very dangerous.

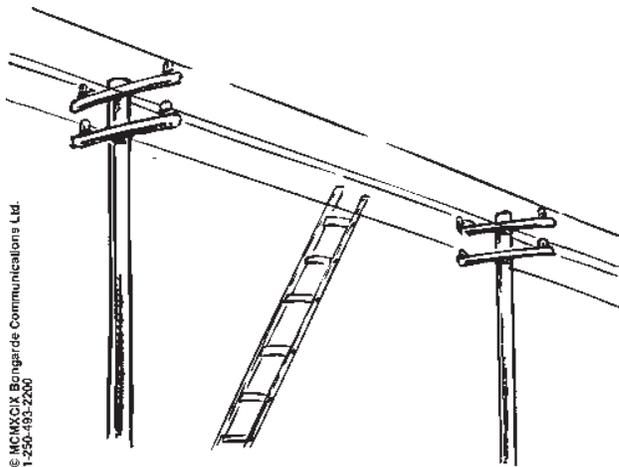
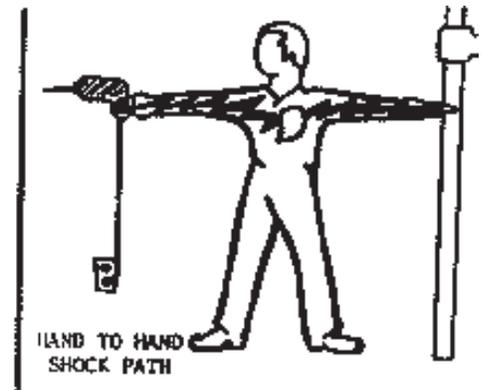
Remember, the ground is a conductor. This means that electricity will flow through the earth. So, if a boom truck comes in contact with a power line, the electricity can travel through the truck and through the ground. In other words, the truck becomes energized and the ground around the truck also becomes energized. The distance the electricity travels across the ground

depends on the amount of power from the power line and the ground conditions.

4.5.2 Path to Ground

If a person is in the path of the flow of electricity, the electricity has an alternate way to flow. The electricity will flow from the source, through the person, to the ground. In other words, the electricity **seeks a path to the ground**.

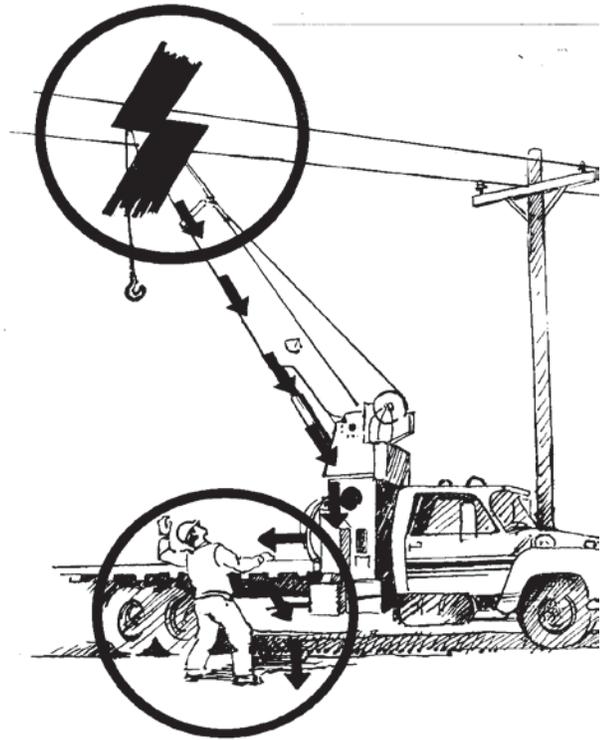
Electricity can take many paths to the ground. And, because the human body is a conductor, electricity will take many paths through the body to get to ground. This can result in severe damage to the extremities (arms and legs) and vital organs such as the heart, lungs, kidneys, etc.



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1-250-493-2200

If an aluminum ladder comes in contact with a power line, the ladder becomes part of the flow of electricity. If there is a person holding the ladder, the electricity travels down the ladder, through the person and to the ground. The person holding the ladder is in danger of being severely injured or killed.

If a boom or crane contacts an energized line and there is a person standing close to the equipment, the electricity can flow from the boom and through the person standing on the ground. The electricity can take many paths; for example, through the stabilizers, through the person, over the surface of the tires, etc. In this kind of situation, it's usually the person on the ground that is injured or killed; however, fatalities have occurred involving workers standing on the vehicle.



4.5.3 Summary

In your small groups, complete Question 16.

Question 16 Write four examples of electricity’s “path to ground” you might find in your workplaces. Name the point of contact and each conductor. Use different examples than those used in the previous discussion.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

4.6 Effects of Electricity

Contact with electricity is very dangerous. Regardless of our experience working near power lines, we should always respect electricity and keep in mind what it can do to us if contact is made. **It only takes a fraction of a second to change or end your life!!**

Contact with electricity usually causes damage to major organs such as the heart, lungs and kidneys. The major effects of contact with electricity include:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

4.7 Emergency Response

What can you do if your vehicle makes contact with a power line?



- **Stay in the vehicle**
 - If your vehicle comes in contact with a power line, **DO NOT LEAVE THE VEHICLE!!!**
 - Only leave the vehicle if there is a life threatening, extreme emergency; for example, in the case of a fire or other emergency.
 - Stay in the vehicle until the utility person indicates that it is safe to leave.
 - Don't panic.

- **Keep everyone away from the energized vehicle**
 - Tell others to stay away because the ground around the energized vehicle may also be energized.

- **Get help - call utility company**
 - It is important to call the utility company. If the operator does not have a mobile phone, a person nearby should be asked to call the utility company.

- **Try to break contact**

- If the vehicle is not damaged and is not entangled with the power line, slowly drive out of the energized area.

