Accident Prevention Manual

Effective January 1, 2013

Testing interval

2012 2013 2014
BPA Safety Motto

No job is so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take time to perform our work safely.
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FOREWORD

Among our many common needs and goals are the safety and well-being of our families, ourselves, our fellow employees, and the continuing success of our organization. To these ends—minimizing human suffering and economic waste—the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Accident Prevention Program and this Accident Prevention Manual (APM) are dedicated. The BPA Accident Prevention Program is revised as necessary to ensure compliance with relevant Federal safety and health standards.

The mandatory rules herein express minimum requirements for dealing with the principal hazards inherent in our daily work activities. These and other written requirements, which neither can nor should provide complete coverage of all work situations, must be continually reinforced through the sound and mature safety judgments of all workers on each assigned task. In the event of conflicting judgments, the more conservative interpretation shall prevail pending review and resolution by management.

In accordance with an agreement between the Administration and the Columbia Power Trades Council, rules or portions of rules not directly affecting the safety of CPTC represented trades are placed in Chapter Two of this manual. All employees must be knowledgeable of, and adhere to, rules in both Chapters One and Two.

Chapter One
Contains rules that directly affect the safety of CPTC represented employees.

Chapter Two
Contains rules that do not directly affect the safety of CPTC represented employees.

Each APM chapter is divided into two sections:

1. Rules, and
2. Switching and Clearance Procedure (Operating Bulletin No. 2).

For added awareness, the “life-or-death” Safety Rules are captioned in red; both in the index and throughout the text.
APM rules may only be adopted or revised by the Central Safety and Health Committee (CS&HC). Rule changes become effective on the issue date of the APM except in special circumstances, and then by a Safety Alert or other method deemed appropriate by the CS&HC.

The Safety Office will provide advice, information, and support to all managers, supervisors, and employees to enable BPA to fulfill its responsibilities of providing a workplace free from all recognized safety and health hazards.
SAFETY COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATION

Chief Executive Officer

Chief Operating Officer

Executive VP for Internal Business Services

Safety Office

Central Safety and Health Committee

Supervisory Safety and Health Committees

Field Employee Safety Meetings
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CHAPTER ONE
ACCIDENT PREVENTION RULES

A-1 Access to BPA Energized Facilities

Defines the identification/certification/escorting requirements for access to and work within or around BPA energized high voltage substation facilities.

I. Permit - Types and Qualifications

Permits are required for all individuals who require unescorted access or who work on or around energized substation facilities.

There are three levels of permits:

A. An **Electrical Worker Permit** allows unescorted access to energized facilities by fully trained, experienced electrical individuals for performance or supervision of work on the high voltage power system.

The minimum qualifications for this permit are:

1. **Need** to perform, supervise/manage functions on or around BPA energized facilities beyond those allowed by a Non-electrical or Restricted Electrical Worker Permit.

2. **Knowledge** and understanding of:

   a. Accident Prevention Manual,

   b. Hazards inherent and precautions required for working safely on a high voltage power system, and

   c. Related electrical theory as demonstrated by satisfaction of the following: Qualifications as journeyman or higher in any one of the following electrical crafts Electrician, Lineman, Substation Operator, Dispatcher, or Craftsman.
3. **Experience** of one year minimum in a position with knowledge requirements where the applicant received, issued or worked under at least three Clearances on the BPA or equivalent power system (names of holders and dates of Clearances along with identification of system, if other than BPA, are required).

B. A **Restricted Electrical Worker Permit** allows unescorted access to energized facilities by individuals trained and required to perform specific, selective craft or technical functions involving work that could have an effect on the power system. Work involving the possibility of inadvertent contact with high voltage parts or the violation of Minimum Approach Distances must be performed under the direct, on-site supervision of a Qualified Electrical Employee.

The minimum qualifications for a Restricted Electrical Worker Permit are:

1. **Need** to perform duties on or around BPA energized facilities beyond those allowed by a Non-electrical Worker Permit.

2. **Knowledge** and understanding of:

   a. BPA Accident Prevention Manual,

   b. Hazards inherent and precautions required for working safely on applicable parts of a high voltage power system.

3. **Job title** that is included in or closely related to an electrical craft or function, such as: Craftsman, Line Equipment Operator, Groundman, Electrical Riggers, Electrical Apprentice, or Electrical Trainees.

C. A **Non-electrical Worker Permit** allows unescorted access to energized facilities by individuals who have received appropriate instructions and have demonstrated a level of understanding necessary to safely move about in energized substations.
This permit allows performance of predefined work not affecting electrical operation of the power system.

The minimum qualifications for this permit are:

1. **Need** to perform non-electric duties in or around BPA energized facilities.

2. **Knowledge** and understanding of BPA’s Rules of Conduct in energized substations.

D. **Non-permitted individuals** requiring entry to, movement within or who work on or around energized substation facilities will require an escort at all times by an appropriately permitted employee while in the facility. Employees who provide access to energized high voltage facilities to others not having a permit are responsible for ensuring that they are properly escorted at all times while in the facility.

II. **Permits for Employees**

Employees requiring unescorted access to or work on or around energized facilities must meet the minimum qualifications and examination/switchyard orientation requirements. [Reference BPA Work Standard II, *Substation Security*]

III. **Clearance Certification**

A. A **Restricted Clearance Certification** allows employees who hold a Restricted Electrical Worker Permit to take Clearances and Hold Orders on BPA and foreign utility transmission lines adjacent to facilities being constructed. This is for purposes of addressing/controlling hazards of induction from, or accidental contact with adjacent energized lines. Hold Orders and/or Clearances issued for these purposes do not provide access for work or contract inspection on these lines.
B. A **Standard Clearance Certification** allows employees who hold an Electrical Worker Permit to: (1) take Clearances and Hold Orders, without predefined restrictions, on high voltage facilities, and (2) to issue Clearances and Hold Orders in accordance with provisions of the Switching and Clearance Procedures.

IV. **Withdrawal of Permits and Clearance Certifications**

Withdrawal of permits and/or Clearance certifications may be affected at any time by a responsible management official.

Causes for withdrawal include, but are not limited to:

1. Demonstrated lack of knowledge or unwillingness to follow safe work practices,
2. Violation of established safety rules or procedures,
3. Documented cases showing lack of sound and mature safety judgment,

V. **Clearance Certification and Permits Directory**

A current electronic list of employees holding Permits and Clearance Certifications and a list of Contractor Permits is maintained by Substation Operations, TOZ/AmpN1. This list is updated as needed and distributed to System Control Centers. Verification can be accomplished by contacting Substation Operations Group or a System Control Center.
A-2 Apparel

Clothing appropriate for the job shall be worn. Full-length pants and shirts with full or half sleeves are required when engaged in field, shop or industrial activities. Shorts, tank tops or similar attire is not considered appropriate apparel. Supervisors have the responsibility for assuring that appropriate clothing and apparel is worn. Employees have the responsibility of wearing items that prevent exposure to known or expected hazards.

Loose, dangling clothing or accessories shall not be worn where there is possibility of contact with moving machinery.

When work is performed within reaching distance of exposed energized parts, the wearing of conductive objects such as key or watch chains, rings, wrist watches, bracelets, or other conductive objects is prohibited.

Appropriate footwear that provides adequate support and protection to the foot, toes and ankles for the work being performed shall be worn. Lace-up, over the ankle boots with rigid sole and heel meeting ASTM F 2413-05, Class 75 with EH rating shall be worn in all work areas where hard hats are required and other areas as determined by a supervisor. Supervisors have the responsibility for assuring that appropriate footwear is worn. Employees have the responsibility to wear appropriate footwear for the job.

When performing transmission line work, specialized footwear (e.g., hot boots, etc.) appropriate for the work practice may be worn.

The wearing of clothing and footwear made from acetate, nylon, polyester, or rayon either alone or in blends (unless labeled with an Arc Thermal Protection Value of 8 cal/cm² or greater) is prohibited when an employee may be exposed to the hazards of electric arcs or flames. Footwear made of leather provides an appropriate level of ATPV protection.

When work is to be performed on or near energized circuits where the phase-to-phase or phase-to-ground voltage is 600V or less, Arc Flash Personal Protective Equipment shall be utilized as specified in BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-11-6, Arc-Flash Personal Protective Equipment.

The following items of personal protective clothing, accompanied by brief statements of purpose, are either provided or subsidized by the Administration. Supervisors are responsible for obtaining and requiring the use of PPE as necessary for safe performance of the work.
1. **Appropriate gloves:** Gloves are provided for job activities where hand protection is required.

2. **Safety shoes:** Employees are reimbursed, in a negotiated amount, for purchase of approved safety shoes meeting ASTM F 2413-05, Class 75 with EH rating for wear in work areas or activities where protective footwear is required. Supervisors may also require, or the employee may elect built-in metatarsal protection in shoes meeting the above ASTM standard.

3. **Additional items:** Personal protective equipment is defined under appropriate APM Rules, i.e.; Hard Hat requirement (H-1), Hearing Protection (H-2), and Eye and Face (E-3). Special-purpose equipment, used in chain saw operations, specified work on or around high voltage equipment, high pressure air systems, and for handling of hazardous material, is defined in applicable Standards, Operating Bulletins, and BPA Safety and Health programs.

4. **Arc flash personal protective equipment appropriate for the hazard/risk category shall be utilized.**
**B-1 BARRIERS & GUARDS, ELECTRICAL**

Barriers are used to prevent contact with energized parts. Line/insulator covers and similar protective devices, properly installed, allow work within the Minimum Approach Distance as stated in Rule M-1. These devices must be installed and removed with hot line tools or under the protection of a Clearance. Approved insulated barriers shall be inspected before each use.

Guards are used to maintain Minimum Approach Distances which include the margin for inadvertent movement.

Devices such as fencing, when installed under the supervision of a Qualified Electrical Employee, may be used to separate a work area in the switchyard from energized sections.

Areas guarded with **red-and-white** rope shall not be entered! This guard is used on the ground and in structures to prohibit all persons from entering the energized zone.

**Red-and-white** rope guards must be installed and removed by or under the direction of the Qualified Electrical Employee in charge of the job.

Areas guarded with **yellow-and-black** rope may be entered by Qualified Electrical Employees. Entry by others is prohibited unless accompanied by a Qualified Electrical Employee. **Yellow-and-black** rope guards must be installed under the supervision of a Qualified Electrical Employee. This guard may be removed by others upon approval of the responsible Qualified Electrical Employee.

**Red-and-white** and **yellow-and-black** rope shall not be used for any purpose except electrical guards. No other rope color shall be used for electrical guards.

Special-purpose electrical barriers and guards must be approved by the BPA Safety Office. The Safety Office may give approval, with continued use subject to review by the Central Safety and Heath Committee. [Reference BPA Work Standard, BPA-WS-7-3-(3.2), Installations with Reduced Electrical Clearances; Substation Maintenance and Guide, SM-STD-17-1-2, Special Purpose Electrical Barriers or Guards]
B-2 BARRIERS & GUARDS, NON ELECTRICAL
Barriers and guards, known to be adequate for other circumstances, must also be utilized in protecting against mechanical, environmental, and other nonelectrical hazards such as open excavations or manholes. Environmentally contaminated areas shall be guarded and identified by signs and may be entered only by persons who have been trained to protect themselves from the hazards of the contaminants present.

C-1 CONDUCTIVE DEVICES, RESTRICTIONS OF
Portable metal ladders are not permitted in energized substation yards or for use in any situation where there is danger of contact with energized lines or equipment.

Conductive objects such as metal tapes, surveyor chains, fish tapes, and center-line wire may be used only when restrained by adequate methods, as determined by a Qualified Electrical Employee, to prevent electrical contact in the event of slippage or breakage at any point.

C-2 COUPLING CAPACITORS AND BUSHING POTENTIAL DEVICES
Work in the base units of this equipment, other than tuning or voltage adjustments, shall be performed under the protection of a Clearance as outlined in BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-9-7, Bushing PDs, Coupling Caps & Line Tuning Units.

C-3 CONFINED SPACES
Some confined spaces require a confined space entry permit (BPA Form 5480.10e) before entering (i.e.; storage tanks and 500 kV GIS Bus Runs). Other confined spaces and enclosed spaces do not require permits (i.e.; oil PCBs and manholes) but special precautions must be followed as outlined in BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-11-1, Confined Space. A confined space is one which:

1. Has a limited or restricted opening for entry or exit.
2. May contain or generate a toxic or explosive atmosphere.
3. May be oxygen deficient.
4. Is not intended for continuous occupancy.
5. May contain electrical/mechanical hazards.
C-4 CURRENT TRANSFORMER SECONDARY
The CT secondary circuit shall not be opened while the primary is energized, due to the possible development of a high secondary voltage.

When work is to be performed on CT circuits that are normally in service, the senior Test and Energization Engineer (T&E) or a System Protection and Control (SPC) employee shall lead the job briefing and approve any wiring work on CT circuits, including the shorting of CTs.

All work shall be performed in accordance with BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-9-1, Servicing and Testing Current Transformers.

C-5 CROSSING, POLE-TO-POLE, OVER A SINGLE ARM
Crossing from one pole to another over a single crossarm is permitted only when the circuit is de-energized and with the use of a safety line rigged from one pole to the other.
E-1 EXCAVATION
The estimated location of utility installations or any other underground installation that may be encountered during excavation work shall be determined prior to opening an excavation.

Excavations shall not be entered by personnel until the following measures are taken by a competent person prior to the start of work and as needed throughout the shift:

1. Identify site specific hazards including surface encumbrances and remove or protect as necessary.
2. Evaluate soil conditions and select appropriate protective systems.
3. Ensure that provisions for safe access into and out of the excavation are in place.
4. Ensure a site specific emergency action plan is in place and required equipment is available.

Prior to entry into excavations 4 feet or more in depth an Excavation Entry Permit completed by the competent person and approved by the supervisor shall be posted on site.

Excavations 5 feet or more in depth shall not be entered unless sloped to the appropriate angle of repose, shored or shielded.
[Reference BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-11-8, Excavation and Trenching Policy]

E-2 EXPLOSIVES, HANDLING AND USE OF
BPA personnel shall not use explosive devices other than implosive fittings and their components. Only properly trained personnel holding a current certification shall be allowed to perform implosive operations. Before a detonation takes place the Blaster in charge shall ensure that all personnel are at a minimum of 200 feet away from the detonation site. Hearing protection is required for all personnel during each implosive operation and shall consist of BOTH soft earplugs with a minimum NRR (noise reduction rating) of 33 AND ear muffs with a minimum NRR of 28.

All handling, use, storage, and transportation of explosives shall be done in accordance with TLM Standards and Guides, I.B.2, IMPLO Fittings, Storage, Handling and Use.
**E-3 EYE AND FACE PROTECTION**

Approved protective devices shall be worn while performing or while in the proximity of activities which present a recognized hazard to eyes and face.

Approved eye protection shall be worn whenever there is danger of injury from electrical arcs or flying objects resulting from accidental electrical contact while working on energized electrical circuits or equipment.

The following tables illustrate minimum requirements for compliance with eye and face protection (Reference Table 2 for description of protective devices listed by number in Table 1).

### TABLE 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Activity</th>
<th>Protective Devices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acids, caustic, handling</td>
<td>2, 3 (use in combination for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air hammer</td>
<td>1 (add 3 for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arc flash</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazing, torch</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipping</td>
<td>1 (add 3 for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting, torch</td>
<td>4 (for severe exposure use 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiber Optics</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grinding</td>
<td>1 (add 3 for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molten metals</td>
<td>4 (3 over 4 or 6 optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powder actuated tools</td>
<td>1 (add 3 for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldering, hard</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldering, soft/electronic</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stud gun</td>
<td>1 (add 3 for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun glare</td>
<td>1, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switching, power system</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torch, heating</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding, torch</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding, electric arc</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding, electric spot</td>
<td>4, 6 (add 3 for severe exposure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire brushing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood chipping</td>
<td>1 (2 or 3, screen lens permitted, over 1 optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Protection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Protects against frontal, high impact hazards (safety spectacles, plain and prescription, equipped with side shields; available in clear or shaded).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Protects against light impact, dust, and chemical splash (chemical use requires model equipped with hooded vents; fits over safety spectacles).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Protects against light impact and chemical splash (for severe exposures, use in combination with 1). Arc flash protection if so rated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Protects against torch brazing, hard soldering, light cutting and welding (fits over safety spectacles).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Protects against radiant energy from electric arc welding and heavy torch cutting (helmet or sock hood are only types permitted for arc welding both must be used in combination with 1).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Protects against visual hazards or “flash burns” from power system arc—required for switching on high voltage power system.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F-1  FALL PROTECTION
Approved fall protection shall be used when working aloft above 4 feet on all towers, poles, and similar structures.

Employees working aloft in an aerial lift or on platforms supported by lift equipment shall wear a full body harness and be attached with either a retractable or shock absorbing lanyard.

During climbing activities above 4 feet, at least two qualified climbers shall be present. Unqualified climbers must remain 100 percent attached. [Reference BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-11-2, Fall Protection].

F-2  FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS
Flammable liquids within 70 feet of conductors energized at voltages of 345 kV and higher shall not be transferred from one metal container to another unless the two have been electrically bonded together to eliminate arcing.

F-3  FIBER OPTICS
When working with fiber optics, the use of personal protective equipment is required to prevent injury. Eye protection shall be worn when splicing glass fiber (see APM Rule E-3). Care should be taken during the cleaving process to protect the eyes and the body from broken glass pieces.

CAUTION: Never look into the end of an optical fiber. The laser light that may be present is invisible and eye damage may occur.

Chemicals that are present in fiber or the chemical used to clean fiber may require the use of hand protection. Consult the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for proper use of personal protective equipment. [Reference BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-9-3, Fiber Optics]
GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, FOR WORK ON DE-ENERGIZED CIRCUITS

Protection from electric shock is obtained by using approved portable protective or discharge grounds to short all conducting parts to a common ground.

Portable protective grounds shall be applied before a worker or equipment contacts or comes within the Minimum Approach Distance of the circuit. Portable protective grounds shall be installed to protect persons from the hazards of accidental energization from any source of power system energization. Such sources of power system energization include:

- Accidental energization from the power system, power lines or other energized high voltage equipment by accidental contact or accidental closing of an isolating device.
- Backfeed through station service or potential transformers.
- Remote lightning causing a fault on an adjacent circuit or a strike to the deenergized one.

*Note: Portable protective grounds may not provide complete personal protection for close-in strikes. Work shall be suspended and personnel shall stay in the clear during times that lightning is within sight or sound.*

Portable protective ground leads shall be of flexible 2/0 copper cable or equivalent. Except: (1) permanently installed ground switches on gas insulated equipment, capacitors, and reactors; and (2) grounding plugs, at least equal in rating to the required portable protective ground lead(s) and designed for the metal-clad switch-gear involved, may be used in lieu of portable protective grounds; and (3) 1/0 URD grounds for grounding, where appropriate, of underground residential distribution (URD) equipment.
Any reference to portable protective grounds shall mean an adequate number of ground leads to effect a visible three-phase short and ground on the circuit. Visible grounding may be accomplished through conductive parts of equal current carrying capacity as the protective grounds require, but shall not be effected through a ground mat or other concealed conductors, except at series capacitors per rule G-7; Grounds, Portable Protective, Capacitors.

In substations, when portable protective grounds have been installed at all possible sources of energization from the high voltage power system, separated circuit parts in the work area to be contacted during the course of the work shall be bonded and tied to ground by application of either discharge grounding cables or portable protective grounds.

All conductive parts in the work area that may be contacted during the course of the work shall be at the same potential and shall be tied to a common ground.

Before cutting or separating any part of the protective grounding circuit that could expose a worker to a possible difference of potential, the separated components shall be bonded together and tied to ground.

The Clearance Holder shall identify all parts of the protective grounding circuit prior to the installation of portable protective grounds to ensure that a thorough understanding of the specific grounding circuit exists by all crew members prior to the start of work.