What can you do in the case of immediate danger?

In the case of **immediate danger such as a fire** or some other situation where the operator feels his/her life is in immediate danger, the operator should **follow these steps for jumping:**

- **JUMP** clear of the equipment
- Keep both feet together
- Ensure both feet hit the ground at the same time
- Do not touch any piece of the equipment as you jump
- Do not let any other part of your body (e.g. a hand) touch the ground and
- When your feet touch the ground and you have cleared the vehicle, **shuffle (keeping both feet together) or hop** (letting both feet touch the ground at the same time) at least 10 metres, or 33 feet, away from the energized vehicle.





When a vehicle comes in contact with power lines, it will become energized (charged). Operators can remain safe if they stay in the vehicle.

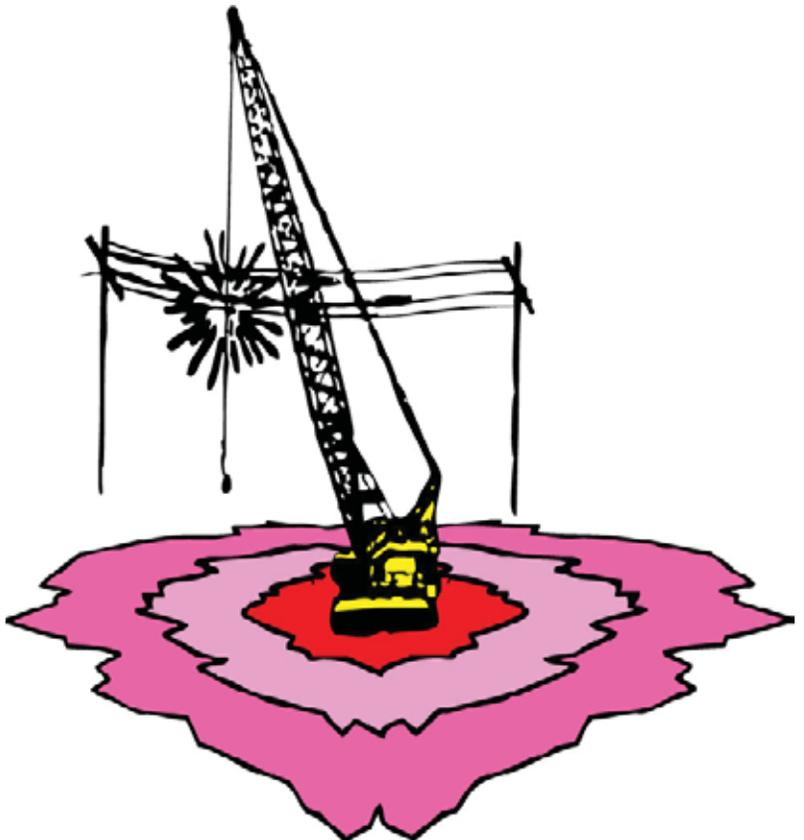
However, the ground around the machine will also be energized; therefore, those standing close to an energized vehicle are in more danger than the operator of the machine.

If a vehicle/equipment contacts an energized line, the electricity seeks all paths to ground; therefore, it flows through the vehicle and can flow through any person touching the vehicle or standing on the ground close to the vehicle. It's usually those standing on the ground that are injured or killed when a vehicle comes in contact with a power line.

The distance the electricity travels across the ground depends on the amount of electricity flowing through the power line and the ground conditions.

If those on the ground need to move, they must hop or shuffle at least 10 metres or 33 feet away from the energized vehicle/equipment.

If operators have to exit the vehicle, they are in the same danger as those already on the ground.



After vehicle contact...

If a vehicle comes in contact with a power line, there are precautions an operator must take prior to using that vehicle again. Before resuming operation, the operator must do an equipment safety check as a way of identifying any problems with the vehicle as a result of the contact.

Did you know that after a vehicle comes in contact with power lines, there is a potential for the vehicle’s rubber tires to explode?

This explosion can happen within minutes!

The explosion appears to be due to the buildup of gases. Therefore, if a vehicle with rubber tires comes into contact with a power line, the vehicle should be parked for at least 24 hours and the tires should be carefully inspected prior to the vehicle being driven again.

After the 24 hours, the tires as well as the rest of the vehicle must be inspected prior to operation.

VIEWING A VIDEO/DVD



The trainer will now show a video/DVD that will reinforce the concepts covered in this training.

Question 18 What additional steps would you take if your boom truck hit a power line and caught fire?



4.8 OH&S Regulations

NOTE

For workplaces that are federally regulated, employers are required to review the *Canada Labour Code, Part II* for requirements for working near power lines.

4.8.1 Sections 498, 499 and 500 of the OH&S Regulations

The legislation applies to underground and overhead power lines.

Work in your small groups to answer Questions 19 to 21. You will need Appendix B and C.

Question 19 What sections of the OH&S Regulations explain the worker’s responsibility for power line hazards?

Question 20 Who must sign the energized power line permit? (Appendix C)

_____ and _____

Question 21 If you are working near power lines and a written clearance is unavailable from the utility company, what is the **minimum clearance** that must be maintained?