When grounding overhead transmission lines where workers are not protected by a ground mat, grounding procedures and measuring of step-and-touch voltages shall be done in accordance with TLM Standards and Guides I.A.2., *Grounding, BPA Equipment and Structures*; and I.A.3., *Protection of Electrical Workers from Induced Currents and Voltages*. 
An exception to the AC three-phase grounding requirement may be made when all of the conditions listed below are met. Then only those phases to be worked on during the course of the project need to be grounded.

- The circuit is a transmission line structure located outside of a substation.
- The circuit is normally energized at 500 kV or more.
- The work plan does not involve work on all three phases.
- The installation and/or removal of protective grounds creates a higher than normal potential hazard to the workers involved (e.g.; weather, ice, high induced voltage requiring the use of a vacuum bottle for ground removal, etc.).
- All phases to be worked on during the course of the project will be grounded at the beginning of the work.

Ground rods shall be of steel, copper, or copper-clad steel not less than 5/8 inch in diameter or less than 6 feet in length and shall be placed in the ground to a depth which shall assure adequate grounding.

Portable protective grounding on HVDC may be applied only to the pole being worked on if the work plan does not require working within the MAD of the other pole.
G-2 GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, VOLTAGE TESTING

Immediately before applying grounds, a voltage test shall be made on each phase with a “voltage detector” instrument that produces both a visible and audible signal.

If there is any indication that the circuit being tested is still energized at full line potential, the circuit shall be treated as energized. **Do not assume** it is caused by induction from nearby power lines. **Do assume** that the circuit is still energized and take proper precautions, i.e. notify the dispatcher, recheck your circuit identification, maintain the Minimum Approach Distance, and **DO NOT** apply portable protective grounds until assured that the circuit is indeed de-energized.

The voltage test shall be performed in accordance with BPA Work Standard VI.B., *Voltage Testing Procedures*.

G-3 GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, WHERE INSTALLED

Before workers come within the Minimum Approach Distance of any high voltage circuit part not protected by special barriers, as defined in Rule B-1, that part must be de-energized and be grounded at each separate or separable circuit part in accordance with Rule G-1.

Portable protective grounds shall be installed as close to the work being performed as practical, and in such a manner as not to be disturbed during the course of the work.

No disconnect switch, power circuit breaker, transformer *, wave trap, fuse, or current limiting reactor** shall be part of the protective grounding circuit.

* **Note:** Does not apply to a visible single-turn primary such as in a “donut” CT circuit.

** **Note:** Does not apply to current limiting reactors installed on shunt capacitor installations where the neutral of the shunt capacitor is grounded in accordance with Rule G-7. A minimum of a discharge grounding cable shall be installed between the current limiting reactor and the shunt capacitor bank in addition to the Portable Protective Grounds installed at the source side of the current limiting reactor.
G-4 GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL OF

All ground leads from each ground set shall be connected at the ground end before any conductor end from that same ground set is connected to de-energized electrical parts.

Workers should avoid handling or contacting the ground lead while the conductor end is being installed or removed. During removal, all ground leads of each ground set shall be disconnected from the conductor end first. The conductor ends from that same set shall be moved to a point in the clear of the de-energized electrical parts before any ground lead from that same ground set is removed from the ground end.

Exception: On transmission towers where grounds are to be installed aloft, it is permissible to install or remove both ground and conductor ends on each phase prior to workers moving location. The conductor end shall be connected and disconnected with live line tools.

In some cases it may be difficult to remove a ground lead with a live line tool (such as one installed during construction). In these cases, a second ground lead may be installed alongside the original one. The original one may then be removed by hand, and the second or remaining ground lead removed with a live line tool.

The minimum crew for installing portable protective grounds consists of one of the following:

- Two Qualified Electrical Employees, or
- One Qualified Electrical Employee and an electrical worker (electrical apprentice, journeyman in training, temporary electrical worker) who has been approved by both the supervisor and the Qualified Electrical Employee involved.

NOTE: When on line structures, the required electrical workers must be in the structure and be assisted by adequate help on the ground.

When applying portable protective grounds on transmission lines, the required electrical workers shall be in the structure and/or an aerial lift device and be assisted by adequate help on the ground. These required electrical workers shall work closely together observing each other testing for voltage and applying portable protective grounds.
Additional portable protective ground sets may be installed on the same circuit and all sets may be removed by one Qualified Electrical Employee and one other worker.
G-5 GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, FOR EACH CLEARANCE

Before workers or equipment contact or come within the Minimum Approach Distance of a circuit, separate grounds shall be installed for each Clearance issued.

Exception: In those situations where multiple Work Clearances are issued on the same equipment for similar work at a common worksite, the following multi-locking protective grounding method may be used.

1. After the required initial portable protective grounding set has been installed:
   a. Install a red nonconductive block into the eye of the grounding clamp on both outside phases conductor ends.
   b. Install an approved lock-out device into the eye of the grounding clamp on the center phase conductor end and attach a lock to the device. If using the lock box method, install a lock into the eye of the grounding clamp on the center phase conductor end and install an approved lockout device to the lock box. Individual locks, separately keyed for each Clearance Holder, may be added to the lockout device. The lock box is to be located as near as practical to the initial set of portable protective grounds.
   c. Following all appropriate Operating Bulletin No. 2 (APM Rule S-6) requirements for Clearances, including the walk-around, other Clearance Holders can be included at later times by the placement of locks in the lockout device on the center phase conductor end or to the lock box.
   d. Locks represent a set of portable protective grounds and are to be installed on the center phase conductor end or to the lock box only after the Clearance has been issued to the Clearance Holder.

2. On release of all except the last Clearance, removal of each Clearance Holder’s individual lock from the center phase conductor end or from the lock box is permitted.

3. The locks, lockout device, and blocks must be removed prior to the release of the last Clearance.
4. The portable protective ground set may then be removed and the Clearance released following normal procedures.
G-6 GROUNDING, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

I. BACKGROUND

Multiple portable protective grounds are required in many locations on the BPA system. They must be capable of carrying high magnitude fault current until the fault is cleared by protective relays and one or more power circuit breakers. The use of multiple portable protective grounds protects workers from high magnitude faults which could cause a failure of a single portable protective ground before the circuit is deenergized.

Listed below are BPA locations that currently require multiple portable protective ground cables for substations and transmission lines. The quantity listed is the number of portable protective grounds required for each phase. These listings are good for the BPA system until the next reprint of the APM. For work at a foreign owned substation, on a foreign owned transmission line, or for new additions to the BPA system, check with the local BPA System Protection and Control engineers or Engineering and Technical Services, System Protection and Control (TECS) staff engineers for grounding requirements.

For special outage conditions, such as multiple, simultaneous outages in a substation, System Protection and Control engineers have the authority to determine the grounding requirements for that particular outage. Examples may include the simultaneous outage of a power transformer and a transmission line breaker or a substation main bus outage. The outage of the transformer may reduce the fault magnitudes sufficiently to change the grounding requirements for that work. All workers and substation operators need to be informed that if work is completed on one of the items and it is restored, the grounding requirements may change. [Reference BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-6-3, Grounding Policy]
II. **SUBSTATIONS WHICH REQUIRE MULTIPLE 2/0 COPPER PROTECTIVE GROUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substation</th>
<th>kV</th>
<th># of Grounds</th>
<th>Terminal / Bus</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Transformer # 4, 13.2 kV Bus</td>
<td>2, 3, 5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Transformer # 5, 13.8 kV Bus</td>
<td>2, 3, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Transformer # 1, 13.8 kV Bus</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcoa</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Transformer # 8, 34.5 kV Bus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>115</td>
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<td>115 kV Bus</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Allston</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>115 kV Bus</td>
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<td>Bellingham</td>
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<td>Big Eddy</td>
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<td>Transformer # 2, 34.5 kV Bus</td>
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<td>115 kV Bus</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>230</td>
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<td>230 kV Bus</td>
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<td>Boardman</td>
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<td>Transformer # 1, 7.2 kV Bus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celilo</td>
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<td>230 kV Bus</td>
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<td>Chemawa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chenoweth</td>
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<td>Transformer # 1, 13.8 kV Bus</td>
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<td>Substation</td>
<td>kV</td>
<td># of Grounds</td>
<td>Terminal / Bus</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief</td>
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<td>Transformer # 1, 13.2 kV Bus</td>
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<td>Joseph</td>
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<td>Conkelley</td>
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<td>Covington</td>
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<td>Custer</td>
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<td>Grand</td>
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Notes:
1. Fifteen (15) cycle cable fusing time is used. If maximum fault current exceeds 56,000 amps, three 2/0 copper portable grounds are required. If maximum fault current exceeds 31,000 amps, two 2/0 copper portable grounds are required.

2. Thirty (30) cycle cable fusing time is used. If maximum fault current exceeds 62,000 amps, four 2/0 copper portable grounds are required. If maximum fault current exceeds 43,000 amps, three 2/0 copper portable grounds are required. If maximum fault current exceeds 23,700 amps, two 2/0 copper portable grounds are required.

3. If this transformer bank is de-energized and all of the windings are grounded according to the APM requirements and this transformer bus has no other possible sources of energization that require multiple grounds, for example another transformer tertiary, then only one 2/0 ground cable per phase is required on this bus.

4. Only a single set of portable protective ground cables is required on the load side of air core reactors which are used for station service to limit fault magnitudes. The reactors limit the fault current to below the 23,700 ampere 30 cycle fusing rating of a portable protective ground cable. This shall be verified by the System Protection and Control District Engineer every three years when this Standard is upgraded.

5. This tertiary bus is an ungrounded delta. A single set of 2/0 copper portable protective ground cables is required for any one of the following conditions.
   - Work is performed on the load side of current limiting fuses which limits the available fault current to less than the 2/0 copper fusing ampacity rating.
   - Work is performed on the load side of a switch whose line side is a section of conductor equal to or smaller than 1/0 copper, which has 80% of the 2/0 copper rating.
   - If a permanently installed three-phase ground switch is available, use the ground switch instead of using multiple sets of portable grounds.

6. The grounding requirements for a series capacitor installation are the same as those for the substation bus when the capacitors are located at the substation. For series capacitors in mid line, the grounding requirements are the same as for the transmission line section at the location of the series capacitors.
III. TRANSMISSION LINES WHICH REQUIRE MULTIPLE 2/0 COPPER PROTECTIVE GROUNDS

The following BPA transmission lines require two or more 2/0 copper portable protective grounds from the listed substation to the listed structure or from the listed structure to the listed structure. Line sections beyond that point do not require multiple grounds.

These grounding requirements apply to all lines terminating at the listed substations and operating voltages, including lines owned and operated by foreign utilities.

Fifteen (15) cycle cable fusing time is used. Three 2/0 copper portable grounds are required if the maximum fault current exceeds 56,000 amps. Two 2/0 copper portable grounds are required if the maximum fault current exceeds 31,000 amps.

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**Chief Jo**

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<td>McNary</td>
<td>Entire Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>McNary - McNary P. H. 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>McNary</td>
<td>Entire Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>McNary - McNary P. H. 5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>McNary</td>
<td>Entire Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>McNary - Roundup 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>McNary</td>
<td>3/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>McNary - Jones Canyon</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>McNary</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>345</td>
<td>McNary - Ross 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>McNary</td>
<td>3/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kV</td>
<td>Line Name</td>
<td># of Grounds</td>
<td>From</td>
<td>To</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Olympia</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Olympia - Shelton 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Olympia</td>
<td>2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Olympia - Shelton 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Olympia</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Olympia - South Elma 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Olympia</td>
<td>2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pearl</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Pearl - Sherwood 1 (PGE)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pearl</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Pearl - Sherwood 2 (PGE)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pearl</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Ross</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Ross - Alcoa 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ross</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Ross-Alcoa 2 &amp; 4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Ross - Carborundum 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ross</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Ross - Vancouver Shipyard 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ross</td>
<td>2/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Sifton - Ross 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ross</td>
<td>8/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Schultz</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Grand Coulee - Schultz 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>95/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Grand Coulee - Schultz 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>95/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Schultz - Echo Lake 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>4/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Formerly Schultz - Raver 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Schultz - Raver 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>4/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Schultz - Raver 3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>4/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Schultz - Raver 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>4/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Schultz - Wautoma 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>4/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Sickler - Schultz 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>36/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Vantage - Schultz 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
<td>32/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sickler</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Sickler - Douglas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sickler</td>
<td>Entire Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Switchyard 1 (Chelan PUD)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sno King</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Sno King - Maple Valley 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sno King</td>
<td>Entire Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(SCL at Str. 1/3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Sno King - Maple Valley 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sno King</td>
<td>Entire Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kV</td>
<td>Line Name</td>
<td># of Grounds</td>
<td>From</td>
<td>To</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Snohomish - Beverly Park 3 (Snohomish PUD)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Snohomish - Beverly Park 4 (Snohomish PUD)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Snohomish - Snohomish PUD 3 (Scott)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Snohomish - Snohomish PUD 8 (Swamp Creek)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Snohomish - Snohomish PUD 9 (Boeing)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Gorge (SCL) - Snohomish 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>76/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Monroe - Snohomish 1 (Includes tap length to Horse Ranch PSE)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>11/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Monroe - Snohomish 2 (Includes tap length to Horse Ranch PSE)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>11/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Snohomish - Bothell 1 (SCL)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Snohomish - Bothell 2 (SCL)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>345</td>
<td>Chief Joseph - Snohomish 3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>131/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>345</td>
<td>Chief Joseph - Snohomish 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>131/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Tacoma - Covington 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>3/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Tacoma - Covington 3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Tacoma - Covington 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Midway - Vantage 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vantage</td>
<td>18/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>Vantage - Columbia 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vantage</td>
<td>3/2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

1. Distances from Big Eddy assume that the Current Limiting Reactors (CLRs) in the bus sectionalizing positions, is always in service now as part of normal operation. If, however, a CLR is bypassed, the SPC District Engineer needs to be consulted to review the grounding requirements at the station or on connecting lines.
The internal resistor of a capacitor cell shall not be depended upon to discharge capacitors. A bayonet-type short circuiting and grounding rod shall be applied, for at least 5 seconds, between all insulated terminals and the capacitor case before handling. Cells removed or stored shall be shorted between all insulated terminals and the capacitor case with at least a No. 18 AWG wire.

SERIES CAPACITORS
Series capacitor installations shall be protected by three-phase grounding on both sides, and on the insulated platform of the phase or phases being worked on.

Permanently installed ground switches may be used in lieu of portable grounds to short the phases.

Portable protective grounds are not required between phases to accomplish the visible three-phase short. The three-phase short may be accomplished through above-ground metallic structural interconnections between phases. Operating linkage or metallic interconnections with moving or rotating parts cannot be used to make the three-phase short.

If there are no above-ground metallic structural interconnections between phases, the three-phase short may be accomplished using the existing ground mat. Before the ground mat may be used to effect the three-phase short, the continuity of the ground mat must first have been confirmed by the testing method detailed in Substation Maintenance Standards & Guides SM-STD-13-1-14, *Grounding Grid Riser Test Procedure*.

SHUNT CAPACITORS
Shunt capacitor installations shall be grounded on both the line and neutral sides. The neutral side shall be grounded either by installing a portable protective ground or by means of a permanently installed ground connection.

Permanently installed ground switches may be used in lieu of portable grounds to short the phases.
Portable protective grounds are not required between phases to accomplish the visible three-phase short provided the ground switch structure has above ground metallic structural interconnections between phases. Operating linkage or metallic interconnections with moving or rotating parts cannot be used to make the three-phase short.

If there are no above-ground metallic structural interconnections between phases, temporary above-ground metallic connections are to be made between the ground switch structures.

G-8 GROUNDING, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, SHUNT REACTORS AND TRANSFORMERS

Shunt reactor and transformer installations shall be grounded on both the line and neutral sides. The neutral side shall be grounded by either installing a portable protective ground or by means of a permanently installed ground connection.

G-9 GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, STATIC WIRE

Before touching or coming within the Minimum Approach Distance of overhead static (ground) wire, unless an approved barrier is in place (see Rule B-1) or the worker is insulated from any other exposed conductive object while conducting live-line bare-hand work, it must be grounded at that location by either a portable protective ground or a permanent ground connection. Except: At 500 kV or above a portable protective ground must be installed.

Some permanent overhead ground wire connections and/or conductors are subject to corrosion and vibration problems, resulting in a loss of conductivity. This is especially true on 500 kV.

This conductor is subject to accidental energization from the same sources described in Rule G-1.
G-10  GROUNDING OF EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, AND METALLIC CABLES

**Power/Lift Equipment:**
When a vehicle is parked near energized high-voltage equipment, there can be a risk of electric shock if contact is made between the vehicle and a grounded object. This is due to the capacitive charge that can build up on the vehicle. [Reference Substation Maintenance Standard and Guide, SM-STD-13-1-15, *Grounding Work Equipment and Vehicles in Substations* and TLM Standard and Guide I.A.2, *Grounding*]

If the vehicle is to be bonded to a grounded object to prevent capacitive charge build-up, personnel must avoid getting in series with the discharge circuit.

Manlifts, cranes, and other overhead lift equipment used where the possibility of accidental contact with normally energized high voltage parts exist, shall be connected to the substation ground mat within energized switchyards or to a ground rod in other locations with a 2/0 copper ground lead. Multiple ground leads, attached to separate ground rods or mat connections, shall be utilized on equipment in the same number that would be required for grounding the circuit(s).

**Ground mat connected equipment:**
If the possibility of contact with normally energized high voltage parts does not exist, power/lift equipment shall be grounded with a single 2/0 copper ground or static ground in accordance with Substation Maintenance Standard and Guide, XIII.A.15, *Grounding Work Equipment and Vehicles in Substations* and TLM Work Standard I.A, *Grounding*.
Non Groundmat connected equipment:
Vehicle/equipment grounding is not required when all three of the following conditions are met, in accordance with TLM Standard and Guide I.A.2, Grounding:

The equipment is located and positioned in such a manner that:
1. Equipment or any conductive part of it cannot violate the MAD of any nearby energized conductor, and
2. The equipment or any conductive part of it will not make contact with a de-energized and properly grounded conductor, and
3. A person cannot make simultaneous contact between the equipment and any conductive object that is remote to or not at the potential of the grounding system at the worksite.

NOTE: A derrick shall be grounded while driving anchor rods or augering.

Extension Cords, Tools, Metallic Cables:
When an extension cord is used in an energized switchyard, the cord’s grounding box must be clamped to a solidly grounded fixture before the extension cord is connected to a switchyard receptacle. If a solidly grounded fixture is not available within 10 feet of the worksite, the grounding box shall be attached to a ground rod. When using double-insulated tools, work may be done within 25 feet of the grounding box.

Extension cords or other metallic cable (i.e., telephone or temporary power) used in a switchyard should not be laid parallel to high voltage bus or overhead circuits due to the possibility of high induced voltages. These cables shall not be extended to locations off the substation ground mat unless a properly designed and installed ground mat extension or isolation is used.

Ground Grid Conductors
Before cutting any ground grid conductor, shunt the conductor with a 2/0 portable protective ground. When splicing a ground grid conductor, jumper around the splice with a 2/0 portable protective ground applied by live-line tools.
G-11 GROUNDS, PORTABLE PROTECTIVE, FIBER OPTICS
Before touching or coming within the Minimum Approach Distance of a fiber optical ground wire (OPGW), it must be grounded at that location by either a portable protective ground or a permanent ground connection. Exception: At 500 kV or above, a portable protective ground must be used. [Reference BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-9-3, Fiber Optics]

G-12 GROUNDS, 1/0 URD GROUNDS
Underground residential distribution (URD) grounds may be used as an alternative to grounding URD or Pad-Mount equipment for personal protection against electric shock. The use of URD grounds is only permissible where the available fault current on the circuit to be grounded does not exceed 5800 Amps for 30 cycles. Refer to BPA Work Standard X.L., Work on Underground Residential Distribution (URD) Station Service 25 kV and Below for a listing of locations where 1/0 URD grounds are approved for use and the procedures for determining ground fault current.

URD grounds consist of an insulated connector (elbow), copper ground conductor, and ground clamp and shall have a minimum rating of 1/0. URD grounds may have multiple 1/0 ground conductors or conductors rated 2/0 but the elbow is limited to 1/0 and the ground shall not be used for any application above the 1/0 fault current limit.

The use of URD grounds requires the appropriate insulated tools, accessories, and personal protective clothing as listed in the Work Standards for X.L., Work on Underground Residential Distribution (URD) Station Service 25 kV and Below and X.J., Arc-Flash Personal Protective Equipment for Work on Energized AC and DC Circuits.
H-1 HEAD PROTECTION

Where Required:
Hard hats approved by the Administration shall be worn by ALL PERSONS in the following locations and conditions except for work inside transformers, power circuit breakers, under vehicles, or in similar restricted/protected situations:

1. In fenced substation yards and other designated hard hat areas.

2. When engaged in or when in the close proximity of outdoor work or in all areas where there is exposure above head level to moving equipment, work, or material handling.

Identification/Color-Coding System:
To distinguish between Qualified Electrical Employees and others, YELLOW hard hats will be restricted to holders of Electrical Worker Permits.

Additional hard hat colors utilized on the BPA system are:

BLUE: Riggers
RED: Construction Equipment Operators
GRAY: Carpenters
WHITE: All Others

* Other colors utilized are listed in Chapter Two, H-1
H-2 HEARING PROTECTION
Hearing protection shall be worn by employees exposed to elevated noise levels (i.e., chainsaws, brush chippers, jackhammers, etc.).

Hearing protection is required when sound levels exceed those shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration per day in hours</th>
<th>dBA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 hours</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 hours</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 hour</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4 hour</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional hearing conservation criteria is contained in the Safety and Health Program Handbook.

I-1 IDENTIFICATION OF CIRCUITS
No work shall be performed on any circuit until positive identification of all electrical circuits in the work area has been established.

J-1 JOB BRIEFING
The person-in-charge of the job shall conduct job briefings with all workers assigned to the job. Job briefings shall be held at the work site with additional briefings conducted when work situations change that may pose different or additional hazards to workers. Employees working alone shall ensure that their day’s work is planned and performed as if a briefing was conducted. When more than one craft are working together, the person-in-charge of the job must be clearly established as part of the job briefing.

All job briefings must cover at least the following subjects:

- Hazards associated with the job
- Work procedures
- Special precautions
- Energy source controls
- Personal protective equipment
- Clearances, Work Permits, Hold Orders
L-1 LADDERS, SECURING OF
Ladders must be adequately secured at all times.

Extension ladders shall be of sufficient length to extend 3 ft above the working level if departure from it may occur.

Step ladders shall be used in the fully open and locked position. The top shall not be used as a step.

L-2 LOW VOLTAGE CIRCUIT, WORK ON
Circuits energized from 50 volts to 600 volts are classified as low voltage. Low voltage circuits do not include testing with portable test equipment. When work is to be performed on or near low voltage circuits, employees shall either:

1. De-energize the circuit, or

2. Use approved protective equipment, (i.e. rubber gloves, insulated barriers, or insulated tools) as required to prevent body contact with energized parts and use fire resistant personal protective equipment as per BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-11-6, Arc Flash Personal Protective Equipment for work on Low Voltage AC and DC Circuits.
L-3  LOCKOUT/TAGOUT
This Lockout/Tagout rule applies to work involving circuits, equipment or energy storage systems in which the unexpected startup or release of stored energy could cause injury. The Lockout/Tagout system requires individual locks and a specific Equipment Lockout Do Not Operate Tag for each Authorized Employee involved in work on any circuit, piece of equipment or energy storage system.

Authorized Employee: An employee who locks out or tags out a circuit, piece of equipment or energy storage system in order to work on that circuit, piece of equipment or energy storage system. An employee is considered an authorized employee as long as they are performing an element of the work that is covered by the energy control procedure.

When work is performed by a crew, a Group Lockout/Tagout procedure shall be implemented. Group Lockout/Tagout requires each authorized employee to affix an Equipment Lockout Do Not Operate Tag and a personal Lockout/Tagout lock on the group Lockout/Tagout device before beginning work and to remove it when they complete the work. One authorized employee shall be designated as having primary responsibility for all authorized employees working under the protection of Group Lockout/Tagout. The Authorized Employee is responsible for following the procedures and responsibilities of Operating Bulletin No. 2 VIII., Low Voltage Circuits/Equipment and Energy Storage Systems and BPA Work Standard and Guide BPA-WS-8-1, Lockout/Tagout.

If the Authorized Employee who applied the Lockout/Tagout device is not available to release it, the employee’s immediate supervisor may remove it provided the supervisor does the following:

- Verify that the Authorized Employee is not at the facility.
- Notify all affected employees that the Lockout/Tagout device will be removed.
- Make a reasonable effort to contact the Authorized Employee to inform them that their Lockout/Tagout device has been removed.
- Ensure that the Authorized Employee has this knowledge before they resume work.
EQUIPMENT LOCKOUT DO NOT OPERATE TAG

DO NOT OPERATE
EQUIPMENT LOCK-OUT
THIS TAG & LOCK TO BE REMOVED ONLY BY THE PERSON SHOWN ON BACK

EQUIPMENT LOCKED OUT BY

DATE
M-1 MINIMUM APPROACH DISTANCE

No part of a worker’s body or any conductive object held by a worker shall be moved closer to energized high voltage parts than the applicable Minimum Approach Distance unless an approved barrier is in place (see Rule B-1) or the worker is insulated from any other exposed conductive object while conducting live-line bare-hand work under the provisions of the Liveline Manual.

When work is to be performed within the Minimum Approach Distance, including the installation and removal of barriers, one of the following must be employed:

1. Clearance
2. Live-line tools (including dielectric gloves up to 5 kV)
3. Approved barriers
4. Approved bare-hand work procedures (limited to work on transmission lines normally operated at 230 kV and higher voltages)

Conductive objects, such as insulator support hardware, which extend into Minimum Approach Distances, may be contacted outside the applicable Minimum Approach Distance. However, such objects must have been installed in accordance with approved design standards and be fixed or limited in movement so that the designed clearances cannot be reduced.

Only persons qualified and trained to perform work safely on or in close proximity to energized lines and equipment shall be allowed to work or operate equipment up to the applicable Minimum Approach Distance in the following table. Unqualified persons shall not enter within 15 feet on circuits up to 345 kV and 20 feet on circuits greater than 345 kV unless escorted as permitted in the Rules of Conduct Handbook. This table applies only to qualified persons and provides Minimum Approach Distances in inches for phase-to-phase voltages commonly used on the BPA system. The MAD table is based on the maximum transient voltages that can be generated by automatic switching on the BPA system. These distances are the minimum required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

A Safety Watcher is required anytime mechanical equipment is working closer than 15’ on circuits up to 345 kV or 20’ on 500 kV circuits. The Safety Watcher shall ensure that these qualified persons or equipment operated by qualified persons shall not come closer than the applicable MAD in this table.
## Minimum Approach Distances (MAD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominal Voltage</th>
<th>MAD WITHOUT Hold Order Inches</th>
<th>MAD WITH Hold Order Inches</th>
<th>BAREHAND Phase-to-Phase MAD w/Hold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>600 V - 15 kV</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.5 kV</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 kV</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115 kV</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138 kV</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161 kV</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230 kV (1)</td>
<td>72*</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>287 kV</td>
<td>62*</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>345 kV</td>
<td>67*</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 kV (2)</td>
<td>126*</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 kV DC (3)</td>
<td>93*</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 kV DC (3)</td>
<td>120*</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiber Optics (OPGW)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulated Overhead Ground Wires</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The inadvertent movement factor (IMF) of 12 inches, included in MAD for worker motions, may be deducted at 230 kV and above, to specifically allow vehicles to safely pass under energized bus at those voltages. [Reference BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-5-1, Minimum Approach Distance (MAD) Consideration]

1. The MAD without a Hold Order for 230 kV exceeds the MAD for 287 and 345 kV because the maximum switching surge overvoltages on 230 kV lines exceed those on BPA’s 287 and 345 kV lines. This is because all of BPA’s 287 and 345 kV lines are terminated in transformers that remove trapped charge on the line prior to high-speed reclosing. No trapped charge, along with the transformer surge arresters, significantly reduce the maximum switching surge overvoltages.

2. On 500 kV lines equipped with zinc oxide arresters or station rod gaps set to 55 inches and the reclosing relays cut out and a Hold Order in effect the Minimum Approach Distance is 88 inches.

3. The MAD with a Hold Order for DC voltages exceeds the MAD without a Hold Order due to the introduction of tools in the gap while performing live-line work. Lower switching surges present at reclosing on DC voltages are the same in both cases.

4. Phase spacing below 115 kV will not allow adequate MAD distances to be maintained.
P-1 POWER EQUIPMENT
Before an operator leaves the controls of power equipment, the load, forks, bucket, or blade shall be lowered and all the brakes set. If the equipment is on an incline, the tires shall also be chocked.

An exception may be taken to that part of the rule requiring the “lowering of the load” during conductor stringing, sagging, and pre-stressing operations.

R-1 ROPE, WIRE
1. Wire rope inspection
Wire rope shall be inspected each day before being used. Rope having six broken wires in one rope lay shall not be used. Rope which gives the appearance of rough usage, corrosion, excessive kinking or other damage shall not be used.

2. Safety Factor
The ratio of breaking (ultimate) strength of rope to the working load limit (WLL) is called the safety factor. The safety factor must be sufficient to ensure a reasonable margin of strength above the working load to account for actual field conditions. The working load limit is determined by dividing the breaking strength by the appropriate safety factor. Use of the proper safety factor is required to prevent failure of the rope due to unpredictable circumstances or impact loads.

   a. The safety factor for wire rope in lifting and pulling shall not be less than 5 unless otherwise specified by the equipment manufacturer.

   b. The safety factor for wire rope used to lift workers off the ground shall not be less than 8.

3. Wire Rope Eye Splices
Only logger eye splices or pressed fittings installed by competent personnel may be used.
R-2 ROPE, SYNTHETIC

Depending upon the type of material, synthetic rope shall have the following safety factors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Material</th>
<th>Safety Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polyester (Polydacron)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polypropylene</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nylon</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMPE (High-Modulus Polyethylene</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction: Plasma, Spectra,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spectron, Ultra Blue)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R-3 RIGGING, EQUIPMENT

SAFETY FACTORS

The ratio of the breaking strength of rigging components to the working load limit (WLL) is called the safety factor. Safety factors of rigging components vary dependant upon manufacturer’s working load limits.

Working load limits of all rigging components, including stringing lines, pulling lines, sock connections and load-bearing hardware and accessories, shall be identified prior to use. The manufacturer’s working load limits (WLL) for rigging components shall not be exceeded. If the WLL of rigging components of factory-supplied equipment cannot be verified, they shall be replaced with approved rigging components.

1. **Shackles**
   The shackles used must be at least 1/4 inch larger than the wire rope. Shackles must be stamped with the rated working load limit (WLL).
   
   Note: Approved shackles manufactured prior to 1995 will be marked with safe working load (SWL).

2. **Blocks and Sheaves**
   Blocks and sheaves shall be inspected before any lift or pull is made.

3. **Winches**
   The operator shall inspect the winch and ensure that all systems are in good operating condition before any lift or pull is made. Adjustments and repairs shall be done by qualified persons.
4. **Slings, Wire Rope**
   Wire rope slings shall be inspected for damage or defects each day before being used. Wire rope slings shall have a safety factor of 5 for normal use. When lifting people, use a safety factor of 8. Slings having 5 broken wires in one strand in one rope lay shall not be used. Rope slings, which give the appearance of rough usage, corrosion, excessive kinking or other damage, shall not be used.

5. **Slings, Synthetic**
   Manufactured slings shall have a safety factor of 5 for normal use. When lifting people, use a safety factor of 8. Each sling shall bear a tag containing workload limit, capacity for each hitch used, type of material used, sling serial number, and date of manufacture.

   Depending upon the type of material, synthetic fibers are subject to degradation and loss of strength due to sunlight and exposure to field conditions. Follow manufacturer’s recommendations for removing synthetic slings from service due to age and/or fiber damage. Synthetic slings shall be thoroughly inspected prior to use as well as an annual inspection for deterioration and sling damage.
R-4  RADIO FREQUENCY EXPOSURE, FOR PERSONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

Radio Frequency (RF) emissions can be harmful to workers exposed at close proximity to high RF levels for an extended period of time. BPA has established a safe working distance of 5 feet from the front (or face) of structure-mounted transmitting antennas. Workers may be closer than the safe working distance for short periods of time, such as while climbing past the rear of an energized transmitting antenna. Workers may remain closer than the safe working distance only if using a personal RF Exposure Monitor. If the RF Exposure Monitor signals an alarm, the antenna should be de-energized during the period of worker exposure, and in no case shall the exposure exceed 6 minutes in any 15-minute period while the RF Exposure Monitor signals an alarm.

The 5-foot rule stated here is based on a system-wide average for most PCS/Cellular antennas on BPA structures. For some antennas the safe working distance may be greater than or less than 5 feet. Any antenna that requires a greater safe working distance than 5 feet will have a warning sign posted at its location to indicate the safe working distance. In the absence of a sign, the safe working distance shall be considered to be 5 feet.

Vehicle-mounted transmitting antennas have a safe working distance of 2 feet while transmitting. The exposed metal parts of a vehicle-mounted transmitting antenna should never be touched while transmitting as it will produce a painful burn on bare skin.

R-5 RESPONSIBILITIES

EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY
The Administration shall provide employment free from or protected against recognized hazards that might cause physical harm or death and must comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Departmental, and electrical utility industry standards applicable to BPA operations and activities.

SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY
Supervisors shall ensure that employees fully understand how to perform their work with safety to themselves and others. They shall impart to each employee the understanding that willful violations of established safety practices and rules will not be tolerated.

Supervisors shall plan and arrange their work in such a manner that each job will be accomplished with the least hazard to employees, other persons, including the public, and to property. They will advise all workers of any unusual hazards involved in their part of the work and of precautions to be observed.

EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY
All workers share with the employer the responsibility for safety. All employees must follow the rules applicable to the job being performed and to report all unsafe tools, unsafe equipment, and hazardous conditions or procedures which come to their attention. Any employee that observes an unsafe procedure or condition has the authority to stop the job and shall immediately notify the employees involved or employee in charge. Willingness and ability to work with safety to one’s self and others shall be an ongoing measure of each employee’s performance.

R-6 MOBILE RADIO FREQUENCY ASSIGNMENT
Standard radio frequency 172.500 MHz, channel 3, is designated for Transmission Line Maintenance stringing use only. No other mobile radio traffic communication is allowed on this channel unless it is considered an emergency. The assignment of this channel will allow safe communications for employees engaged in line stringing operations.
S-1 SAFETY WATCHER, GENERAL
A Safety Watcher is an electrical worker who knows and understands the safety rules and the electrical hazards involved in specific work situations. Primarily, Safety Watchers are responsible for limiting the movement of personnel and/or equipment to prevent electrical contact accidents. They have the authority to halt the operation whenever any unsafe act or condition is imminent.

Safety Watchers may be required for either Electrical or Nonelectrical Workers as provided in subsequent paragraphs of this instruction. Only Qualified Electrical Employees or Contract Safety Watchers may be assigned as Safety Watchers for crews working in BPA energized substations or on transmission lines. **Except:**

Where one lineman and the holder of a Restricted Electrical Worker Permit are working together, the Restricted Electrical Worker may serve as the Safety Watcher for the lineman upon approval of both the lineman and the foreman. It is intended that this exception be used only during occasional climbing inspections, hardware tightening, and other similar situations.

Use of a particular Safety Watcher must be acceptable to all crew members.

A supervisor in charge of a job may **not** act as a Safety Watcher if there is any possibility of being distracted. Appointment of a Safety Watcher does not relieve a supervisor of the responsibility for the safety of the crew, but it does provide assistance in executing that responsibility. Each employee is responsible for asking for a Safety Watcher whenever one is required. In the event of conflicting judgments, the more conservative interpretation shall prevail pending review and resolution by management.
A Safety Watcher shall take a suitable location and give their undivided attention to ensure that no action on the part of the worker(s) being watched can result in violation of the Minimum Approach Distances as specified in Rule M-1. There must be a definite understanding between the Safety Watcher and the person(s) being watched as to when the watching begins and ends. Safety Watchers, who must leave their assigned jobs, shall first make sure that all worker(s) are in the clear and remain in the clear until the Safety Watcher returns or is replaced. A red or orange vest shall be worn by the assigned Safety Watcher for all work activities which require the continual presence and observation of a Safety Watcher. It may be worn at the discretion of either the person in charge or the assigned Safety Watcher in other situations requiring a Safety Watcher.

The Safety Watcher rule may be waived only when human life is at stake!

S-2 SAFETY WATCHERS FOR QUALIFIED ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES

A Safety Watcher is required for Qualified Electrical Employees under the following circumstances:

1. When a worker is climbing into, out of, or changing location in a substation structure containing circuits normally energized at 600 volts or more. This does not apply to circuits barricaded or located 15 feet or more from the structure for circuits at 345kV or less and 20 feet or more for circuits operating at greater than 345 kV. Multiple bays shall be considered one structure if workers can pass from one to the other without having to descend to the ground.

2. When inadvertent movement by a worker could result in violating the Minimum Approach Distance as specified in rule M-1.

3. When operating or moving motor-driven equipment in the vicinity of high-voltage circuits and the possibility of accidental contact exists.

4. When performing approved bare-hand procedures.
S-3 SAFETY WATCHERS FOR RESTRICTED ELECTRICAL AND NON-ELECTRICAL WORKERS

The supervisor in charge of any non-electrical work crew has the responsibility of arranging for sufficient Safety Watchers for the protection of all workers involved. Additionally, each Restricted Electrical and Non-Electrical worker is responsible for requesting a Safety Watcher whenever one is required. Restricted Electrical and Non-Electrical workers shall consult with a Qualified Electrical Employee prior to performing work within a substation yard for help in determining if a Safety Watcher is required. A Substation Operator or Electrical Craft Supervisor will make arrangements for the assignment of necessary Safety Watchers.

The supervisor in charge of the nonelectrical work or the individual Restricted Electrical or Non-Electrical worker shall explain to the Safety Watcher the nature and scope of the work to be performed. The Safety Watcher shall establish boundaries for the work to be performed and inform the workers accordingly. These boundaries shall maintain an adequate margin of safety to assure that the Minimum Approach Distance specified in Rule M-1 will not be violated.

Safety Watchers for Restricted Electrical and Non-electrical Workers are required:

1. Whenever a Safety Watcher is required for Qualified Electrical Employees (see S-2 above).

2. Whenever a Clearance is necessary. The Safety Watcher shall obtain such Clearance or verify that the necessary Clearance has been obtained and see that required grounds are installed.

NOTE: Clearances and Safety Watchers are not required for the painting of transmission line towers as long as all painters and all of their rigging remain below the level of the lowest energized conductor and at least 15 feet for circuits at 345kV or less and 20 feet for circuits operating at greater than 345 kV from such conductor. Warning signs or danger flags must be attached at a location consistent with the above, to each tower leg that can be climbed. Painters must be clearly instructed to remain below these signs or markers.
3. When operating or moving motor-driven equipment in energized substation yards which are not guarded or barricaded as provided in Rule B-1.

4. Any time a Qualified Electrical Employee determines that a Safety Watcher is required for any job within a substation yard. If this requirement is not met, the Qualified Electrical Employee shall stop the work.

Safety Watchers for Restricted Electrical and Non-Electrical workers are not required:

1. When the work area is separated from all energized equipment by a guard or barrier approved by the person responsible for the control of entry (see Rule B-1). No change or break in the guard or barrier may be made without the approval of a Qualified Electrical Employee.