_____ metres; or _____ feet

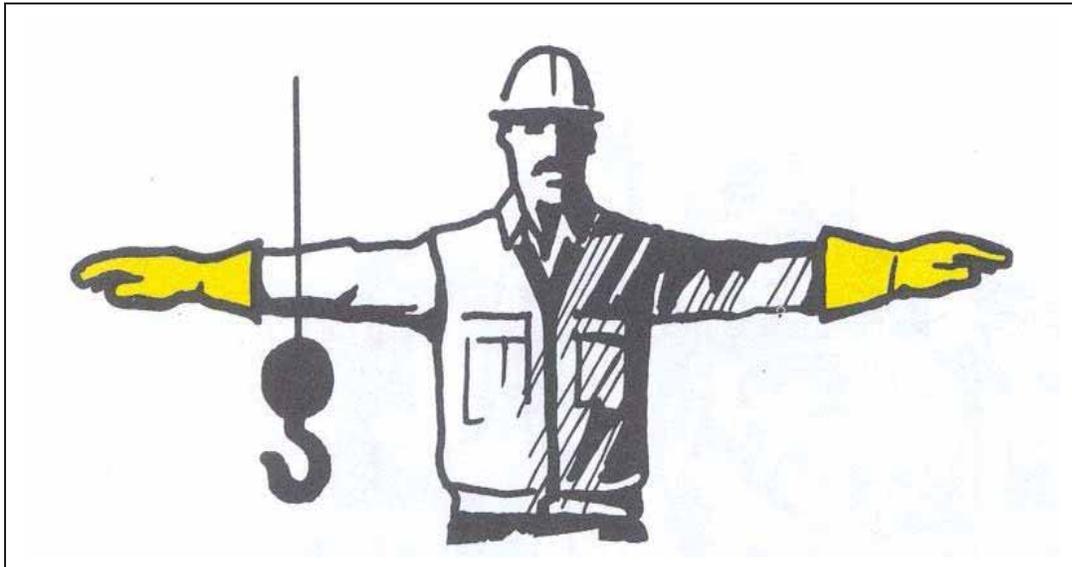
_____ section of the OH&S Regulations

NOTE: This means that if there are no written clearances from the power utility (as referred to in section 498 [1]), a minimum clearance of 5.5 metres or 18 feet from power lines, both overhead and underground, must be maintained at all times.

Using sections 498, 499 and 500 of the OH&S regulations, and working in your small groups, answer questions 22 and 23.

Question 22 What does section 498(1) mean for workers?

Question 23 When is a “signal” person required?



STOP – Hold both arms outstretched horizontally (fully extended), fingers outstretched; hold position rigidly.

4.8.2 Offences



The legislation is the law. If you break the law, there are consequences. Section 67 – Offences, and 68 – Offence by corporation, of the *OH&S Act* address penalties for breaking provincial legislation. Section 217.1 of the *Criminal Code of Canada (Code)* – Duties of persons directing work, helps to ensure Canadian organizations are held criminally responsible when they commit criminal offences in relation to health and safety in the workplace.

4.9 Rights and Responsibilities

4.9.1 Employers’ and Workers’ Duties

The following sections of the *OH&S Act* and Regulations refer specifically to employers’ and workers’ duties and responsibilities.

Description	<i>OH&S Act</i>
Employers’ general duty	Section 4
Specific duties of employers	Section 5
Supervisors’ general duty	Section 5.1
Specific duties of Supervisors	Section 5.2
Workers’ general duty	Section 6
Specific duties of workers	Section 7
Imminent danger	Section 8
Description	<i>OH&S Regulations</i>
Occupational health & safety program	Section 12
Occupational health & safety policy	Section 13
General duties of employers	Section 14
General duties of workers	Section 17

IMPORTANT NOTE

This training covers power line hazards and the specific related legislation. In addition to the above, there are other parts of the *OH&S Act* and Regulations that refer to employers’ and workers’ responsibilities; for example, sections 9 and 10 of the *OH&S Act* refer to the “duty of self-employed person” and “duty of principal contractor” respectively; and sections 26 and Part 7 of the *OH&S Regulations*, refer to “Personal conduct” and “Personal protective equipment” respectively.

As employers or workers or self-employed persons or principal contractors, it is up to you to review the *OH&S Act* and Regulations and become familiar with all the sections that relate to your workplaces.

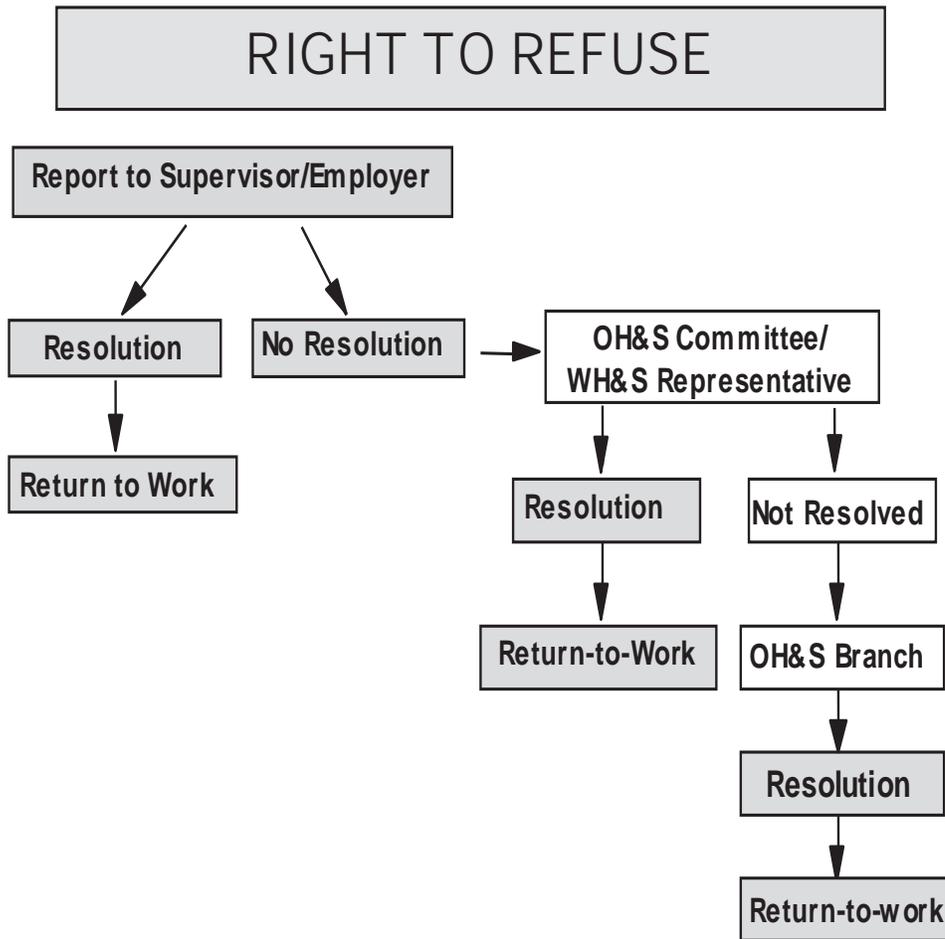
4.9.2 Workers’ Three Basic Rights

Question 24 What are workers’ three basic rights?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

4.9.2.1 The Right to Refuse

Use Appendix D, section 45 of the *OH&S Act*, and the table on the next page, to discuss the right to refuse with your trainer.



Workers have the right to refuse; however, they also have a responsibility **not** to take advantage of this right (section 48 of the *OH&S Act*).

5. Course Summary

5.1 Review of Training

Question 25

Write the **two most important pieces of information** you learned in this training that you will take back and use in your workplace.

1. _____

2. _____

5.2 Review of Certification Requirements

To ensure that you receive your certification card, it is critically important that the information on your participant registration form is correct and clear.

Your power line hazards certification must be renewed **every three years!!** The expiry date will be on the certification cards you receive from the Commission.

Please check the expiry date on your certification card when you receive it.

6.Course Evaluation

We would like to know if this training session met the learning objectives outlined for this course. Your trainer will distribute an evaluation form. Please complete this form. Feel free to add any suggestions to improve the training.

Thank you.

7. Appendix A – Costs

Insured Costs

- Medical costs
- Workers’ compensation costs

Direct Costs (costs that can be easily seen and calculated)

- Damage to environment – building and property;
- Damage to tools and equipment;
- Loss of product and materials;
- Costs of emergency supplies and equipment; and
- Repair or replacement of equipment/materials/product/building.

Indirect costs (costs that are often more difficult to see and to calculate)

- Disruption in service or productivity;
- Increase in insured costs – workers compensation assessments;
- Time lost due to
 - ★ co-workers at the scene and when assisting the injured to the dispensary or to the hospital,
 - ★ upset and shock of coworkers and management,
 - ★ sympathy or curiosity and work interruption after injury, for example, discussing the accident, telling stories, swapping opinions of cause, etc.,
 - ★ participation in legal proceedings,
 - ★ incidental lost time from cleanup,
 - ★ collecting donations to aid injured workers or their families, attending review hearings, etc.;
- Administrative costs for
 - ★ accident investigation time (includes initial investigations, follow up, and research regarding how to control the identified cause),
 - ★ hiring and/or training replacement workers,
 - ★ completing paperwork; for example, workers’ compensation reports, property damage reports, company incident reports, reports for OH&S committee, reports for appropriate government departments or other regulatory agencies, and
 - ★ developing or updating safe work practices and procedures;
- Loss of knowledge and experience;
- Cost of learning period for replacement worker(s), Productive time lost by an injured worker;
- Overtime costs;
- Clean-up and start-up of operations interrupted by the accident;
- Loss of business and goodwill or adverse publicity;
- Fines and prosecution costs; and
- Legal expenses

8. Appendix B – Legislation



The legislative references in Appendix B refer only to the content in this booklet and may not be complete. Those completing this training must refer to the appropriate legislation to find complete information regarding legislative requirements for power line hazards.

The following information is subject to change and is not to be accepted as legal text. If you require a copy of the following, please contact the Office of the Queen's Printer at (709) 729-3649.

www.gov.nf.ca/hoa/statutes/o03.htm

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT

Employers' general duty

4. An employer shall ensure, where it is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of his or her workers.

Specific duties of employers

5. Without limiting the generality of section 4, an employer
 - (a) shall, where it is reasonably practicable, provide and maintain a workplace and the necessary equipment, systems and tools that are safe and without risk to the health of his or her workers;
 - (b) shall, where it is reasonably practicable, provide the information, instruction, training and supervision and facilities that are necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of his or her workers;
 - (c) shall ensure that his or her workers, and particularly his or her supervisors, are made familiar with health or safety hazards that may be met by them in the workplace;
 - (d) shall, where it is reasonably practicable, conduct his or her undertaking so that persons not in his or her employ are not exposed to health or safety hazards as a result of the undertaking;
 - (e) shall ensure that his or her workers are given operating instruction in the use of devices and equipment provided for their protection;

- (f) shall consult and co-operate with the occupational health and safety committee, the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate, where the employer is not the workplace health and safety designate, on all matters respecting occupational health and safety at the workplace;
 - (f.1) shall respond in writing within 30 days to a recommendation of
 - (i) the occupational health and safety committee at the workplace,
 - (ii) the worker health and safety representative at the workplace, or
 - (iii) where the employer is not the workplace health and safety designate, the workplace health and safety designate at the workplace indicating that the recommendation has been accepted or that it has been rejected, with a reason for the rejection;
 - (f.2) shall provide periodic written updates to
 - (i) the occupational health and safety committee at the workplace,
 - (ii) the worker health and safety representative at the workplace, or
 - (iii) where the employer is not the workplace health and safety designate, the workplace health and safety designate at the workplace on the implementation of a recommendation accepted by the employer until the implementation is complete;
 - (f.3) shall consult with
 - (i) the occupational health and safety committee at the workplace,
 - (ii) the worker health and safety representative at the workplace, or
 - (iii) where the employer is not the workplace health and safety designate, the workplace health and safety designate at the workplace about the scheduling of workplace inspections that are required by the regulations, and ensure that the committee, the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate participates in the inspection; and
- (g) shall co-operate with a person exercising a duty imposed by this Act or regulations.