2. When heavy equipment operators/truck drivers deliver equipment or materials to designated storage locations within fenced substation yards.

   The driver must have a Restricted Electrical Worker Permit or a Non-electrical Worker Permit and have on-site instruction for each storage location from a Qualified Electrical Employee. These storage areas must be isolated or remote from energized facilities so that all work, including access to and from, can be accomplished without any possibility of accidental contact.

3. When workers do not get off the ground without the specific approval of a Qualified Electrical Employee.

4. When a Qualified Electrical Employee determines that the vehicle to be operated has no equipment or loads which would create an unsafe condition if operated within a substation switchyard. In this case there should be a clear understanding as to the route to be taken for travel and limits of movement within the switchyard.

5. When operating a bobcat equipped with a limiting bar in place to limit raising the bucket above cab height, with the approval of a Qualified Electrical Employee.
S-5 SIGNALS, HAND SIGNALS FOR CRANE WORK AND LINE WORK

Hand signals to the equipment operator (as depicted in the following figures) shall be given by only one designated employee. Any modifications of hand signals shall be agreed upon in advance by the operator and the signalman.

In an emergency, any worker may give a stop signal to the equipment operator.

Audible signals (as indicated below) shall be given only by the crane operator to the driver for movement of the mobile crane:

AUDIBLE SIGNALS

- **Stop:** 1 Short Blast
- **Ahead:** 2 Short Blasts
- **Back:** 3 Short Blasts
STOP
Arm extended, palm down, move hand horizontal.

TRAVEL
(Both Tracks) Both fists in front of body, making a circular motion about each other, indicating direction of travel; forward or backward.

(One Track) Lock track on side of raised fist, rotate other fist in direction of opposite track.
HOIST
With forearm vertical, finger pointing up, move hand in small horizontal circles.

LOWER
With arm extended down and forefinger pointing down move hand in circles.

USE MAIN HOIST
Tap fist on head; then use regular signals.

USE WHIPLINE (Auxiliary)
Tap elbow; then use regular signals.
LOWER BOOM
Arm extended, fingers closed, thumbs pointing downward.

RAISE BOOM
Arm extended, fingers closed, thumb pointing upward.

LOWER BOOM AND RAISE THE LOAD
With arm extended, thumb down, flex fingers in and out as long as load movement is desired.
Arm extended, fingers closed, thumb down, other arm vertical, forefinger upward and rotate hand.
RAISE THE BOOM AND LOWER THE LOAD

With arm extended, thumb pointing up, flex fingers in and out as long as load movement is desired.

Arm extended, fingers closed, thumb pointing upward, other arm bent slightly with forefinger pointing down and rotate hand.

EXTEND BOOM

Both fists in front of body with thumbs pointing outward.

RETRACT BOOM

Both fists in front of body with thumbs pointing towards each other.
EXTEND BOOM  RETRACT BOOM

Arm extended, point in direction of swing of boom.

SWING

Use one hand to give any motion signal and place other hand motionless in front of hand giving the motion signal.

MOVE SLOWLY
OPEN CLAM BUCKET
Arm extended, palm down, open hand.

CLOSE CLAM BUCKET
Arm extended, palm down, close hand.

DOG EVERYTHING
Clasp hands in front of body.

ONE HAND SIGNALS

STOP all movement
EXTEND BOOM
RETRACT BOOM

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January 2013
S-6 SWITCHING & CLEARANCE PROCEDURE (Operating Bulletin No. 2)
This is a separate and complete document which follows the Safety Rules series in this manual.

S-7 SWITCHES, ISOLATING DEVICES, ENERGIZED, RESTRICTIONS ON
Work shall not be performed on one part of a high voltage switch or disconnect if the remainder of the switch or disconnect is energized unless approved barriers are installed in accordance with Rule B-1. This does not prohibit connecting or disconnecting a bus or line to the de-energized end of a switch or disconnect if the Minimum Approach Distance (Rule M-1) is not violated. In both cases, precautions must be taken to assure that the switch cannot be operated until all work is completed.

Work may be performed on de-energized bus links, jumpers, or sectionalizing jumper couplers that are limits of a clearance provided:

- They are either removed or open and adequately restrained at all times as determined by the clearance holder.
- The minimum approach distance (Rule M-1) is not violated.
- Holders of all clearances using that limit and electrical workers involved in the work, agree the work can be completed safely. All clearance holders will be kept informed of the status of the work on the device, and
- The isolating devices shall remain tagged with “Do Not Operate” tags at all times.

S-8 SAFETY RESTRAINTS, VEHICLE
Vehicle safety restraints, as provided, shall be worn at all times while the vehicle is in motion. This is required when operating a leased, private, or government vehicle on official business.

Safety restraints, as provided in powered industrial equipment that is equipped with a certified roll-over protection system, must be worn.

Occupants are individually responsible for fastening and securing their safety restraints before the vehicle is in motion.

Exception: Safety restraints are not mandatory when repositioning vehicles within work locations at structures, substation yards, and garages.
T-1 TESTING INTERVALS OF TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

It shall be the responsibility of each district supervisor or crew foreman to ensure that all equipment is current on all required testing.

Visual inspections of all work equipment shall be done on a continuing basis prior to each use.

**Testing of Portable Protective Grounds**

Portable protective grounds shall be tested every 2 years in accordance with BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-6-4, *PPG System*.

**Testing of High Voltage Insulated Tools**

High voltage insulated tools shall be tested every 2 years in accordance with BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-7-1, *High Voltage Insulated Tools*.

**Testing of Portable Tools and Equipment**

Extension cords and portable tools and equipment used in outdoor/switch-yard environments shall be tested for ground continuity on an annual basis.

**Identification**

On completion of the test, one end of each ground lead, tool, or extension cord shall be marked/tagged with colored tape in accordance with the following code:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Year Range</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008 &amp; 2014</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 &amp; 2015</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 &amp; 2016</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 &amp; 2017</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 &amp; 2018</td>
<td>Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 &amp; 2019</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Testing of Rubber Insulating Gloves and Blankets**

Rubber insulating gloves and blankets shall be tested in accordance with BPA Work Standard BPA-WS-7-2, *Rubber Insulating Gloves and Blankets*.

- Rubber insulating gloves shall be tested before first issue and every 6 months thereafter.
- Rubber insulating blankets shall be tested before first issue and every 12 months thereafter.

All rubber goods must have been electrically tested within the last 12 months prior to issue to the field.
W-1 WELDING
The welder on the job shall notify all workers that could be exposed to hazards involved in an arc welding process to remain in the clear or be isolated.

Workers shall not contact pieces being welded unless the pieces are electrically bonded together and a solid ground path to the welding machine is used.
CHAPTER TWO
ACCIDENT PREVENTION RULES

A-1  Access to BPA Energized Facilities

Defines the identification/certification/escorting requirements for access to and work within or around BPA energized high voltage substation facilities.

I.  Employee Permits - Types and Qualifications

Permits are required for all individuals who require unescorted access or who work on or around energized substation facilities.

There are three levels of employee permits:

A.  An Electrical Worker Permit allows unescorted access to energized facilities by fully trained, experienced electrical individuals for performance or supervision of work on the high voltage power system.

The minimum qualifications for this permit are:

1.  Need to perform, supervise/manage functions on or around BPA energized facilities beyond those allowed by a Non-electrical or Restricted Electrical Worker Permit.

2.  Knowledge and understanding of:

   a.  Accident Prevention Manual,

   b.  Hazards inherent and precautions required for working safely on a high voltage power system, and
c. Related electrical theory as demonstrated by a rating of GS-9 or higher in any one of the following classifications: Electrical Engineer, Electronic Engineer or Electrical Engineering Technician.

3. **Experience** of one year minimum in a position with knowledge requirements where the applicant received, issued or worked under at least three Clearances on the BPA or equivalent power system (names of holders and dates of Clearances along with identification of system, if other than BPA, are required).

B. A **Restricted Electrical Worker Permit** allows unescorted access to energized facilities by individuals trained and required to perform specific, selective craft or technical functions involving work that could have an effect on the power system. Work involving the possibility of inadvertent contact with high voltage parts or the violation of Minimum Approach Distances **must be performed** under the direct, on-site supervision of a Qualified Electrical Employee.

The minimum qualifications for this permit are:

1. **Need** to perform duties on or around BPA energized facilities beyond those allowed by a Non-electrical Worker Permit.

2. **Knowledge** and understanding of:
   a. BPA Accident Prevention Manual,
   b. Hazards inherent and precautions required for working safely on applicable parts of a high voltage power system.

3. **Job title** that is included in or closely related to an electrical craft or function, such as: Electrical Engineer, Electrical Technician, Construction Representative or Electrical Trainee.
C. A **Non-electrical Worker Permit** allows unescorted access to energized facilities by individuals who have received appropriate instructions and have demonstrated a level of understanding necessary to safely move about in energized substations. This permit allows performance of predefined work not affecting electrical operation of the power system.

The minimum qualifications for this permit are:

1. **Need** to perform non-electric duties in or around BPA energized facilities.

2. **Knowledge** and understanding of BPA’s Rules of Conduct in energized substations.

D. **Non-permitted individuals** requiring entry to, movement within or who work on or around energized substation facilities will require an escort at all times by an appropriately permitted employee while in the facility. Employees who provide access to energized high voltage facilities to others not having a permit are responsible for ensuring that they are properly escorted at all times while in the facility.

II. **Permits for Employees**

Employees requiring unescorted access to or work on or around energized facilities must meet the minimum qualifications and examination/switchyard orientation requirements. [Reference BPA Work Standard II]

IV. **Clearance Certification**

A. A **Restricted Clearance Certification** allows employees who hold a Restricted Electrical Worker Permit to take Clearances and Hold Orders on BPA and foreign utility transmission lines adjacent to facilities being constructed. This is for purposes of addressing/controlling hazards of induction from, or accidental contact with adjacent energized lines.
CHAPTER 2

Hold Orders and/or Clearances issued for these purposes do not provide access for work or contract inspection on these lines.

B. A **Standard Clearance Certification** allows employees who hold an Electrical Worker Permit to: (1) take Clearances and Hold Orders, without predefined restrictions, on high voltage facilities, and (2) to issue Clearances and Hold Orders in accordance with provisions of the Switching and Clearance Procedures.

V. **Withdrawal of Permits and Clearance Certifications**

Withdrawal of permits and/or Clearance certifications may be affected at any time by a responsible management official.

Causes for withdrawal include, but are not limited to:

1. Demonstrated lack of knowledge or unwillingness to follow safe work practices,

2. Violation of established safety rules or procedures,

3. Documented cases showing lack of sound and mature safety judgment,


VI. **Clearance Certification and Permits Directory**

A current electronic list of individuals holding Permits and Clearance Certifications and a list is maintained by the Substation Operations Group, TOZ/AmpN1. This list is updated as needed and distributed to System Control Centers. Verification can be accomplished by contacting Substation Operations Group or a System Control Center.
CHAPTER 2

H-1 HEAD PROTECTION

Hard hats approved by the Administration shall be worn by ALL PERSONS in the following locations and conditions except for work inside transformers, power circuit breakers, under vehicles, or in similar restricted/protected situations:

1. In fenced substation yards and other designated hard hat areas.

2. When engaged in or when in the close proximity of outdoor work or in all areas where there is exposure above head level to moving equipment, work, or material handling.

Identification/Color-Coding System:

To distinguish between Qualified Electrical Employees and others, YELLOW hard hats will be restricted to holders of Electrical Worker Permits.

Additional hard hat colors* utilized on the BPA system are:

ORANGE: Contract Safety Watchers
WHITE: All Others

*Other colors utilized are listed in Chapter One, H-1

S-4 SAFETY WATCHERS FOR CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES

Safety Watchers for contractor employees shall be required in all situations that would require a Safety Watcher for BPA employees. See Rules S-1, S-2 and S-3 in Chapter One for requirements.

Their main responsibility is to limit the movement of contract personnel or equipment to prevent contact with energized overhead and underground electrical facilities. If the Safety Watcher observes other unsafe work practices or unsafe conditions, it is their responsibility to inform the BPA Construction Representative. Safety Watchers have the authority to halt the operation whenever any unsafe act or condition is imminent.

The Safety Watcher must demonstrate qualifying knowledge and experience by passing an annual written Safety Watcher examination and oral interview on equipment and work processes involved in the job or be a Qualified Electrical Employee (See rule A-1).

It is the responsibility of the contracting officer’s construction site representative to ensure that these requirements are met.
S-6  SWITCHING & CLEARANCE PROCEDURE (Operating Bulletin No. 2)
This is a separate and complete document which follows the Safety Rules series in this manual.
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I. COMMUNICATIONS

I.1 When communicating about Switching, Clearances, Hold Orders, Work Permits, Tagging, and Trouble Reporting, personnel shall identify themselves to each other and be absolutely sure they know with whom they are talking.

I.2 Conversations must be clear, concise, and must be conducted in a business-like manner.

Conversations may be held through a third party when necessary.

I.3 Personnel must exchange information using proper line and equipment terminology so that all parties have a clear understanding of the work to be performed.

II. TROUBLE REPORTING

II.1 Trouble on power system equipment affecting the operation or protection of the BPA power system shall be immediately reported to the appropriate System Dispatcher.

II.2 Trouble on power system equipment affecting the operation of a substation, but which does not affect operation or protection of the BPA power system, shall be immediately reported to District Substation Operations.
III. SWITCHING

III.1 AUTHORITY

A. Permission is required before anyone may switch power system equipment which affects the operation or protection of the power system (Dispatcher) or substation (Substation Operations). This authority may be delegated to a Switchman.

(1) During cases of power system or substation trouble covered by Standing Operating Orders, the Standing Operating Orders for the individual substations shall be followed. If a Hold Order is in effect, the conditions of the Hold Order always take precedence over the Standing Operating Orders.

(2) Substation Clearances and Work Permits are issued by a Substation Operator on substation equipment not under Dispatcher jurisdiction.

Station Clearance and Work Permit procedures are provided in BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process.

(3) A Dispatcher may direct the use of Station Clearances or Work Permits on equipment under Dispatcher jurisdiction.

B. In emergency situations when life or property is endangered, any switchman may de-energize lines or equipment and perform such switching as necessary according to his or her best judgment. The Dispatcher must be notified and involved as soon as practical.

C. A customer’s feeder may be de-energized by a Switchman at the request of the customer.
III.2 SWITCHING ORDERS

A. A Switching Order is required, unless specifically ordered otherwise by the Dispatcher:

(1) For all switching and/or tagging involving the issuance and release of Clearances.

(2) For Hold Orders on lines involving the positioning of adjustable rod gaps.

When required, the Dispatcher shall include the adjustment of the rod gaps to minimum spacing in the instructions before issuing a Hold Order for hot-line maintenance, and readjustment of the rod gaps to maximum spacing after the Hold Order is released.

(3) For all high-voltage switching and/or tagging while in a substation switchyard.

An example of “or tagging” includes checking open and tagging an isolating device or removal of those same tags.

(4) Anytime a Dispatcher or Substation Operator requires a Switching Order for equipment under Dispatcher or Substation Operations jurisdiction.
### III.3 WRITING SWITCHING ORDERS

**A. All switching orders shall be written on a Switching Order Form (BPA F 6510.04).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATION/LOCATION</th>
<th>OPERATOR/SWITCHMAN (NAME)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWITCHING ORDER READ TO AND APPROVED BY DISPATCHER</td>
<td>PERMISSION TO RESTORE EQUIPMENT FROM DISPATCHER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMISSION TO EXECUTE SWITCHING ORDER FROM DISPATCHER</td>
<td>REPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMISSION TO ISSUE FROM DISPATCHER</td>
<td>APPROVAL OR PERMISSION OF DISPATCHER NOT NECESSARY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMISSION TO ACCEPT RELEASE FROM DISPATCHER</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISPATCHER (NAME)</th>
<th>TIME (HOURS)</th>
<th>DATE/MONTH, DAY &amp; YEAR</th>
</tr>
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</table>

**PURPOSE OF SWITCHING**

| | |
| | |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SWITCHING ORDER COMPLETED AT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONTH, DAY &amp; YEAR</td>
<td>BY</td>
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<tr>
<th>SWITCHING ORDER REPORTED AT</th>
<th>hrs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONTH, DAY &amp; YEAR</td>
<td>TO</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
B. Switch Order Requirements.

(1) Each step of a Switching Order shall be started on a separate line. If the sequence of operation is not important, the opening of more than one disconnect switch or the closing of more than one disconnect switch may be included in a single step.

(2) No erasures shall be made on Switching Orders. No lines shall be skipped and no additions or insertions shall be made between lines. If information is written incorrectly and immediately noticed, a line may be drawn through the incorrect portion, initialed, and the correct instruction written immediately following the deleted portion. Otherwise the Switching Order shall be voided and a new one written.

(3) The Switching Order Form heading and ending shall be completely filled in.

(4) The Dispatcher may require the Switchman to read the Switching Order for approval. Unless clarification or revision is necessary, the Dispatcher is not required to repeat back the order in detail.

(5) The Dispatcher may order a single line in the Switching Order lined out and initialed, order a line added at the end of a Switching Order (e.g., ground switch), or order the Switching Order voided and a new one written.

(6) Once the Switching Order has received approval or permission to execute, no changes or additions shall be made.

C. Preparing a Switching Order

(1) Before writing a Switching Order, pre-switching inspections shall be performed. Pre-switching inspections may only be waived as directed by the Dispatcher during trouble situations or emergencies. (Refer to BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process).
Pre-switching inspections includes checking outstanding station conditions; existing Clearances, Work Permits, tagging; mimic bus setup, bus voltage, panel indications and panel metering; station log book, alarm status, relay targets; and ensuring operational readiness of equipment to be switched.

(2) **Utilize available resources in preparing the Switching Order.**

These include station prints, Station Instructions, Operating Bulletins, BPA Work Standards, other crafts, Dispatcher, other District Operators, etc.

(3) **Relay protection and stability control schemes (RAS) affected by switching must be checked prior to writing a Switching Order.**

Switchmen must check for proper relay protection including correct relay selector switch, relay transfer switch and stability control (RAS) switch positions. They must determine what effect the switching will have on current and/or voltage sources to relays and control equipment. If a switchman writing a Switching Order encounters problems or is in need of information or advice, the Dispatcher or District Substation Operations should be consulted.

(4) **In preparing to write the Switching Order, mentally and/or physically walk through the switching.**

For example, review the switching with the mimic bus, with a station One-line Diagram or by physically walking through the switching.

(5) **Only approved abbreviations shall be used in writing Switching Orders. Refer to BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process.**

(6) **Additional switching order requirements are provided in BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process.**
III.4 EXECUTING SWITCHING ORDERS

A. All Switching Orders on the BPA power system shall be executed by Switchmen.

(1) The Dispatcher has authority to issue emergency orders to be carried out at once even though a previous Switching Order is in progress.

(2) If it becomes necessary to write and execute a second Switching Order before a previous Switching Order is completed, Dispatchers and Switchmen must proceed with extreme care to avoid conflicts and errors.

(3) If it becomes necessary for a Switchman to perform a Switching Order written by another Switchman, the Switchman who is to perform the switching must review the Switching Order before starting the switching. That Switchman will signify that a review has been made and that he or she understands and agrees with the switching procedure by placing their initials after the last line of the Switching Order.

(4) If the Switchman performing the switching is in need of information or advice, the Dispatcher should be consulted.

B. Only approved abbreviations as listed in Work Standard III.A, Switching Process shall be used during communications. Verbal short cuts and verbal abbreviating shall not be used.

C. Each isolating device to be operated or checked shall be identified by its designated System Operations number, name, and/or location, e.g., B-1212 line side disconnect, A-828 main bus sectionalizing disconnect. Each low voltage device shall be identified by its designated substation number, name, and/or location.

Immediately prior to operating any isolating device, the Switchman shall check the dispatcher number and/or name of the isolating device to be operated against the Switching Order and make sure they agree. Where possible, the Switchman shall also check that the isolating device is in the proper position before operating it.
D. The Switchman shall perform the switching steps in the same sequence as written in the Switching Order.