Supervisors’ general duty

- 5.1 A supervisor shall ensure, where it is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all workers under his or her supervision.

Specific duties of supervisors

5.2 A supervisor shall

- (a) advise workers under his or her supervision of the health or safety hazards that may be met by them in the workplace;
- (b) provide proper written or oral instructions regarding precautions to be taken for the protection of all workers under his or her supervision; and
- (c) ensure that a worker under his or her supervision uses or wears protective equipment, devices or other apparel that this Act, the regulations or the worker’s employer requires to be used or worn.

Workers' general duty

6. A worker, while at work, shall take reasonable care to protect his or her own health and safety and that of workers and other persons at or near the workplace.

Specific duties of workers

7. A worker
- (a) shall co-operate with his or her employer and with other workers in the workplace to protect
 - (i) his or her own health and safety,
 - (ii) the health and safety of other workers engaged in the work of the employer,
 - (iii) the health and safety of other workers or persons not engaged in the work of the employer but present at or near the workplace;
 - (a.1) shall use devices and equipment provided for his or her protection in accordance with the instructions for use and training provided with respect to the devices and equipment;
 - (b) shall consult and co-operate with the occupational health and safety committee, the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate at the workplace; and
 - (c) shall co-operate with a person exercising a duty imposed by this Act or regulations.

Imminent danger

8. A worker shall not

- (a) carry out work where there exists an imminent danger to his or her or another worker's health or safety or the health or safety of another person; or
- (b) operate a tool, appliance or equipment that will create an imminent danger to his or her or another worker's health or safety or the health or safety of another person.

Health and safety program

- 36.1** (1) Where 10 or more workers are employed at a workplace, the employer shall establish and maintain an occupational health and safety program in accordance with the regulations.
- (2) An occupational health and safety program shall be established in consultation with the occupational health and safety committee at the workplace.
 - (3) An occupational health and safety program shall include those documents that may be prescribed in the regulations.
 - (4) An occupational health and safety program shall be in writing and shall, when requested, be provided to the occupational health and safety committee, a worker at the workplace and an officer.

Health and safety policy

- 36.2** (1) Where less than 10 workers are employed at a workplace, the employer shall establish an occupational health and safety policy in accordance with the regulations.
- (2) An occupational health and safety policy shall be established in consultation with the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate and posted in a prominent place at the workplace.

Right to refuse to work

- 45.** (1) A worker may refuse to do work that the worker has reasonable grounds to believe is dangerous to his or her health or safety, or the health and safety of another person at the workplace
- (a) until remedial action has been taken by the employer to the worker's satisfaction;
 - (b) until the committee or worker health and safety representative has investigated the matter and advised the worker to return to work; or
 - (c) until an officer has investigated the matter and has advised the worker to return to work.
- (2) Where a worker refuses to do work under section (1) his or her employer may reassign the worker to other work that is reasonably equivalent to the work he

- or she normally performs and the worker shall accept the reassignment until he or she is able to return to work under section (1).
- (3) Where a worker is reassigned to other work under section (2) the employer shall pay the worker the same wages or salary and grant him or her the same benefits the worker would have received had the worker continued in his or her normal work.
 - (4) Where a worker has reasonably refused to work under section (1) and has not been reassigned to other work under section (2) the employer shall pay the worker the same wages or salary and grant the worker the same benefits the worker would have received had the worker continued to work, until he or she is able to return to work under section (1).
 - (5) A reassignment of work under section (2) is not discriminatory action under section 49.

Report to supervisor

46. Where a worker exercises his or her right to refuse to work under section 45, or where he or she believes that a tool, appliance or piece of equipment, or an aspect of the workplace is or may be dangerous to his or her health or that of other workers at the workplace or another person at the workplace, the worker shall immediately report it to his or her supervisor

Report to division

47. Where a worker has made a report under section 46 and the matter has not been remedied to the satisfaction of the worker he or she shall report it, either in writing or orally, to the division or an officer

Duty of worker

48. A worker shall not take advantage of his or her right to refuse to work under section 45 without reasonable grounds.

Offences

67. (1) A person who
 - (a) contravenes this Act or the regulations;
 - (b) fails to comply with an order made under this Act or the regulations; or
 - (c) fails to follow a code of practice adopted or established under section 36, is guilty of an offence.
- (2) Where a person, other than a corporation, is convicted of an offence under section (1), he or she is liable to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$250,000 or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 12 months or to both a fine and imprisonment.

- (3) Where a corporation is convicted of an offence under section (1), the corporation is liable to a fine of not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$250,000.
- (4) In addition to a fine imposed under section (2) or (3) the court may impose a fine not exceeding \$25,000 for each day during which the offence continues.

Offence by corporation

- 68. Where a corporation has been convicted of an offence under section 67, an officer, director or agent of the corporation who directed, authorized, assented to, acquiesced or participated in the commission of the offence is guilty of an offence under that section.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS
under the
Occupational Health and Safety Act

PART I GENERAL

Right to refuse work

5. (1) Where an employer cannot resolve an issue in the workplace regarding occupational health and safety and there is a refusal to work, the issue shall be referred to the occupational health and safety committee, the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate, as appropriate, and the employer shall notify the division.
- (2) Where a notification under subsection (1) is made orally, the employer shall provide the division with a written confirmation of the notification within 5 days of the oral notification.
- (3) Where action has been taken by a worker to exercise the right to refuse to work under the Act, the employer shall not assign a substitute worker to perform those duties unless the substitute worker has been informed of the prior refusal and the reason for that refusal.

PART III GENERAL DUTIES

Occupational health and safety program

12. (1) An occupational health and safety program required under section 36.1 of the Act shall be signed and dated by the employer and by the person or persons responsible for the management of the employer’s operations in the province and shall include:
 - (a) a statement of the employer’s commitment to cooperate with the occupational health and safety committee and workers in the workplace in carrying out their collective responsibility for occupational health and safety;
 - (b) a statement of the respective responsibilities of the employer, supervisors, the occupational health and safety committee and workers in carrying out their collective responsibility for occupational health and safety;
 - (c) procedures to identify the need for, and for the preparation of written safe work procedures to implement health and safety practices, including practices required by the Act and the regulations, or as required by an officer;
 - (d) written work procedures appropriate to the hazards and work activity in the workplace;

- (e) a plan for orienting and training workers and supervisors in workplace and job-specific safe work practices, plans, policies and procedures, including emergency response, that are necessary to eliminate, reduce or control hazards;
 - (f) provisions for establishing and operating an occupational health and safety committee, including provisions respecting
 - (i) maintenance of membership records,
 - (ii) procedural rules,
 - (iii) access by the committee to management staff with the authority to resolve health and safety issues and to information about the employer’s operations required under the Act and the regulations, and
 - (iv) a plan for training committee members as required under the Act;
 - (g) a system for the recognition, evaluation and control of hazards that includes:
 - (i) evaluation and monitoring of the workplace to identify potential hazards and the associated risks,
 - (ii) procedures and schedules for regular inspections by management and committee members,
 - (iii) procedures for the identification, reporting and control or correction of hazards,
 - (iv) procedures for the prompt investigation of hazardous occurrences to determine the cause of the occurrence and the actions necessary to prevent a recurrence,
 - (v) identification of the circumstances where the employer is required to report hazards to the committee and the procedures for doing so, and
 - (vi) measures for the accountability of persons responsible for the reporting and correction of hazards;
 - (h) a plan for the control of biological and chemical substances handled, used, stored, produced or disposed of at the workplace and where appropriate, the monitoring of the work environment to ensure the health and safety of workers and other persons at or near the workplace;
 - (i) a system to ensure that persons contracted by the employer or for the employer’s benefit comply with the program developed under this section and the Act and regulations;
 - (j) an emergency response plan;
 - (k) maintenance of records and statistics, including occupational health and safety committee minutes, reports of occupational health and safety inspections and investigations, with procedures to allow access to them by persons entitled to receive them under the Act; and
 - (l) provision for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of the program.
- (2) An employer that is required to establish and maintain an occupational health and safety program under section 36.1 of the Act shall

- (a) implement the occupational health and safety program; and
- (b) review and, where necessary, revise the occupational health and safety program as follows:
 - (i) at least every 3 years,
 - (ii) where there is a change of circumstances that may affect the health and safety of workers, and
 - (iii) where an officer requests a review.

Occupational health and safety policy

13. (1) An occupational health and safety policy required under section 36.2 of the Act shall be signed and dated by the employer and by the person or persons responsible for the management of the employer’s operations in the province, and shall contain a statement of the employer’s commitment to occupational health and safety that includes:
- (a) a statement of the employer’s commitment to cooperate with the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate and workers in the workplace in carrying out their collective responsibility for occupational health and safety; and
 - (b) a statement of the respective responsibilities of the employer, supervisors, the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate and other workers in carrying out their collective responsibility for occupational health and safety.
- (2) An employer that is required to establish and maintain an occupational health and safety policy under section 36.2 of the Act shall review and, where necessary, update the policy at least annually, in consultation with the worker health and safety representative or the workplace health and safety designate.

General duties of employers

14. (1) An employer shall ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all buildings, structures, whether permanent or temporary, excavation, machinery, workstations, places of employment and equipment are capable of withstanding the stresses likely to be imposed upon them and of safely performing the functions for which they are used or intended.
- (2) An employer shall ensure that necessary protective clothing and devices are used for the health and safety of his or her workers.
 - (3) The employer shall ensure that safe work procedures are followed at all workplaces.
 - (4) An employer shall ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that work procedures promote the safe interaction of workers and their work environment to minimize the potential for injury.

General duties of workers

17. (1) A worker shall make proper use of all necessary safeguards, protective clothing, safety devices, lifting devices or aids, and appliances
 - (a) designated and provided for his or her protection by the employer; or
 - (b) required under these regulations to be used or worn by a worker.
- (2) A worker shall follow the safe work procedure in which he or she has been instructed.
- (3) A worker shall immediately report a hazardous work condition that may come to his or her attention to the employer or supervisor.

PART II NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Notification to utilities

11. An employer whose work activities result in a hit or damage to a pipeline, buried electrical cable, overhead cable or other utility shall notify the owner of the utility without delay.

PART I GENERAL

Refusal to work

22. (3) Where action has been taken by a worker to exercise the right to refuse to work under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, the employer shall not assign another worker to perform those duties unless the substitute worker has been informed of the prior refusal and the reason or reasons for that refusal.

PART V GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Emergency plan risk assessment

38. (1) An employer shall conduct a risk assessment in a workplace in which a need to rescue or evacuate workers may arise.
- (2) Where the risk assessment required by subsection (1) shows a need for evacuation or rescue, appropriate written procedures shall be developed and implemented and a worker assigned to coordinate their implementation.
- (3) Written rescue and evacuation procedures are required for but not limited to
 - (a) work at high angles;
 - (b) work in confined spaces or where there is a risk of entrapment;
 - (c) work with hazardous substances;
 - (d) underground work;

- (e) **work in close proximity to power lines;**
 - (f) work on or over water; and
 - (g) workplaces where there are persons who require physical assistance to be moved.
- (4) Where a workplace is a low risk workplace in the opinion of an employer, the employer shall post information about escape routes and conduct emergency drills he or she considers appropriate.