E. The Switchman shall carry the Switching Order while performing the switching, and shall check off each step as it is completed.

F. If, while executing a Switching Order, an isolating device is found to be in a position other than that expected or anticipated or the Switchman has reason to believe any further switching would be improper, no further switching shall be done until the System Dispatcher or Substation Operator is consulted.

G. The System Dispatcher or Substation Operator shall promptly be informed whenever a switching operation or Switching Order is completed.

H. Additional switching practices are addressed in BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process.

III.5 POWER CIRCUIT BREAKERS AND ISOLATING DEVICES

A. Power Circuit Breakers.

(1) The Switchman shall ensure operational readiness prior to switching.

- Operational inspections prior to and after the operation of power circuit breakers are provided in BPA Work Standard III.B, Equipment Operation.

- An inspection is performed prior to switching any time the breaker has operated due to relay action, or when the pre-switching inspection indicates a need.

B. Isolating Devices

(1) The Switchman shall ensure operational readiness prior to switching.

- Inspection of isolating devices is made just prior to operation.
Operational requirements and switching safety prior to and during operation is provided in BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process.

Operating inspections, characteristics, capabilities, switching processes, and Powerflow Study requirements for isolating devices with or without attachments are addressed in BPA Work Standard III.B, Equipment Operation (including Table 2, Switching Device Capabilities).

III.6 LOGGING AND REPORTING

A. All switching operations shall be recorded in the Substation Log Book with the following specific information in the exact order executed.

The Log entry shall include:

(1) The date and time of starting the switching.

(2) The switching Order number.

(3) The name of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator approving or granting permission to execute the Switching Order.

(4) The Switchman’s name.

(5) The purpose of the switching.

(6) The times of all major operations of the switching order.

(7) The time the Switching Order was completed.

(8) The time the Switching Order was reported, the name of the person reporting, and the Dispatcher or Operator to who reported.

B. The operation of all ground switches shall be recorded in red in the Substation Log Book.
C. Only approved abbreviations shall be used when writing in the Substation Log Book. Refer to BPA Work Standard III.A, *Switching Process*.

**IV. EQUIPMENT OUTAGES**

**IV.1 APPLICATION FOR EQUIPMENT OUTAGES**

A. Applications for Clearances, Hold Orders and Work Permits for equipment outages affecting the operation or protection of the BPA power system shall be made with the appropriate Outage Dispatcher as far in advance as possible.

**Minimum Advance Notice Requirements for prearranged high voltage equipment outages are:**

1. Significant Equipment – 45 days prior to the start of the month in which the outage will occur (see OB19).

2. Non-Significant Equipment
   
   a. Power System Tests - 30 working days
   
   b. Customer Interruptions - 7 working days
   
   c. All Other Transmission Circuits - 3 working days
   
   d. All other transmission circuits and bus outages not requiring a line outage – 3 working days prior to day of work (This includes all equipment 100 kV and above that is to be bypassed or removed from service).
   
   e. All Hold Orders not requiring a line outage – 3 working days prior to day of work. *

   f. All other outages including fiber optics – 3 working days prior to day of work. *

* Outages must be submitted to the appropriate Outage Office by 0800 hours 3 working days prior to day of work.

Emergency equipment outage request will be processed by the appropriate Dispatcher under real time procedures.
B. Applications for Clearances and Work Permits for equipment outages which do not affect the operation or protection of the BPA power system shall be made with District Substation Operations as far in advance as possible.

When applying for a Clearance or Work Permit, the following information is to be provided to the Outage Dispatcher or Chief Substation Operator:

(1) The correct name designation of the line or equipment desired, using System Operations numbers and designations.

(2) The date and time the work or test requiring the Clearance, or Work Permit is scheduled to begin.

(3) The anticipated duration required for the Clearance or Work Permit.

(4) The name of the person who will take the Clearance or Work Permit.

(5) The type of Clearance desired.

(6) A description of the work or test to be performed.

C. Application for Clearance and Hold Orders from foreign utilities to facilitate BPA’s work in proximity to the foreign utility's equipment (V.5G and VI.3D) shall be made as far in advance as possible.

When applying for a Clearance and Hold Order from a foreign utility, the following information shall be provided to the Outage Dispatcher or Chief Substation Operator:

(1) The correct name designation of the line or equipment as identified by the foreign utility.

(2) The date and time the work requiring the Clearance or Hold Order is scheduled to begin.

(3) The anticipated duration for the Clearance or Hold Order.
(4) The name of the person who will take the Clearance or Hold Order.

(5) A description of the work to be performed.

(6) Whether the recipient will receive/release the Clearance or Hold Order directly through the foreign utility.

(7) Contact information of the foreign utility.

For further information on application for a Clearance or Hold Order from a foreign utility, see BPA Work Standard III.E, Clearance and Hold Orders from Foreign Utilities.

D. All Craft supervisors shall keep informed of proposed/submitted/scheduled outages through the Daily Activity Record Tracking (DART). Chief Operators shall serve as consultants/coordinators for the details/possibilities of those outages. The scheduling of maintenance work must be coordinated to minimize the number of outages to BPA lines and equipment and to customers’ points of delivery.

V. CLEARANCES

V.1 WORK and TEST CLEARANCES

A. There are two types of Clearances and the activity determines the type of Clearance needed.

(1) A WORK CLEARANCE provides protection when work is to be performed on de-energized high voltage lines or equipment. Electrical tests may be performed on equipment included in a Work Clearance if:

(a) The high voltage equipment is contained in a substation.

(b) The equipment is under the physical control of the Clearance Holder.

(c) AND the equipment is separated from the rest of the de-energized high voltage equipment in
the Clearance by means sufficient to positively prevent the test voltages and/or currents from entering the remainder of the equipment protected by the Clearance.

(2) A TEST CLEARANCE provides protection when electrical tests are to be performed on high voltage equipment and the conditions required for application of electrical tests under a Work Clearance in A (1), (a), (b), or (c) cannot be met.

B. More than one WORK CLEARANCE may be issued on the same line or equipment to multiple crews.

C. Under the following circumstances more than one WORK CLEARANCE may be issued to members of the same crew for work on the same equipment:

(1) If the expected duration of the work is one month or more, a second Clearance Holder may be requested at the time the outage request is made.

(2) Transformer dry-outs (or similar type work) where work occurs around the clock or during significantly extended workdays where one Clearance Holder must relieve another Clearance Holder because of the on-going nature of the work. A second and, if necessary, third Clearance Holder could be requested at the time the outage request is made for this type of work.

D. Only one TEST CLEARANCE may be issued on the same line or equipment.

V.2 EQUIPMENT AND CIRCUITS INCLUDED IN A CLEARANCE

When a Clearance is issued, it will include all of the high-voltage circuits and equipment within the limits of the Clearance and jurisdiction over low-voltage circuits within the equipment, which can be isolated at the high-voltage equipment.
If the holder of the Clearance will need jurisdiction over more of the low-voltage circuitry than is normally included, these additional circuits should be requested to be tagged for the Clearance Holder.

V.3 WHEN CLEARANCES ARE REQUIRED

A. A WORK CLEARANCE or a TEST CLEARANCE is required:

(1) Before workers contact or come within the applicable Minimum Approach Distance of any line or equipment that could become energized by the closing of an isolating device.

(2) Before any line or equipment may be installed or removed when energization of the line or equipment could result by the closing of an isolating device.

A Clearance or Hold Order, as appropriate, is required during the time isolating devices are being put in place to make connection to the power system.

(3) Before installing or removing any conductor which crosses over or under normally energized lines or equipment unless the work can be accomplished under the protection of a Hold Order.

B. A TEST CLEARANCE is required before electrical test voltages and/or currents may be applied to any equipment that could become energized by the closing of an isolating device AND the conditions required for application of electrical tests under a Work Clearance cannot be met.

V.4 WHEN CLEARANCES ARE NOT REQUIRED

A. New Construction

During the construction of new facilities, a Clearance is not required if power system equipment is not in place to provide a connection to the power system by the closing of an isolating device.
B. Return to Construction Status

Return to Construction Status: Reconductoring of existing lines, removal and/or replacement of facilities, or for other similar type work. A Clearance is not required for this work providing that a letter requesting the work to be accomplished without a Clearance has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Manager of the Dispatching Office having jurisdiction over the equipment. Under the protection of a Clearance, the facilities will be separated from all possible sources of energization by the physical removal of the predefined circuit parts such as risers, wire spans, bus work, or other conductor, which completely separates the equipment from the power system.

BPA Work Standard III.C, Work on Equipment Separated From the System, is an extension of OB2, Section V.4, When Clearances are not required.

V.5 ISSUING AND RECEIVING CLEARANCES

A. All Clearances on the BPA power system shall be issued by a System Dispatcher or Substation Operator. The System Dispatcher or Substation Operator may delegate the authority to issue Clearances to a Switchman.

The Dispatcher or Operator having jurisdiction over the facilities that are cleared, is responsible for issuance of the Clearance.

(1) A Dispatcher's Clearance is issued by or with the permission of the Dispatcher who has jurisdiction over the facilities that are cleared.

(2) A Station Clearance is issued by an Operator who has jurisdiction over the facilities that are cleared.

B. When more than one Clearance is issued or is to be issued on a transmission line or associated terminal equipment, each Clearance Holder shall be given the names of the other Clearance Holders and advised of the type of work that each Clearance Holder will be performing. All Clearance Holders shall be informed of this at the time of receiving their Clearance. Existing Clearance Holders shall be advised of
additional Clearance requests prior to the issuance of any new Clearance(s).

C. In emergencies when no communications are available, Switchmen may do necessary switching and tagging and issue Clearances to themselves.

D. Clearances will be issued to employees for whom a Clearance Certification is on file with the Dispatchers.

When issuing a Clearance, the Dispatcher or Operator shall state clearly to the person receiving the Clearance:

(1) The name of the person receiving the Clearance.

(2) The exact name of the line or equipment at the job site that is cleared and tagged.

(3) The type of Clearance being issued.

(4) The Clearance number.

(5) The status of available ground switches.

Example: “John Doe, the Central-East Columbia No. 3 230-kV line is cleared and tagged for you on Work Clearance No. D-4567W, and ground switches at Central and East Columbia are closed.”

When receiving a Clearance, the Clearance Holder shall repeat back to the Dispatcher or Operator:

(1) The name of the person receiving the Clearance.

(2) The exact name of the line or equipment at the job site that is cleared and tagged.

(3) The type of Clearance being received.

(4) The Clearance number.

(5) The status of available ground switches.
Example: “This is John Doe and I understand that the Central-East Columbia No. 3 230-kV line is cleared and tagged for me on Work Clearance No. D-4567W, and ground switches at Central and East Columbia are closed.”

E. When a Clearance is received on equipment in a substation, it shall be the Clearance Holder’s responsibility to go with the Switchman to:

   (1) Point out the specific limits of the Clearance.

   (2) Point out which facilities are included in the Clearance.

   (3) Point out specific hazards in the work area presented by energized circuits and equipment.

   It shall be the Switchman’s responsibility to assure that the above information the Clearance Holder gives is correct.

   If the Switchman is not present when the Clearance is issued, the Clearance Holder will assure that his/her understanding of the above information is correct by touring the Clearance site and checking the tagged isolating devices before any work associated with the Clearance begins.

   Other persons present who will work under the Clearance should, where practical, be included in the tours as an aid to fulfilling the Clearance Holder’s responsibilities described in V.9.

F. When BPA crews work on lines or equipment under foreign jurisdiction, they will receive Clearances in accordance with the foreign utility’s rules and procedures.

G. A Clearance issued to a BPA employee by a foreign utility on their line or equipment is issued according to that utility’s rules and procedures. This process is accomplished by either of the following:
(1) The BPA Dispatcher can receive the Clearance from the foreign utility and in turn issue a Clearance to the BPA crew, or

(2) The Clearance can be issued directly to a BPA employee from the foreign utility.

When BPA crews require a Clearance on lines or equipment under a foreign utility’s jurisdiction for proximity work on a BPA project, a BPA Dispatcher will issue the Clearance,

Or

In those cases where the foreign utility’s determination is to issue directly to a BPA employee, the recipient of the Clearance from the foreign utility shall inform the BPA Dispatcher of the following upon the receipt of the Clearance and before beginning work requiring the protection of a Clearance:

- Name of foreign utility and issuing employee
- Time received
- Foreign utility and foreign utility’s circuit identification
- Work location with respect to BPA transmission line
- Date, time, and duration of Clearance on the foreign utility’s line or equipment

V.6 PROVISIONS OF A CLEARANCE

With the issuance of a Clearance, the Dispatcher or Substation Operator gives assurance that:

A. The lines or equipment are separated from the power system with isolating devices.

B. All isolating devices are open, made non-operative and tagged.
C. None of the tags will be ordered removed and none of the isolating devices will be ordered closed until the Clearance has been released.

V.7 HIGH-VOLTAGE BACKFEED FROM LOW-VOLTAGE SOURCES ASSOCIATED WITH CLEARANCES

For the purpose of controlling energization of the high-voltage equipment included within the Clearance from potential backfeed through low-voltage sources, such as an alternate station service, an engine generator, or as otherwise determined by the Substation Operator, the secondary circuit low-voltage isolating device(s) shall be opened and tagged with a Do Not Operate tag for the Clearance Holder.

V.8 GROUND SWITCHES ASSOCIATED WITH CLEARANCES

A. Ground switches associated with Clearances shall be closed unless otherwise agreed among all Clearance applicants on that facility and the Dispatcher or Substation Operator.

B. Ground switches associated with Clearances shall be closed unless permission has been granted by the Dispatcher or Substation Operator to open ground switches to work on them, provided that portable protective grounds have been installed as substitutes for the ground switches.

C. The recipient of the Clearance will be informed of ground switch status at the time the Clearance is issued.

D. The position of any ground switch associated with a transmission line with multiple Clearance Holders will not be changed until each Clearance Holder on that line has been notified by the Dispatcher and given the opportunity to get personnel in the clear.

In the event one crew working on a line with multiple Clearance Holders experiences a step and touch potential problem and requests that a ground switch be opened, portable protective grounds shall not be installed as substitutes for the open ground switch.
E. Ground switches associated with **Test Clearances** may be operated by the holder of the Test Clearance without permission of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator.

V.9 CLEARANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Clearance Holder Responsibilities

The following responsibilities apply to any holder of a clearance. Additional responsibilities for electrical work or Work Clearances taken for non-electrical work only are provided in B and C below.

(1) Shall know the type and limits of the Clearance, the facilities included, and the status of ground switches within the Clearance. The Clearance Holder shall also know the Clearance number, the time of issue, and the name of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator who issued the Clearance.

(2) Shall know the Low-Voltage Isolating Devices that are the limits of a Clearance.

If work is to be performed on the low-voltage equipment included within the Clearance limits, appropriate Lockout/Tagout procedures shall be followed.

(3) The Clearance Holder shall convey this information (in 1 and 2 above) to all persons working under that Clearance before work begins. In addition, any specific hazards associated with the work shall be pointed out.

(4) At the time of receipt of their Clearance, shall know the name(s) of other Clearance Holders and the type of work they are accomplishing when more than one Clearance is issued on the same transmission line.

This procedure is to prevent job site changes in step and touch potentials due to an unannounced change in grounding.

(5) Shall direct the application of protective grounds in accordance with the Grounding Rules before
allowing any workers to touch or come within the applicable Minimum Approach Distance of normally energized electrical parts.

(6) Shall direct the installation of barriers or guards as necessary to prevent accidental contact with adjacent energized facilities before allowing work to begin in areas where such hazards exist.

(7) Shall utilize Safety Watchers as required in the Safety Watching Rules.

(8) Shall remain at the job site while work or testing is being performed on equipment under a Clearance.

B. Clearance taken for electrical work, the Clearance Holder:

(1) When test voltages and/or currents are to be applied to equipment under a Work Clearance, the Clearance Holder shall:

(a) Separate the equipment to be tested from the rest of the de-energized high voltage equipment in the Clearance by means sufficient to positively prevent the test voltages and/or currents from entering the remainder of the equipment protected by the Clearance.

(b) Attach Electrical Test Markers to the equipment to be tested as close to the points of separation as possible.

(c) Notify the Clearance Holders in the immediate area that electrical tests are to be performed.

(d) Supervise or perform the electrical tests.

(e) Remove the Electrical Test Markers and notify other Clearance Holders in the immediate area when the electrical tests are complete.

(2) Protective grounds attached to equipment which will be tested (work or test Clearances) may be detached
during the time test voltages are being applied. No other work than is necessary for application of the electrical tests may be done on that piece of equipment while the protective grounds are removed.

C. Work Clearances taken for non-electrical work only, the Clearance Holder:

(1) Shall act as Safety Watcher for the crew or assure himself/herself that there is a qualified person to act as Safety Watcher.

(2) Shall remain at the substation while work on equipment under the Clearance is being done if not acting as the Safety Watcher. The Clearance Holder must tell the crew and the Safety Watcher what he/she will be doing and where he/she will be located at all times while the work requiring the Clearance is being done. The Clearance Holder may do other work but must be available to the crew and the Safety Watcher. As a minimum the Clearance Holder will meet with the crew and the Safety Watcher every 4 hours while work is in progress to exchange information about the work or other issues.

D. The Workers:

(1) Shall know the type and limits of the Clearance, the facilities included, and the status of ground switches within the Clearance. The Workers shall verbally acknowledge to the Clearance Holder, the Clearance number, the time of issue, and the name of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator who issued the Clearance. In addition, they shall understand any specific hazards that may be associated with the work.

Shall know that all Low-Voltage Isolating Device ACBs that are limits of the Clearance have been tested open before touching or coming within the applicable Minimum Approach Distance of normally energized electrical parts.

(2) Shall be certain that protective grounds are applied before contacting or coming within the
applicable Minimum Approach Distance of normally energized parts.

(3) Shall heed all barriers and guards, and obey all warning signs.

(4) Shall request a Safety Watcher when one is required.

(5) Shall cease work or tests on equipment under the Clearance when the Clearance Holder is not at the job site for electrical work, or the Clearance Holder is not at the substation or unavailable for non-electrical work.

V.10 RELEASING CLEARANCES

A. All Clearances must be promptly released when the work or test is completed.

B. The System Dispatcher may delegate authority to a Switchman to accept the release of Dispatcher’s numbered Clearances.

C. When a Clearance Holder releases a Clearance on a line or equipment that is ready for service, the Dispatcher or Switchman must be assured that:

   (1) All workers and equipment are in the clear.

   (2) All portable protective grounds have been removed.

   (3) The released line or equipment is ready for service.

   (4) All isolating devices and ground switches within the limits of the Clearance have been left in the same position as found.

When a Clearance is to be released on a line or equipment that is ready for service, the Clearance Holder shall personally report to the Dispatcher or Switchman to whom the Clearance is to be released and shall make a statement similar to the following:
“This is John Doe at Central Substation and I am ready to release my Test Clearance number D-6789T on Transformer No. 2. My crew and equipment are in the clear, my protective grounds are removed, the work is completed, and as far as I am concerned Transformer No. 2 is ready for service. All isolating devices and ground switches within the limits of the Clearance are in the same position as found.”

The Dispatcher or Switchman will repeat back to the Clearance Holder all of the information just provided. Upon acceptance of the release, the Clearance no longer exists.

D. When a Clearance issued by a foreign utility to a BPA employee is released back to the foreign utility, the recipient of the Clearance from the foreign utility shall promptly report the following to the BPA Dispatcher:

- Name of foreign utility and their receiving employee
- Time released
- Foreign utility’s circuit identification
- Plans for future needs on the foreign utility’s line or Equipment

E. When a Clearance Holder releases a Clearance on a line or equipment that is NOT ready for service, the Dispatcher or Switchman must be assured that all workers are in the clear, and be informed of:

1. The condition of the line or equipment.
   The Clearance Holder must advise the Dispatcher or Switchman that it is available for limited or emergency service only, or that it is not available for service.