PART XVII CONSTRUCTION, EXCAVATION AND DEMOLITION

Underground utilities

396. (1) Before excavating or drilling with powered tools and equipment, the location of all underground utility services in the area shall be accurately determined and a danger to workers from those services shall be controlled.

(2) Excavation and drilling work in proximity to an underground service shall be undertaken in conformity with the requirements of the owner of the service.

(3) Pointed tools shall not be used to probe for underground gas and electrical services.

(4) Powered equipment used for excavating shall be operated so as to avoid damage to underground utility services and danger to workers.

PART XXVI ELECTRICAL OPERATIONS

Powerline hazards training

483. A person shall not operate a mobile crane, boom truck or similar equipment that has the capacity of encroaching on a power line without having first completed a safety training program on power line hazards required by the commission.

Minimum clearance - high voltage equipment and conductors

- 498.** (1) A worker shall not cause or permit material to be piled, stored or handled, a scaffold to be erected or dismantled or mobile crane, boom truck or similar equipment to operate in an area where overhead or underground conductors are located that are capable of energizing the material, mobile equipment or its load unless the employer has obtained in writing the voltage and minimum clearance distance required by the power utility.
- (2) Where the written clearance referred to in subsection (1) is unavailable from the power utility, a minimum 5.5 metres shall be maintained.
- (3) An employer shall ensure that at least the minimum applicable distance specified in the following table is maintained between exposed, energized high voltage electrical equipment and conductors and a worker, work, tool,

machine, equipment or material, except as otherwise permitted by this Part or a standard acceptable to the minister:

Voltage Phase to Phase	Minimum Distance
-------------------------------	-------------------------

Over 750 V to 75 kV	3 metres
Over 75k V to 250 kV	4.5 metres
Over 250 kV to 550 kV	6 metres

- (4) An employer shall accurately determine the voltage of energized electrical equipment or conductor and the minimum distance from it required under subsection (3).

Assurance in writing

- 499.** (1) Where the minimum distance set out in subsection **498** (3) cannot be maintained because of the circumstances of work or the inadvertent movement of persons or equipment, an assurance in writing on a form acceptable to the minister and signed by a representative of the owner of the power system, shall be obtained.
- (2) An assurance under subsection (1) shall state that while the work is being done, electrical equipment and conductors will be displaced or rerouted from the work area, where practicable.
- (3) Where compliance with subsection (2) is not practicable, an assurance under subsection (1) shall state that the electrical equipment will be isolated and grounded, but where isolation and grounding is not practicable, the assurance shall state that the electrical equipment will be visually identified and guarded.
- (4) Safeguards specified in an assurance under subsection (1) shall be in place before work commences and shall be effectively maintained while work is taking place.
- (5) Where guarding is used,
- (a) neither equipment nor unqualified persons shall touch the guarding; and
 - (b) a safety watch shall be designated, or range limiting or field detection devices acceptable to the minister shall be used.
- (6) An assurance under subsection (1) shall be available for inspection at the workplace, as closely as practicable to the area of work and shall be made known to all persons with access to the area.

Assurance not practicable

- 500.** (1) Where exposed high voltage electrical equipment and conductors cannot be isolated, rerouted or guarded, work shall not be done within the minimum distance specified under subsection **498** (3) until approval is obtained from the minister and the following precautions are taken:
- (a) the area within which equipment or materials are to be used shall be barricaded and supervised to restrict entry only to those workers necessarily engaged in the work;
 - (b) a safety watcher shall be designated; and
 - (c) a positive means shall be provided for the safety watcher to give a clear, understandable stop signal to workers in the area, and watcher shall not give the stop signal by another means.
- (2) While equipment is in motion in an area in proximity to energized electrical equipment or conductors, a person other than the equipment operator shall not touch a part of the equipment or the material being moved by it.
- (3) A person shall not move a load or rigging line from its position of natural suspension where the load or rigging line is in proximity to an energized electrical conductor or equipment.

9. Appendix C – Permits

Energized Power Line Permit (for working near energized power lines)



No 001

Power Line Location:	Area / Department:
----------------------	--------------------

Feeder / TML:	Power Line Voltage (L-L):	Minimum Safe Distance Clearance Requirement:
---------------	---------------------------	--

Scope of Work (Water & Sewer / Sign Erection / Scaffold for Painting etc.) _____

Permit Effective from: Start Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____ End Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____

Emergency Contact Information: Nalcor 1-888-737-1296 Gov. Services: 1-709-729-4444

Nalcor Churchill Falls 1-709-925-8218 Permit Holder Contact # (24 hour) _____

1. This permit is issued in accordance with Section 498 Subsection (1) of the Newfoundland and Labrador Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. It is the responsibility of the person or group to whom this permit is issued to ensure that all such regulations are complied with.
2. Failure to observe minimum distance clearance may lead to contact with energized power lines and cause serious injury or death.
3. Rubber cover-up installed by the utility provides protection against brush contact only. Do not lean upon, push or handle covered-up power lines.

Permit Holder _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #1 _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #2 _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #3 _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #4 _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #5 _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #6 _____	PLH Certificate # _____
Worker #7 _____	PLH Certificate # _____

PROOF

Revised July 5, 2011

Form... Front

Additional Worker(s) add to Notes section
 I confirm the Utility Representative has discussed the hazards and requirements listed above.
 I accept the conditions of this permit as issued and will review this information with all employees operating under this permit.
 Nalcor shall be contacted immediately prior to any required changes to this permit; Utility representative contact number: _____
 nalcor energy reserves the right to revoke/cancel this permit.

NOTES: _____

Employer / Contractor (Print)
Employer / Contractor (Sign)
Date

Utility Representative (Print)
Witnessed by Utility Representative (Sign)
Date

Rev. June, 2011 Form 30-0256
MORGAN PRINTING, 709-258-6320

Energized Power Line Permit
(for working near energized power lines)



Permit No. _____

Company Name: _____ Applicant Name: _____ Date: _____

Power Line Location: _____ Area/Department: _____

Feeder/TML: _____ Power Line Voltage (L-L): _____ Minimum Safe Distance Clearance Requirement: _____

Scope of Work (e.g. water & sewer/sign erection/scaffold for painting/mechanical ROW cutting, etc.):

Note: If Newfoundland Power underground conductors exist where excavation is to be undertaken, Form 544 "Record of Locating Newfoundland Power Underground Plant" shall also be issued.

Power Line Hazards Training Certificate Information

Equipment Operator: _____ Power Line Hazards Training Certificate Number: _____

If operator unavailable or for multiple operators, company representative must sign on behalf of the company ensuring all operators working under the scope of the permit have a valid Power Line Hazards Training Certificate.

Permit Effective From: Start Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____ End Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____

Emergency Contact Information: Newfoundland Power 1-800-476-5711 Gov. Services (709) 729-4444

Conditions:

1. This permit is issued in accordance with Sections 483 to 500 of the Newfoundland & Labrador Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. It is the responsibility of the person or group to whom this permit is issued to ensure that all regulations are complied with.
2. Failure to observe minimum distance clearance may lead to contact with energized power lines and cause serious injury or death.
3. All equipment operators working under this permit must hold a valid Power Line Hazards Training Certificate as per Section 483 of the Newfoundland & Labrador Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.
4. Rubber cover-up installed on service wires (750 Volts) provides mechanical protection only. Do not lean upon, push or handle covered-up power lines.
5. This permit is in effect during daylight hours only, any variances to this daylight operation will have to be authorized by Newfoundland Power.
6. Encroachments of permanent structures (signs, billboards, sheds, etc.) on Newfoundland Power easements or rights-of-way are strictly prohibited.
7. Safety watcher (spotter) maybe required to ensure specified clearance distances are maintained.
8. Failure to comply with the requirements/conditions of this permit may result in the permit being revoked.

Special Instructions Under This Permit

Employer/Contractor (Print): _____ Utility Representative (Print): _____

Employer/Contractor (Sign): _____ Utility Representative (Sign): _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Note: White - Power Utility; Yellow - Employer

03/2012 Form No. 540

10. Appendix D – Right to Refuse



RIGHT OF WORKER TO REFUSE WORK

Section 45(1) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* states in part -

"A worker may refuse to do work that the worker has reasonable grounds to believe is dangerous to his or her health or safety, or the health and safety of another person at the workplace."

The following three (3) step procedure applies:

STEP 1 REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO HIS/HER SUPERVISOR GIVING THE PRECISE CONDITIONS FOR THE REFUSAL TO WORK. (Section 45(1)(a) & Section 46 OH&S Act)

If the matter is resolved to the worker’s satisfaction by the employer, the worker must return to work.

If the matter is not resolved to the worker’s satisfaction, the worker reports to:

STEP 2 A MEMBER OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE OR THE WORKER HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE FOR INVESTIGATION. (Section 45(1)(b) OH&S Act)

If the matter is not resolved to the worker’s satisfaction by the Occupational Health and Safety Committee or Worker Health and Safety Representative, the worker reports to:

STEP 3 THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES FOR INFORMATION AND FOLLOWUP. (Section 47 OH&S Act)

AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER INVESTIGATES THE MATTER, AND PENDING RESOLUTION, ADVISES THE WORKER TO RETURN TO WORK. (SECTION 45(1)(c))

While the matter is under investigation, the employer may assign the worker other work that is reasonably equivalent to his/her normal work. The employer shall pay the worker the same wages or salary and grant the same benefits as the worker would have received in his/her normal work. (Section 45(2), 45(3), 45(4) OH&S Act)

Where a worker has exercised the right to refuse to work, the employer shall not assign another worker to perform those duties unless the substitute worker has been informed of the prior refusal and the reason or reasons for that refusal. (Part I, Section 5 OH&S Regulations)

A worker shall not take advantage of his or her right to refuse to work under Section 45 without reasonable grounds. (Section 48 OH&S Act)

A worker must be in the workplace and familiar with the alleged hazards in order to refuse to work, a right of refusal cannot be exercised in absentia, or on behalf of others.

For further information please contact:

**Occupational Health and Safety Branch
Department of Government Services:**

Corner Brook: (709) 637-2946
Grand Falls-Windsor: (709) 292-4400
St. John's: (709) 729-2706
Wabush: (709) 282-3679
Toll Free: 1-800-563-5471

Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission:

Corner Brook: (709) 637-2700 • Toll Free 1-800-563-2772
Grand Falls-Windsor (709) 489-1600 • Toll Free 1-800-563-3448
St. John's: (709) 778-1000 • Toll Free 1-800-563-9000



Sources of Information

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro

To request an ***Energized Power Line Permit***, or in the event of an
EMERGENCY: 1-888-737-1296 or Nalcor Energy Churchill Falls (709) 925-8218

Newfoundland Power

To request an ***Energized Power Line Permit***: **1-800-663-2802**

In the event of an **EMERGENCY: 1-800-474-5711**

These **emergency numbers** are to be used **ONLY in the event of an emergency** such as a boom contacting a power line or live wires down where there is an immediate hazard and immediate assistance/response is required.

These emergency numbers are not to be used for requesting a permit.

Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission

Prevention Services

Phone: (709) 778-1552

Toll free: 1 (800) 563-9000

Services NL

Occupational Health and Safety Branch
Accident Reporting Line: (709) 729 - 4444

Phone: (709) 729-2706

Toll free: 1 (800) 563-5471

Human Resources Skills Development Canada

Labour Program, Newfoundland and Labrador Office

Phone: (709) 772-5022

Call collect outside St. John's