2. The status or location of protective grounds.

3. The plans for a future Clearance on the line or equipment.
(4) The position of isolating devices and ground switches within the limits of the Clearance that is being released.

When a Clearance is to be released on a line or equipment that is not ready for service, the Clearance Holder shall personally report to the Dispatcher or Switchman to whom the Clearance is to be released and shall make a statement similar to the following:

“This is John Doe at Central Substation and I am ready to release my Test Clearance number D-6789T on Transformer No. 2. My crew is in the clear, but Transformer No. 2 is not ready for service. My protective grounds are in place on the 230-kV, 115-kV, and 13.8-kV sides of the transformer.
The work is scheduled to be continued tomorrow with a new Test Clearance to be issued to Jim Smith. All isolating devices and ground switches within the limits of the Clearance are in the same position as found.”

The Dispatcher or Switchman will repeat back to the Clearance Holder all of the information just provided. **Upon acceptance of the release, the Clearance no longer exists.**

F. If a Clearance Holder is unable to release a Clearance, the immediate supervisor of that Clearance Holder shall communicate with the crew, release the Clearance, and designate the person who will receive the new Clearance.

V.11 LOGGING CLEARANCES

A. All switching and tagging done for the issuance and release of a Clearance shall be recorded in the Substation Log Book.

B. Clearances issued by or released to a Switchman other than a Dispatcher shall be recorded in red in the Substation Log Book.
VI. HOLD ORDERS

VI.1 WHEN HOLD ORDERS ARE REQUIRED

The purpose of a Hold Order is to get personnel in the clear.

A. Hold Order Is Required:

(1) While performing hot-line work.

(2) While falling danger trees if an electrical hazard could result.

(3) While installing or removing any conductor which crosses over or under normally energized high-voltage circuits. If the work cannot be accomplished under the protection of a Hold Order, a Clearance must be obtained.

(4) While removing or replacing hot-stick links on normally energized high-voltage facilities.

(5) While proximity work is in progress during line construction.

(6) While testing or washing insulators “hot”.

(7) While equipment is being operated near energized high-voltage facilities and there is the possibility of accidental contact or violation of the applicable Minimum Approach Distance.

(8) While performing approved bare-hand procedures.

VI.2 APPLICATION FOR HOLD ORDERS

Applications for Hold Orders shall be made with the appropriate Outage Dispatcher as far in advance as possible.

Minimum Advance Notice Requirement for a prearranged Hold Order is 3 working days preceding the work.
Example: “Applications shall be made to the appropriate Outage Dispatcher for Outages by 1500 hours on Tuesday for scheduled work on Friday”.

When applying for a Hold Order, the following information is to be provided to the Outage Dispatcher:

A. The correct name designation of the line or equipment requiring a Hold Order, using System Operations numbers and designations.

B. The date and time the work requiring the Hold Order is scheduled to begin.

C. The anticipated duration the Hold Order will be required.

D. The name of the person who will take the Hold Order.

E. A description of the work to be performed.

F. The means of communication which will be available during the Hold Order.

VI.3 ISSUING AND RECEIVING HOLD ORDERS

The Dispatcher shall order automatic reclosing cut-out and tagged, and all other control points tagged for a Hold Order.

When all procedures have been completed for the provisions of the Hold Order, the Dispatcher shall issue the Hold Order to the worker and the hot-line maintenance or proximity work can proceed.

A. All Hold Orders on the BPA power system shall be issued by a System Dispatcher. Authority to issue Hold Orders may be delegated to a Substation Operator.

When issuing a Hold Order, the Dispatcher or Operator shall state clearly to the person receiving the Hold Order:

(1) The name of the person receiving the Hold Order.
(2) The exact name of the line or equipment included in the Hold Order.

Example: “John Doe, you now have a Hold Order on the Central-East Columbia No. 2 230-kV line.”

B. Hold Orders will be issued to employees for whom a Clearance Certification is on file with the Dispatchers.

When receiving a Hold Order, the recipient of the Hold Order shall repeat back to the Dispatcher or Substation Operator:

(1) The name of the person receiving the Hold Order.

(2) The exact name of the line or equipment included in the Hold Order.

Example: “This is John Doe, and I now have a Hold Order on the Central-East Columbia No. 2 230-kV line.”

The Dispatcher or Operator and the recipient of the Hold Order shall confirm the location of the crew and the communication, which will be available for the duration of the Hold Order.

C. When BPA crews require a Hold Order for work on lines or equipment under foreign jurisdiction, they will receive Hold Orders in accordance with the foreign utility’s rules and procedures.

D. A Hold Order issued to a BPA employee by a foreign utility on their line or equipment is issued according to that utility’s rules and procedures. This process is accomplished by either of the following:

(1) The BPA Dispatcher can receive the Hold Order from the foreign utility and in turn issue a Hold Order to the BPA employee, or

(2) The Hold Order can be issued directly to a BPA employee from the foreign utility.
When BPA crews require Hold Orders on lines or equipment under a foreign utility’s jurisdiction for proximity work on a BPA project, the BPA Dispatcher will issue the Hold Order, except in those cases where the foreign utility’s rules and procedures dictate that the utility will issue the Hold Order.

Or

In those cases where the foreign utility’s determination is to issue directly to a BPA employee, the recipient of the Hold Order from the foreign utility shall inform the BPA Dispatcher of the following upon receipt of the Hold Order and before beginning work requiring the protection of a Hold Order:

- Name of foreign utility and issuing employee
- Time received
- Foreign utility’s circuit identification work location with respect to BPA transmission line
- Date, time and duration of Hold Order on the foreign utility’s line or equipment

VI.4 PROVISIONS OF A HOLD ORDER

With the issuance of a Hold Order, the Dispatcher or Substation Operator gives assurance that:

A. Protective relays are in service at all terminals, which will adequately protect the circuit for all types of faults.

B. Automatic reclosing of power circuit breakers that protect the line or equipment has been disabled by manually placing or checking the reclosing relay cutoff switch in the “off” position, or Automatic reclosing and the close circuits* of the power circuit breaker(s) that protect the line or equipment have been disabled or checked disabled remotely by a System Dispatcher.
* Close circuits that would prevent the closing of the PCB(s) at the station by the control switch. SCADA will have full operational control of the PCB(s) while the Hold Order is in place.

C. An “Assurance of no backfeed” or a “Terminal Hold” has been obtained on all interconnections with a customer or other utility.

D. If the Hold Order is requested for hot-line maintenance, all adjustable rod gaps on that line have been reduced to their minimum spacing and properly tagged.

In those cases where a foreign utility has requested a Hold Order from BPA for work on the utility’s line, the foreign utility’s rules and procedures will determine whether the adjustable rod gaps spacing needs to be reduced on the BPA terminal.

E. All control points have been properly tagged to prevent energization of the lines or equipment included in the Hold Order if they are de-energized by terminal relay action.

F. The lines or equipment will not be energized until the Holder of the Hold Order reports the crews in the clear.

VI.5 HOLD ORDER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The person receiving the Hold Order:

(1) Shall know the exact name of the line or equipment of the Hold Order as well as the facilities included in it. That person shall also know the time of issue, and the name of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator who issued the Hold Order.

(2) Shall verbally convey this information to all persons working under that Hold Order.
(3) Shall direct installation of barriers or guards as necessary to prevent accidental contact with adjacent energized facilities before allowing work to begin in areas where such hazards exist.

(4) Shall utilize Safety Watchers as required in the Safety Watching Rules. Hold Orders do not modify Safety Watcher requirements.

(5) Shall remain at the job site with the workers while the work requiring the protection of the Hold Order is being completed.

(6) Shall maintain a method of communicating with the Dispatcher for the duration of the Hold Order.

(7) Shall call the crew into the clear and notify the Dispatcher if an energized facility becomes de-energized for any reason.

B. The Workers

(1) Shall know the exact name of the line or equipment of the Hold Order as well as the facilities included. The Workers shall verbally acknowledge to the person receiving the Hold Order, the time of issue, and the name of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator who issued the Hold Order.

(2) Shall heed all barriers and guards, and obey all warning signs.

(3) Shall request a Safety Watcher when one is required. Hold Orders do not modify Safety Watcher requirements.

(4) Shall limit their movements and perform work in a manner that will prevent applicable Minimum Approach Distances from being violated.

(5) Shall get in the clear and report to the person having the Hold Order if an energized facility becomes de-energized for any reason.
C. Dispatchers and Switchmen

If any power circuit breaker (PCB) tagged for a Hold Order opens automatically while the Hold Order is in effect:

(1) The Switchman shall notify the Dispatcher immediately.

(2) The Dispatcher shall communicate with the crew having the Hold Order.

If the person having the Hold Order reports the crew is “in the clear” the Dispatcher may order the PCBs closed. This is permitted without the release of the Hold Order. If the Dispatcher determines that adjustable rod gaps must be set to maximum spacing before the PCBs are closed, the Hold Order must be released prior to lengthening the rod gaps. When the line has been re-energized and the rod gaps adjusted to minimum spacing, a new Hold Order will be issued for the hot line work to continue.

VI.6 RELEASING HOLD ORDERS

A. All Hold Orders must be promptly released when the work is finished.

B. When a worker releases a Hold Order, the Dispatcher must be assured that:

(1) All workers and equipment are in the clear.

(2) The work is finished for the day or the job is completed.

When a Hold Order is to be released, the person having the Hold Order shall report to the Dispatcher or Operator to whom the Hold Order is to be released and shall make a statement similar to the following:

“This is John Doe and I am ready to release my Hold Order on the Central-East Columbia No. 2 230-kV Line. My crew and equipment are in the clear and the work is complete.”
The Dispatcher will repeat back to the person releasing the Hold Order all of the information just provided. **Upon acceptance of the release, the Hold Order no longer exists.**

C. When a Hold Order is issued by a foreign utility to a BPA employee is released back to the foreign utility, the recipient of the Hold Order issued by the foreign utility shall promptly report the following to the BPA Dispatcher:

- Name of foreign utility and their receiving employee
- Time released
- Foreign Utility’s circuit identification
- Plans for future needs on the foreign utility’s line or equipment

D. If a worker is unable to release a Hold Order, the immediate supervisor of that worker shall communicate with the crew, release the Hold Order, and designate the person who will receive the new Hold Order.

**VI.7 LOGGING HOLD ORDERS**

A. Hold Orders issued by or released to a Switchman shall be recorded in red in the Substation Log Book.

B. All switching and tagging done for the issuance and release of Hold Orders shall be recorded in the appropriate logs.
VII. WORK PERMITS

A. All work on power system equipment (including fiber) under the jurisdiction of Operations not requiring a Clearance or a Hold Order but affecting the operation or protection of the power system or substation, shall be authorized by a Work Permit.

B. Work Permits:

1. Are issued by a Dispatcher or Substation Operator.

2. Issued to qualified employees as determined by their supervisors.

3. Applications for Work Permits shall be made in accordance with Switching and Clearance Procedure section IV.1, Application for Equipment Outages.

4. Must be promptly released when the work is completed.

5. Issuance, release and associated switching shall be logged in the Substation Log Book in exact order performed.

6. If a worker is unable to release a Work Permit, the immediate supervisor of that worker shall communicate with the crew, release the Work Permit and designate the person who will receive the new Work Permit.

VIII. LOW VOLTAGE CIRCUITS, EQUIPMENT, AND ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

Low voltage Circuits, equipment, and energy storage systems:

A. Permission shall be obtained before any low voltage circuits, equipment, or energy storage systems affecting the operation or protection of the power system (Dispatcher) or substation (Operator) are de-energized or made unavailable for normal service.
B. Application for Work Permits shall be made in accordance with Section IV.1, Application for Equipment Outages.

C. The Work Permit holder and/or Authorized Employee:

- May energize or de-energize as required to complete the work unless tagged with a Do Not Operate Tag.

- Shall coordinate energizing or de-energizing with the Dispatcher/Operator in those cases where the Dispatcher/Operator has determined operation or protection of the power system or substation could be adversely impacted or further switching is necessary prior to energization.

- Obtain permission from a Dispatcher or Operator before restoring to normal service.

D. Work performed and associated switching shall be logged in the Substation Log Book in the exact order performed.

Placement and/or removal of Lockout/Tagout devices and LOTO Do Not Operate tag(s) are not logged.

[Reference APM Rule L-3, Lockout/Tagout and WS VIII, Lockout, Tagout for Lockout/Tagout procedures and rules.]

IX. TAGGING

IX.1 Accident Prevention Tags Used On The BPA System Are Either Standard Size Or Miniature Size.

A. Standard Size tags are 3 1/2” x 5 3/4” (9cm x 14 1/2cm).

  (1) Red Do Not Operate (BPA F 6510.11).

  The Do Not Operate tag is pictured on page A2.

  Red Do Not Operate tags are used to tag:

  (a) Isolating devices that are the limits of a Clearance on high-voltage facilities.
(b) Devices that may energize low-voltage circuits which are de-energized and not to be operated.

(c) Open switches which are not to be operated without specific permission of the Dispatcher or Substation Operator.

Clearances, Hold Orders and Work Permits may be issued against a Dispatcher’s Do Not Operate tag on an open isolating device.

(2) Yellow **Hold Order** (BPA F 6510.28)

The **Hold Order** tag and remote Hold Order amber light and yellow Hold Order placard are pictured on page A2.

**Hold Order** tags are used to tag:

(a) All control points associated with a **Hold Order**.

(b) All adjustable rod gaps that have been reduced to minimum spacing for hot line work.

Remote Hold Order amber light and yellow Hold Order placard are used to tag:

(a) all control points associated with dispatcher controlled remote Hold Orders.

(3) Yellow on white **Caution** (BPA F 6510.12).

The **Caution** tag is pictured on page A4.

Yellow on white **Caution** tags are used to tag equipment or controls that are abnormal, unusual, unsafe or hazardous.
(4) White **Work Permit** (BPA F 6510.13).

The **Work Permit** tag is pictured on page A3.

White **Work Permit** tags are used to tag:

(a) High voltage power system equipment or circuits that are being worked on including equipment that has been de-energized for work near suspect equipment or for induced voltage reduction when the protection of a Clearance or a Hold Order is not required, and applicable Minimum Approach Distances will not be violated.

(b) Fiber optic circuits for work.

(c) Low voltage power system equipment or circuit work.

B. **Miniature Size** tags are 1 1/2” x 1” (3 3/4cm x 2 1/2cm) or 1 3/4” (4 1/2cm) diameter round.

(1) Red **Do Not Operate** with black border (BPA F 6510.14). The miniature **Do Not Operate** tag is pictured on page A5.

(2) White **Work Clearance** with red border (BPA F 6510.15). The miniature **Work Clearance** tag is pictured on page A5.

(3) White **Test Clearance** with blue border (BPA F 6510.16). The miniature **Test Clearance** tag is pictured on page A5.

(4) Yellow **Caution** (BPA F 6510.17). The miniature **Caution** tag is pictured on page A5.

(5) Round Yellow **Hold Order** (BPA F 6510.18). The miniature **Hold Order** tag is pictured on page A5.

(6) White **Work Permit** (BPA F 6510.19). The miniature **Work Permit** tag is pictured on page A5.

Miniature size tags are used to tag:
(a) Group display boards in Control Centers.

(b) Diagram (pin) boards in Substations.

(c) The mimic bus of switchboard control panels.

(d) Miniature switchboard controls.

C. **Electrical Test Markers.** (BPA F 6510.40)

Blue Electrical Test Markers are used to indicate points of separation on equipment which will be electrically tested under a Work Clearance.

The Electrical Test Marker is pictured on page A4.

D. The red wooden blocks are used as tag holders and as indicators of switches or equipment which are in abnormal positions as described in the following sections.

The red wooden block is pictured on page A6.

IX.2 Isolating devices used as a limit of a Clearance are opened (restrained), made non-operative (locked) and tagged before the Clearance is issued.

A. Isolating devices used as a limit of a Clearance shall be opened (restrained) and made non-operative (locked) before the Clearance is issued.

Hot-Stick Operated Switches and Fuses – are considered restrained and non-operative when in the open position the blades/fuses hang in a downward direction.

Manual Operated Switches – are considered restrained and non-operative when opened and a lock(s) placed on the device providing mechanical restraint on the operating linkage.

Motor-Operated (mechanical/hydraulic/pneumatic) Switches - are considered restrained and non-operative when opened, decoupled and a lock(s) placed on the device providing mechanical restraint on the operating linkage.
Low Voltage Isolating Devices – are considered restrained and non-operative when opened or the device is removed.

Low voltage ACB(s) used as an isolating device – are considered restrained and non-operative after verified open by the use of electrical tests performed by a Qualified Electrical Employee before the Clearance is issued.

- Both line and load sides of the device shall be tested for voltage to ground and/or voltage between phases.
- If no voltage is present on the line and load sides of the device, resistance readings shall be taken across each pole to verify that the device is open.

Low Voltage Manual Transfer Switches used as an isolating device:

Are considered restrained and non-operative when opened and locked by the use of a Substation Operations padlock (non-master) in a manner that the switch’s operating handle/device cannot be physically moved to another position.

Shall be verified open by either visually checking the blades of the switch open in the correct position, or by the use of electrical tests performed by a Qualified Electrical Employee before the Clearance is issued.

- Both line and load sides of the device shall be tested for voltage to ground and/or voltage between phases.
- If no voltage is present on the line and load sides of the device, resistance readings shall be taken across each pole to verify that the device is open.

Jumpers, removable links, and similar circuit parts are considered restrained and non-operative when removed or opened and restrained as identified in applicable BPA Work Standards.

Methods of operating isolating devices and making non-operative shall be included in Station Instructions.
Additional information can be found in BPA Work Standards III.A, Switching Process, and III.B, Equipment Operation.

B. Red DO NOT OPERATE TAGS shall be placed on all isolating devices used as a limit of a Clearance before the Clearance is issued.

The large Do Not Operate tag is pictured on page A2. The miniature Do Not Operate tag is pictured on page A5.

Hot-Stick Operated Switches and Fuses — a red Do Not Operate tag shall be attached to a red block and hung in the operating eye of each disconnect blade or fuse.

Manual Operated Switches — a red Do Not Operate tag shall be attached to the lock on the device providing mechanical restraint on the operating linkage.

Motor-Operated (mechanical/hydraulic/pneumatic) Switches - a red Do Not Operate tag shall be attached to the lock on the device providing mechanical restraint on the operating linkage.

Low Voltage Isolating Devices - a red Do Not Operate tag shall be placed on or adjacent to the device.

Other Isolating Devices – a red Do Not Operate tag shall be attached to jumpers, removable links, and similar devices or circuit parts.

Methods of tagging isolating devices shall be included in Station Instructions.

Additional tagging information can be found in BPA Work Standard III.A, Switching Process.
Example 1:
Assume a Work Clearance is requested for transmission line maintenance on the Central-East Columbia No. 3 230-kV line in the following illustration.

Normal Dispatching/SCADA operating procedures would de-energize the Central-East Columbia No. 3 230-kV line by opening PCBs A-10 and A-3 by supervisory control. Switchmen at both terminals of the line would write Switching Orders to place A-10 and A-3 PCBs on Local control and to open or check open and tag the appropriate disconnect switches. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Clearance applicant and the Dispatcher, ground switches would then be closed at both terminals.

Central Substation terminal is equipped with a mimic bus on the switchboard control panels. Tagging at that terminal would be as follows:

The Supervisory Cut-off Switch (SCS) for A-10 PCB will be placed in the Local position and a “Local” marker attached. In the switchyard the Switchman will check open and tag A-10 Aux. Bus Disconnect and open and tag A-10 Line.
Disconnect with red **Do Not Operate** tags checked “See Tag on **A-10 Control Panel.**”

In the Control House, the Switchman will tag the mimic bus A-10 Line Disconnect and A-10 Aux. Bus Disconnect with miniature red Work Clearance tags. The Switchman will fill out and place on the A-10 control panel the master red **Do Not Operate** tag containing all necessary information.

East Columbia Substation terminal has no mimic bus on the switchboard control panels. Tagging at that terminal would be as follows:

The SCS for A-3 PCB will be placed in the Local position and a “Local” marker attached. In the switchyard, the Switchman will check open and tag A-3 Aux. Bus Disconnect with a red **Do Not Operate** tag checked “See Tag on **A-3 Line Disc**”. The Switchman will open and tag A-3 Line Disconnect with the filled out master red **Do Not Operate** tag containing all necessary information.

Note that at both substations there is only one filled out **master tag** for the switching and tagging done at that station for this Clearance.

At the Control Center, the Dispatcher will pin the Group Display Board with white pins in the isolating devices which are open and tagged as the limits of this Clearance with red pins and white disks on closed Ground Switches, and with a miniature red Work Clearance tag containing the Clearance Holder’s name and Clearance number.

**Example 2:**
Assume a Test Clearance also requested on A-10 PCB for maintenance during the time the Central-East Columbia No. 3 230-kV line is out of service on a Work Clearance. A-10 PCB is already open and on Local control with a “Local marker” attached to the SCS.

The Switchman at Central Substation would write a Switching Order to open or check open and tag the appropriate disconnect switches.

In the switchyard, the Switchman will check open and tag A-10 Line Disconnect and open and tag A-10 Main Bus Disconnect
with red Do Not Operate tags checked “See Tag on A-10 Control Panel”.

In the Control House, the Switchman will tag the mimic bus A-10 Line Disconnect and A-10 Main Bus Disconnect with miniature blue Test Clearance tags.

The Switchman will fill out and place on the A-10 control panel the master red Do Not Operate tag containing all necessary information.

At the Control Center, the Dispatcher will pin the Group Display Board with white pins in the isolating devices which are open and tagged as the limits of this Clearance, and with a miniature blue Test Clearance tag containing the Clearance holder’s name and Clearance number.

The tagging of isolating devices that are the limits of, but not the common junction point between more than one Clearance is explained in example 3.
Example 3:
Assume that the foremen of two different crews each had a Work Clearance on the same PCB shown below. The isolating devices used as the limits of both Clearances were the same. Only one Do Not Operate tag would be hung on each of the isolating One Line devices. The Do Not Operate tag would not be removed until after both Clearances were released.

The tagging of isolating devices that are the common junction point between multiple Clearances is explained in example 4.
Example 4:
One Clearance is issued on a Transformer Bank. A second Clearance is issued on the Transformer Bank PCB. The disconnect switch between the Transformer Bank and the PCB is the isolating device common to both Clearances. (Refer to the following drawing). The common disconnect switch would have two Do Not Operate tags hung on it. The other disconnect switches would each have one Do Not Operate tag hung on them. When one of the two Clearances is released, one of the two Do Not Operate tags on the common disconnect would be removed. After the other Clearance is released the remaining Do Not Operate tags would be removed.

If two Clearances are issued on the PCB and one Clearance on the Transformer Bank, two Do Not Operate tags would be hung on the common disconnect switch. The other disconnect switches would each have one Do Not Operate tag hung on them. (Refer to the following drawing). If one of the Clearances on the PCB is released first, none of the Do Not Operate tags would be removed. If the Clearance on the
Transformer Bank was released first, one of the two Do Not Operate tags on the common disconnect and the Do Not Operate tag on the other disconnect switch associated with the Clearance on the Transformer Bank would be removed. When the last Clearance is released all remaining Do Not Operate tags would be removed.

Example 5:
Assume that a Work Clearance is requested for Transformer Bank No. 1 including the Station Service transformer bank as illustrated in the following drawing. A-9 Transformer Side and Auxiliary Bus and B-2 Transformer Side and Auxiliary Bus disconnect switches will be tagged as Clearance limits with Do Not Operate tags. For the purpose of controlling energization of the equipment included within the Clearance from the alternate station service source, a Do Not Operate tag shall also be placed on the open low-voltage isolating device ACB-1 as a Clearance limit.

If work is to be performed on the low-voltage equipment included within the Clearance limits, appropriate Lockout/Tagout procedures shall be followed.
If space or location will not allow a large red **Do Not Operate** tag to be placed on the low-voltage isolating device, a filled out miniature red **Do Not Operate** tag or tags may be placed on the device and the master tag containing all pertinent information placed in a convenient and conspicuous location.

**IX.3** A System Dispatcher or Substation Operator shall, when necessary, order a red **DO NOT OPERATE** tag for the Dispatcher or Substation Operator placed on an open device to prevent its operation.

A Clearance may be issued on lines or equipment if the isolating devices are open and tagged for the Dispatcher, and/or Operator.
Example: Assume trouble occurs with a 13.8-kV self-contained power circuit breaker (“oil-recloser”) at a small substation shown below. The Dispatcher could direct a Switchman to write a Switching Order to bypass and isolate the PCB, and tag the disconnects on both sides of the PCB for the System Dispatcher.

The Switchman would tag the open hot-stick operated Bus Disconnect and Feeder Disconnect with red Do Not Operate tags which are attached to red wooden blocks and checked “See Tag in the PCB control cabinet”.

A filled out master red Do Not Operate tag containing all necessary information would be placed in the control cabinet of the PCB.
IX.4 When a System Dispatcher or Substation Operator is releasing their red DO NOT OPERATE tag on an open isolating device, the System Dispatcher or Substation Operator shall make a statement similar to the following:

“This is _________ and I am releasing my System Dispatcher’s or Substation Operator’s tag on ___________. There are no outstanding Clearances issued against my tag.”

Isolating devices tagged with red DO NOT OPERATE tags shall not be operated until the tag has been removed by an approved Switching Order.

IX.5 A large yellow on white or miniature yellow CAUTION tag must be placed on equipment or controls to warn about abnormal, unusual, unsafe, or hazardous conditions.

The large Caution tags are pictured on page A 4. The miniature Caution tags are pictured on page A 5.

Example 1:
Assume a 230-kV Transformer PCB is to be bypassed, cleared, and tagged for substation maintenance. Current Transformer connections require that the Transformer Differential relays be out of service during the entire time that the Auxiliary Bus Disconnect is closed.

The Switchman will place a yellow on white Caution tag checked “See Tag on relay panel no. xx” on the control switch of the bypassed PCB denoting that an abnormal condition exists. A filled out master yellow on white Caution Tag will be placed on that relay panel on the Transformer Differential relays that are out of service.
Example 2:
Assume one PCB in a bay of a breaker-and-a-half configuration has been determined to be inadequate for line-dropping. Protective relay schemes have been modified to prevent this PCB from being the last one to open by relay operation, and tagging is deemed necessary to prevent inadvertent line dropping during routine switching.

The Switchman may be directed to place a yellow on white Caution tag on the control switch of the PCB. If, as in many newer 500-kV substations, miniature control panels are installed, a miniature yellow Caution tag will be placed on the control switch stating the precaution and the date. In a convenient location adjacent to the control panel, a filled out large master yellow on white Caution tag will be placed. At the control center, the Group Display Board(s) may be tagged with a miniature yellow Caution tag advising of the unusual operating restriction on this PCB, and the date.

Example 3:
Assume that the Load-Break Disconnect (LBD) to a Section of a 230 kV grounded-wye Capacitor Group is open, cleared, and tagged for maintenance work. The other Sections of the Capacitor Group will remain in service or available for service.

Before the Clearance is issued, all automatic voltage controls on 230 kV shunt capacitors at that substation will be placed in the manual mode, and yellow on white Caution tags will be placed on the control switches of the PCBs or LBDs of all other 230 kV Capacitor Sections at that substation, stating “Notify workers to stand clear before closing this switch.” If the substation remains on Supervisory Control, the control center will also tag these controls in a similar manner.
IX.6 Yellow HOLD ORDER tags for a Hold Order must be placed on all associated control points and adjustable rod gaps which have been adjusted to minimum spacing; and round yellow HOLD ORDER tags must be placed on reclosing relay cut-out switches before the Hold Order is issued.

The Hold Order tag is pictured on page A 2. The round yellow Hold Order tags are pictured on page A 5.

Example 1:
Assume a Hold Order for maintenance is to be issued on the Central-Oceanside 500-kV line illustrated below.
The Dispatcher will contact Switchmen and request the reclosing relays cut-out on PCBs 4209 and 4220 at Central Substation and on PCB 4204 at Oceanside Substation, and the reclosing relays and each PCB control switch be tagged with a **Hold Order** for the Dispatcher.

At Central, the Switchman will place the reclosing relay cut-out switch on PCBs 4209 and 4220 to the off position and tag each with a round yellow **Hold Order** tag for the Dispatcher. He will also tag each PCB control switch with a yellow **Hold Order** tag for the Dispatcher and report to the Dispatcher.

At Oceanside, the Switchman will place the reclosing relay cut-out switch on PCB 4204 to the off position and tag with a round yellow **Hold Order** tag for the Dispatcher. He will also tag the PCB control switch with a yellow **Hold Order** tag for the Dispatcher and report to the Dispatcher.

If adjustable rod gaps were to be operated, the Dispatcher would direct the Switchmen at Central and Oceanside to write a Switching Order to set and tag the rod gaps at minimum spacing.

At Central, the Switchman will adjust the rod gaps on the Oceanside line terminal to minimum spacing and tag with full size yellow **Hold Order** tags checked “See Tag on PCB 4220 controls” and attached to red wooden blocks. The yellow **Hold Order** tag placed on PCB 4209 controls would also be checked “See Tag on PCB 4220 controls”. The filled out yellow **Hold Order** tag would be placed on the control switch of PCB 4220 for the Dispatcher with the reason stating “Hot-line work, Rod gaps set to minimum spacing.” The Central Switchman would report this completed Switching Order to the Dispatcher.

At Oceanside, the Switchman would adjust the rod gaps on the Central line terminal to minimum spacing and tag with full size yellow **Hold Order** tags checked “See Tag on PCB 4204 controls” and attached to wooden blocks. A filled out yellow **Hold Order** tag would be placed on the control switch of PCB 4204 for the Dispatcher with the Reason stating “Hot-line work, rod gaps set to minimum spacing.” The Oceanside Switchman will report this completed Switching Order to the Dispatcher.
The Dispatcher tags the supervisory control points for the PCBs with a Hold Order tag. The Dispatcher issues the Hold Order to the workman and then tags the line or facility on the Group Display Board with a round yellow Hold Order tag for the workman.

**Tagging for a Hold Order at a substation where the reclosing relay can be cut out from a Control Center.**

**Example 2:**
Referring to the drawing, assume a Hold Order is to be issued for tree removal on the Central - Oceanside 500 kV line illustrated above.

At Central, the Switchman will place the reclosing relay cut-out switch on PCBs 4209 and 4220 to the off position and tag each with a round yellow Hold Order tag for the Dispatcher. The Switchman will also tag each PCB control switch with yellow Hold Order tag for the Dispatcher and report to the Dispatcher.

At Oceanside Substation, the Dispatcher would initiate via a single point selection from the SCADA display screen and initiate a command to disable the reclosing relay and the local close bus to PCB 4204. The Dispatcher will receive a change of status indication on the display screen confirming that the command was received and completed. At Oceanside, an amber lamp next to the PCB control switch will be illuminated indicating the reclosing relay is disabled. This will constitute the Hold Order tag for the Dispatcher at Oceanside. Additionally, the close bus indication lamp to PCB 4204 at Oceanside will not be illuminated indicating that it is disabled.

**IX.7** A white Work Permit tag shall be placed on:

A. Affected equipment or circuits when a Work Permit is issued for work at locations other than microwave sites.

B. Affected equipment or circuits at microwave sites when the work will not be completed before the Worker leaves the worksite.

C. Isolating devices which have been opened to facilitate work not requiring a Clearance or a Hold Order (see example 2).
The large **Work Permit** tags are pictured on page A 3. The miniature **Work Permit** tags are pictured on page A 5.

**Example 1:**
Assume work is to be done on the Microwave Transfer Trip (MWTT) relaying of a three terminal 230-kV line.

Tone-Test switches (TTS) at all three terminals will be turned to the “off” position and tagged with a white **Work Permit** tag for John Doe. PCB control switches at each terminal will be tagged with a white **Work Permit** tag checked “See Tag on relay panel no. XX”.

**Example 2:**
Assume work is to be done on the air system of a 500-kV air-blast PCB and it has been determined that a Clearance is not required.

The PCB will be isolated from the power system by open isolating devices. In the switchyard, the open disconnect switches will be tagged with a white **Work Permit** tag checked “See Tag on PCB XXXX control switch”. The control switch for the PCB will be tagged with a filled out master white Work Permit tag for John Doe.

At control centers, the Group Display Boards will be tagged with miniature white Work Permit tags in both Example 1 and 2.

**Example 3:**
Assume work is to be done on power system equipment at a Microwave Site; and that the work is completed before the workman leaves the worksite.

No **Work Permit** tag will be required.

**Example 4:**
Assume work is to be done on power system equipment at a Microwave Site; and that the work is not completed before the Worker leaves the worksite.

The equipment will be tagged with a **Work Permit** tag for the Worker.
D. Isolating devices which have been opened to facilitate work on low voltage circuits, equipment and energy storage systems (see example 5 below).

Example 5:
Assume a 230 kV PCB is bypassed over a Bus Tie PCB and a Work Clearance has been issued for trouble on the compressor system.

During the course of work a maintenance worker decided the compressor bus cable is needed in order to make repairs and requests the compressor bus cable de-energized. Permission from the appropriate System Dispatcher is obtained and the compressor bus cable supply ACB is cut out and tagged with a Work Permit tag for the requestor. A Work Permit is then issued to the requestor. Any Authorized Employee(s) who are to perform work involving the compressor bus cable would follow APM Rule L-3 and BPA Work Standard Section VIII - Lockout/Tagout.
IX.8 Red DO NOT OPERATE tags may be placed on low voltage isolating devices to prevent their operation.

The Do Not Operate tags are pictured on page A 2. The miniature Do Not Operate tags are pictured on page A 5.

Example:

Assume a compressor bus cable is cut out on a Work Permit for repairs in one bay of a Breaker and a Half scheme. The Operator may place a filled out red Do Not Operate tag for the Operator on the supply ACB in addition to the Work Permit tag to control its operation due to branch circuits. If more than one source of power must be opened, the other tags will be checked “See Tag on (location of master tag).”

If space or location will not allow a large red Do Not Operate tag to be placed, a filled out miniature red Do Not Operate tag or tags may be placed and the master tag containing all pertinent information placed in a convenient and conspicuous location.

IX.9 Blue ELECTRICAL TEST MARKERS must be placed on all high voltage conductors attached to a piece of equipment being tested under a Work Clearance as close to the point of separation as possible.

The Electrical Test Marker is pictured on page A 4.
Example:

Assume a Work Clearance has been issued to a Substation Maintenance Crew and a Transmission Line Maintenance Crew on the Markim Main Bus, A-12 PCB and the Central-Markim 230 kV Line, illustrated below. The boundaries of the Clearance are A-10 Main Bus Disconnect, A-12 Aux Bus Disconnect at Markim and A-14 Line Side and Aux Bus Disconnects at Central. The line crew will be changing insulators on the Central Markim Line. Substation Maintenance will perform routine maintenance on A-12 Main Bus and Line Side Disconnects, a mechanism service on A-12 PCB, and test the Main Bus PTs at Markim.

Prior to performing a millivolt drop test on A-12 PCB, as part of the mechanism service, the Clearance Holder for the Substation Maintenance Crew would open A-12 Main Bus and Line Side Disconnects and lock them open to provide separation of the PCB from the rest of the high voltage equipment in the Clearance. The Clearance Holder would then attach the blue **Electrical Test Markers** on each phase of the bus on the breaker side near each open disconnect. The
Clearance Holder would then notify any other Clearance Holders in the immediate area that electrical tests will be performed on A-12 PCB. The Clearance Holder would then perform or directly supervise the millivolt drop test. Once the test was complete, the Clearance Holder would then remove all blue Electrical Test Markers and notify any other Clearance Holders the immediate area that the electrical tests on A-12 PCB are complete. Once the tests are complete and the blue Electrical Test Markers are removed, A-12 Main Bus and Line Side Disconnects may be operated at the will of the Clearance Holder.

Prior to performing electrical tests on the Main Bus PTs, the Clearance Holder would direct the crew to remove or disconnect and tie back the conductor from the Main Bus to each PT which would be tested. The Clearance Holder would then attach the blue Electrical Test Marker to the top of each PT to be tested. The Clearance Holder would then notify any other Clearance Holders in the immediate area that electrical tests will be performed on the Main Bus PTs. The Clearance Holder would then perform or directly supervise the electrical tests. Once the tests are complete, the Clearance Holder would remove the blue Electrical Test Markers from each of the PTs which were tested and notify any other Clearance Holders in the immediate area that electrical tests on the PTs are complete. Installation of the conductor from the Main Bus to the PTs could then be done at the will of the Clearance Holder.

The intent of the placement of the blue Electrical Test Markers is to visually outline the electrical equipment which is being tested under a Work Clearance. While the methods outlined above are the prescribed way of placing the blue Electrical Test Markers, it is realized that the numerous conditions of separating equipment may produce a situation where strict adherence to the prescribed method of hanging the blue Electrical Test Markers may interfere with the electrical tests being performed. In those instances, the Clearance Holder should place the blue Electrical Test Markers in a way which will most closely follow the prescribed rules and the intent of visually outlining the equipment being tested.
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V. CLEARANCES

V.1 WORK and TEST CLEARANCES

A. There are two types of Clearances and the activity determines the type of Clearance needed.

(1) A WORK CLEARANCE provides protection when work is to be performed on de-energized high voltage lines or equipment. Electrical tests may be performed on equipment included in a Work Clearance if:

(a) The high voltage equipment is contained in a substation.

(b) The equipment is under the physical control of the Clearance Holder.

(c) AND the equipment is separated from the rest of the de-energized high voltage equipment in the Clearance by means sufficient to positively prevent the test voltages and/or currents from entering the remainder of the equipment protected by the Clearance.

(2) A TEST CLEARANCE provides protection when electrical tests are to be performed on high voltage equipment and the conditions required for application of electrical tests under a Work Clearance in A., (1), (a), (b), or (c) cannot be met.

B. More than one WORK CLEARANCE may be issued on the same line or equipment to multiple crews.

C. Under the following circumstances more than one WORK CLEARANCE may be issued to members of the same crew for work on the same equipment:
(1) If the expected duration of the work is one month or more, a second clearance holder may be requested at the time the outage request is made.

(2) Transformer dry-outs (or similar type work) where work occurs around the clock or during significantly extended workdays where one Clearance Holder must relieve another Clearance Holder because of the ongoing nature of the work. A second and, if necessary, third Clearance Holder could be requested at the time the outage request is made for this type of work.

D. Only one TEST CLEARANCE may be issued on the same line or equipment.

V.5 ISSUING AND RECEIVING CLEARANCES

A. All Clearances on the BPA power system shall be issued by a System Dispatcher or Substation Operator. The System Dispatcher or Substation Operator may delegate the authority to issue Clearances to a Switchman.

The Dispatcher or Operator having jurisdiction over the facilities which are cleared is responsible for issuance of the Clearance.

(1) A Dispatcher’s Clearance is issued by or with the permission of the Dispatcher who has jurisdiction over the facilities which are cleared.

(2) A Station Clearance is issued by an Operator who has jurisdiction over the facilities which are cleared.

B. When more than one Clearance is issued or is to be issued on a transmission line or associated terminal equipment, each Clearance Holder shall be given the names of the other Clearance holders and advised of the type of work that each Clearance Holder will be
performing. All Clearance holders shall be informed of this at the time of receiving their Clearance. Existing Clearance holders shall be advised of additional Clearance requests prior to the issuance of any new Clearance(s).

C. In emergencies when no communications are available, Switchmen may do necessary switching and tagging and issue Clearances to themselves.

D. Clearances will be issued to employees and contractors only for whom a Clearance Certification is on file with the Dispatchers and to Dispatchers and qualified personnel of other utilities or customers.

When issuing a Clearance, the Dispatcher or Operator shall state clearly to the person receiving the Clearance:

1. The name of the person receiving the Clearance.

2. The exact name of the line or equipment at the job site that is cleared and tagged.

3. The type of Clearance being issued.

4. The Clearance number.

5. The status of available ground switches.

Example: “John Doe, the Central-East Columbia No. 3 230-kV line is cleared and tagged for you on Work Clearance No. D-4567W, and ground switches at Central and East Columbia are closed.”
When receiving a Clearance, the Clearance Holder shall repeat back to the Dispatcher or Operator:

1. The name of the person receiving the Clearance.
2. The exact name of the line or equipment at the job site that is cleared and tagged.
3. The type of Clearance being received.
4. The Clearance number.
5. The status of available ground switches.

Example: “This is John Doe and I understand that the Central-East Columbia I No. 3 230-kV line is cleared and tagged for me on Work Clearance No. D-4567W, and ground switches at Central and East Columbia are closed.”

E. When a Clearance is received on equipment in a substation, it shall be the Clearance Holder’s responsibility to go with the Switchman to:

1. Point out the specific limits of the Clearance.
2. Point out which facilities are included in the Clearance.
3. Point out specific hazards in the work area presented by energized circuits and equipment.

It shall be the Switchman’s responsibility to assure that the above information the Clearance Holder gives is correct.

If the Switchman is not present when the Clearance is issued, the Clearance Holder will assure that his/her
understanding of the above information is correct by touring the Clearance site and checking the tagged isolating devices before any work associated with the Clearance begins.

Other persons present who will work under the Clearance should, where practical, be included in the tours as an aid to fulfilling the Clearance Holder’s responsibilities described in V.9.

F. When foreign crews work on lines or equipment under BPA jurisdiction, Clearances will be issued in accordance with BPA rules and procedures.

G. When BPA crews work on lines or equipment under foreign jurisdiction, they will receive Clearances in accordance with the foreign utility’s rules and procedures.

H. When BPA crews require a Clearance on lines or equipment under a foreign utility’s jurisdiction for proximity work on a BPA project, the BPA Dispatcher will issue the Clearance, except in those cases where the foreign utility’s rules and procedures dictate that the utility will issue the Clearance.

V.10 RELEASING CLEARANCES

A. All Clearances must be promptly released when the work or test is completed.

B. The System Dispatcher may delegate authority to a Switchman to accept the release of Dispatcher’s numbered Clearances. Clearances held by Contractors shall be released only to the System Dispatcher.
VI. HOLD ORDERS

VI.3 ISSUING AND RECEIVING HOLD ORDERS

The Dispatcher shall order automatic reclosing cut-out and tagged, and all other control points tagged for a Hold Order.

When all procedures have been completed for the provisions of the Hold Order, the Dispatcher shall issue the Hold Order to the worker and the hot-line maintenance or proximity work can proceed.

A. All Hold Orders on the BPA power system shall be issued by a System Dispatcher. Authority to issue Hold Orders may be delegated to a Substation Operator.

When issuing a Hold Order, the Dispatcher or Operator shall state clearly to the person receiving the Hold Order:

(1) The name of the person receiving the Hold Order.

(2) The exact name of the line or equipment included in the Hold Order.

Example: “John Doe, you now have a Hold Order on the Central-East Columbia No. 2 230-kV line.”

B. Hold Orders will be issued to employees and contractors only for whom a Clearance Certification is on file with the Dispatchers, and to Dispatchers and qualified personnel of other utilities or customers.

When receiving a Hold Order, the recipient of the Hold Order shall repeat back to the Dispatcher or Substation Operator:

(1) The name of the person receiving the Hold Order.
(2) The exact name of the line or equipment included in the Hold Order.

Example: “This is John Doe, and I now have a Hold Order on the Central-East Columbia No. 2 230-kV line.”

The Dispatcher or Operator and the recipient of the Hold Order shall confirm the location of the crew and the communication which will be available for the duration of the Hold Order.

C. When foreign crews require a Hold Order for work on lines or equipment under BPA jurisdiction, the Hold Order will be issued in accordance with BPA rules and procedures.

D. When BPA crews require a Hold Order for work on lines or equipment under foreign jurisdiction, they will receive Hold Orders in accordance with the foreign utility’s rules and procedures.

E. When BPA crews require Hold Orders on lines or equipment under a foreign utility’s jurisdiction for proximity work on a BPA project, the BPA Dispatcher will issue the Hold Order, except in those cases where the foreign utility’s rules and procedures dictate that the utility will issue the Hold Order.

VII. WORK PERMITS

VII.6 Work Permits will be issued to qualified employees, as determined by their supervisors and qualified persons of other utilities.
X. COLOR ADDENDUM
HOLD ORDER
DO NOT OPERATE THIS
DEVICE WITHOUT
DISPATCHER’S APPROVAL

1. HOLD ORDER IS ISSUED
WHEN LED IS ON.
2. NO HOLD ORDER WHEN
LED IS OFF.

WORK PERMIT TAG
(BPA F 6510.13a)

(FRONT)

BPA 6510.13a
(9-05)

US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

WORK PERMIT
THIS TAG DOES NOT PROVIDE
PROTECTION FOR WORKMEN

DO NOT REMOVE
THIS TAG WITHOUT
AUTHORIZATION

FOR DATA
☐ SEE OTHER SIDE
☐ SEE TAG ON ________

(BACK)

BPA 6510.2813a
(8-05)

WORK PERMIT
THIS TAG DOES NOT PROVIDE
PROTECTION FOR WORKMEN

STATION/LOCATION

EQUIPMENT/CIRCUIT

SWITCHES/DEVICES TAGGED

TAGGED FOR
CONDITION/REASON

TAGGED

TAG PLACED BY
hrs date

TAG REMOVED BY
hrs date

March 2011
Red Do Not Operate Tag with black border (BPA F 6510.14)

Red Work Clearance Tag (BPA F 6510.15)

Blue Test Clearance Tag (BPA F 6510.16)

Yellow Caution Tag (BPA F 6510.17)

Yellow Hold Order Tag (BPA F 6510.18)

White Work Permit Tag (BPA F 6510.19)
RED WOODEN BLOCK
Catalog ID: 0000197930

7"

1 1/2"
GLOSSARY OF SPECIAL TERMS AND PHRASES

Adjustable Rod Gap  
A switching device on 500 kV line terminals. Reducing the rod gap spacing provides added protection for workmen while **PERFORMING LIVE-LINE WORK**.

Assurance of no backfeed  
The assurance given by a utility that at a specific point of interconnection they have no means of backfeeding that circuit, or if they have an alternative source of power, that source is isolated from the interconnection and the isolation point will not be closed without the permission from the BPA Dispatcher.

At the Job Site  
“At the Job Site” means at the location where the work is being performed. The holder of a Clearance or Hold Order may place or respond to telephone or radio calls, perform paperwork incidental to the job at hand, use available restroom facilities, or perform other minor tasks incidental to the work and still be considered “At the Job Site”.

For Clearances and Hold Orders issued for work on transmission lines where the work requires workers at more than one location, the holder of the Clearance or Hold Order is considered to be “At the Job Site” when with a group of workers or traveling between groups of workers, provided that radio or cell phone contact can be maintained with the Dispatcher and all groups of workers.

Authorized Employee  
A person who locks out or tags out machines or equipment to perform the servicing or maintenance on that machine or equipment.

Bonding  
The interconnection of conductive parts designed to maintain a common electrical potential.
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<th><strong>Competent Person</strong></th>
<th>One who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings, or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.</th>
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<td><strong>Clearance (Work or Test)</strong></td>
<td>Assurance given to a worker by a System Dispatcher or Substation Operator that (1) specified power system equipment or a transmission line is isolated from the power system, and (2) it will not be ordered energized from the power system until that worker reports the crew in the clear and the equipment or line ready for service and the Clearance is released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Control Point</strong></td>
<td>Equipment controls that automatically or can be remotely closed to energize a high voltage circuit. Isolating devices are not considered control points.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Electrical Worker</strong></td>
<td>Contract journeyman, electrical apprentice, journeyman in training, temporary electrical worker.</td>
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| **Employee** | *As applied in Chapter One:* Is any BPA employee represented by the Columbia Power Trades Council.  
*As applied in Chapter Two:* Is any BPA employee not represented by the Columbia Power Trades Council. |
| **Energy Source** | Any source of electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, thermal or other energy. |
| **Energy Source Control** | The use of a device or procedure that ensures any potentially hazardous stored or residual energy be relieved, disconnected, restrained and otherwise rendered safe. |
| **Group Display Board** | The large one-line diagram board of the power system installed in Control Centers. |
| **Hold Order** | Assurance given to a worker by a System Dispatcher or Substation Operator that if specified power system equipment or a transmission line is de-energized, it will not be ordered energized until that worker reports the crew in the clear. |
| **Isolating Device** | Electrical apparatus used to isolate power system lines and equipment from a source of energization. High-voltage isolating devices include disconnect switches, hot-stick links, removable bus links, or transmission line jumpers, which provide an air-gap of approved design for the circuit, or gas-insulated disconnect switches which are contained within an SF6 gas reservoir operating at or above normal gas density. Low-voltage isolating devices are used to isolate high-voltage equipment from potential back feed through a source of low-voltage energization. These devices include ACBs, disconnect switches, removable fuses, or other positive isolating means*. Low-voltage isolating devices do not include automatic transfer switches and non-lockable manual transfer switches. |

* Work Standard BPA-WS-8-1, Lockout/Tagout defines other positive isolating means by example: removing valve handles, lifting, taping leads from the load side of the breaker, removing plug-in type breakers from the panel, etc. |

<p>| <strong>Isolating Device, Non-operative</strong> | Methods of operating an isolating device have been disabled and a lock(s) placed on the device providing mechanical restraint on the operating linkage to prevent inadvertent closing by either a personnel action or a natural event. |
| <strong>Isolating Device, Restrained</strong> | Manufacturer designed means used to assure positive mechanical restraint of the isolating device to prevent inadvertent closing by a natural event. |</p>
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<th>Boundaries of a Clearance designated by open and properly tagged isolating devices.</th>
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<td><strong>Log</strong></td>
<td>A permanent record maintained at each substation and control center.</td>
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<td>** Normally Energized**</td>
<td>High-voltage power system equipment is considered “normally energized” if it is energized or could be energized by closing an isolating device.</td>
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<td><strong>Proximity Work</strong></td>
<td>Work being performed near normally energized high-voltage facilities where inadvertent movement of personnel or equipment could result in violating the applicable Minimum Approach Distance.</td>
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<td><strong>Power System Equipment</strong></td>
<td>All mechanical, electrical, or electronic equipment or circuits required for the operation of a high-voltage power system.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Qualified Climber</strong></td>
<td>An employee, who by training and experience demonstrates knowledge and proficiency in climbing techniques, equipment, rescue methods, principles, and is knowledgeable of the hazards associated with climbing.</td>
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<td><strong>Qualified Electrical Employee</strong></td>
<td>BPA employee who has an Electrical Worker Permit as defined in Rule A-1, Access to BPA Energized Facilities. Only Qualified Electrical Employees are authorized to wear yellow hard hats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Qualified Employee</strong></td>
<td>Any person who, by experience or training is familiar with the work to be performed and the hazards involved and is, in the judgment of the Dispatcher, qualified to do the task.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Qualified Person</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restrained</strong></td>
<td>Positive means used to assure restraint of the isolating device or disconnect blades so that the disconnect blades can not fall closed.</td>
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**January 2013**
**Shorting (Short Circuiting)**
The process that establishes a metallic connection between two or more points in an electrical circuit that has the capacity to conduct any anticipated current.

**Switchman**
Any person who, by experience or training, is familiar with the operation to be performed and the hazards involved and is, in the judgment of the dispatcher, qualified to perform the assigned switching.

**Standing Operating Orders**
Pre-approved Dispatching Orders which permit restoration of the transmission system and service to customers with minimum delay after trouble occurs. On file at each substation and control center, they cover trouble situations which can reasonably be expected at a substation while in its normal Operating mode.

**Switching Order**
A step-by-step plan to perform switching operations in a specific sequence.

**Test Voltages**
Electrical voltages and currents applied to power system facilities with testing equipment for the purpose of calibration, information, or testing. Power system voltages are not considered "test voltages".

**Terminal Clearance**
A Terminal Clearance is a formal assurance of isolation of a Local Terminal or Terminals* of an interconnecting circuit provided by the Local System Dispatcher** to a requesting Dispatcher. The Terminal Clearance assures the requesting dispatcher that the terminal or source is open, properly cleared and tagged according to local procedures, and that it will not be energized until a release is given by the Dispatcher receiving the Terminal Clearance.
**Terminal Hold**

A Terminal Hold is a formal assurance of non-reclosure at the Local Terminal or Terminals* of an inter-connecting circuit provided by the Local System Dispatcher** to a requesting Dispatcher. The Terminal Hold assures the requesting Dispatcher that the terminal or source on “Hold” has sufficient relays in service to provide protection in the event of a fault; and, once tripped out of service, will not be energized, automatically or manually until the Dispatcher receiving the Terminal Hold has advised that all personnel and materials are in the clear and it is safe to energize.

**Underground Residential Distribution (URD):**

Refers to electrical equipment that incorporate metal enclosures, barriers, and insulated cables and connectors typically used to serve residential and light industrial loads. At BPA URD equipment is used to provide station service electric power in substations and to non-electric plant (NEP) facilities. Typical operating voltages for URD equipment range from 120/240 VAC to 34.5k VAC. URD equipment may also be referred to as “Pad–Mount” or “Metal Enclosed” which are also industry accepted terms.

**URD Grounds:**

Grounds that may be used for protection against electric shock in conjunction with the grounding of URD equipment or cables. URD grounds are fitted with standardized insulated connectors (elbow) on one end and are designed to connect to the insulated bushings of metal enclosed URD transformers or switches. URD grounds have limited fault current carrying capacity due to limitations in the insulated elbow connectors and not necessarily the cable itself. URD grounds are limited to 10,000 amps ($I^2t$) for 10 cycles; 5,800 amps for 30 cycles, and 3,500 amps for 3 seconds.
Work Permit

Permission granted to work on power system equipment, equipment deenergized for work near suspect equipment or induced voltage reduction when the work does not require a Clearance or Hold Order. A Work Permit does not provide electrical contact protection for personnel, or permit the violation of applicable Minimum Approach Distances.

*A Local Terminal is a terminal of an interconnecting circuit under the authority of the Local System Dispatcher.

**The Local System Dispatcher is the Dispatcher who has the authority over a Local Terminal or Terminals of an interconnecting circuit.
Electrical Contact Accident Protocol

Section 1: Instructions for the Emergency Department (ED) Physician

This Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) employee has been involved in an electrical contact accident. In cooperation with the three Regional Burn Centers located in our operating area, BPA Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH) has established the following protocol to ensure that injured employees receive the best possible medical response to an electrical contact.

Even in apparently minor electrical injuries, consulting with the closest Regional Burn Center regarding treatment recommendations is required.

Consult with your Regional Burn Center for treatment recommendations.

- Legacy Emanuel Medical Center (Portland, OR) (888) 598-4232
- Harborview Medical Center (Seattle, WA) (888) 731-4791
- Intermountain Burn Center-University Of Utah (Salt Lake City, UT) (801) 581-2700

Immediately following your assessment, please update the on-call BPA EOH staff member by calling (503) 294-2166. The information you provide will be used to assist the employee in obtaining the best outcome. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Why was this protocol established?
The physician treating an injured BPA employee directs the medical care of that employee. However, since training and experience of emergency department physicians varies regarding electrical contact injuries, requiring the treating physician to consult with one of the Regional Burn Centers will ensure the best medical outcome for our employee.
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Section 2: Employee Guidelines

1. An Electrical Contact Accident is defined as any current flow through or across the employee’s body or if any of the following is true.

   The contact resulted:
   a. In burns or wounds;
   b. In interrupted or impaired breathing;
   c. In the Employee not able to let go of a circuit or equipment;
   d. In any neurological problems, including but not limited to tremors, shaking, numbness, difficulty balancing, difficulty walking, confusion, disorientation, speech difficulties, vision problems, or bladder problems, or headache;
   e. In pain lasting greater than 5 minutes.

2. Following any electrical contact injury immediately call 911 and initiate First Aid. Do not move the injured employee, unless the accident occurred in a remote location.

Remote Location Instructions
   a. If the injury occurred in a remote location follow the BPA Safety and Health Program Handbook, Remote Location Emergency Medical Response, Section B, Chapter 11.

      i. Notify the BPA Dispatcher and inform them of the location (including the county) and nature of the accident.

      ii. Field crews will notify the local 911 center, Emergency Medical System (EMS), directly if communications are available. Supervisors shall ensure that all employees are informed of procedures for summoning emergency medical services at their work locations. Dispatch is to be notified as soon as possible.

      iii. While awaiting medical response, employees should stabilize and care for the injured (to the extent of their First Aid training). Do not attempt to move the injured person unless they are at risk of further injury from hazards at the scene or directed to do so by medical personnel.
iv. Assist EMS personnel in arriving at the accident scene. If available, a crewmember may be sent to meet EMS at a main road crossing, intersection or landmark to have medical personnel follow them to the accident scene.

3. On arrival at the emergency department, provide a copy of Section 1, Instructions to Emergency Department Physician, to the medical staff.

4. As soon as the injured employee is in the care of the emergency department personnel, immediately contact the BPA EOH staff by calling the BPA EOH answering service at (503) 294-2166.

What to do if you are uncertain about an employee’s injury?
If there has been an electrical contact or suspected electrical contact, but it is not evident that the employee requires medical evaluation, immediately call the BPA EOH answering service at (503) 294-2166.

The answering service will contact the on-call BPA EOH staff member. This medical professional will immediately triage the situation and determine if further medical evaluation is required. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Section 3 Return to Duty

Employees involved in an electrical contact injury must be evaluated by a physician with specialized training and experience treating burns prior to returning to duty. BPA EOH will arrange for this evaluation.

Possible Signs and Symptoms Requiring Additional Medical Evaluation
The effects of an electrical contact injury may manifest after an employee has been returned to duty. Managers and supervisors observing any behaviors or impairment that cause them to question the employee’s safety shall direct the employee away from safety sensitive work and contact BPA EOH immediately.

These signs and symptoms may include, but are not limited to, inability to concentrate, forgetfulness, inability to follow instructions, threatening behavior, unsteady gait, decreased ability to balance, and trembling.
Accident / Injury Protocol

In the event of a serious accident:
(Involves loss of consciousness, electrical contact, severe burns, heart attack, death, life-threatening injury or injury to 3 or more persons)

- Summon local emergency medical assistance by calling 911. If no phone coverage, contact dispatch center through the VHF radio. Provide first aid if possible.
- If possible another BPA employee should accompany the injured employee to the hospital to act as advocate for the employee to facilitate paperwork and convey the claim information on this card.
- The immediate group should stand down and stop work. Secure the scene from change until released by the Safety Office. Management should collect statements of the crew/witnesses as soon as practical.
- Notify your first line supervisors of the incident and follow-up with the required forms for reporting injury accidents.
- Contact the Safety Office at (360)418-2397. After-hours, contact the System Dispatcher at (800)392-0816.

Reporting process for all injuries and occupational illnesses:

- Notify your first line supervisors of the incident and follow-up with the required forms for reporting injury accidents.
- Contact the Safety Office (360)418-2397. After-hours, contact the System Dispatcher at (800)392-0816.
• Complete the CA-1 and submit to supervisor. Supervisor will submit completed form to the OWCP Case Manager.

• Complete the employee portion of the 5480.01e, Individual Accident/Incident Report and submit to your supervisor. Supervisor will submit the completed report to the local safety manager within 6 days of incident.

• Return to work as soon as physically able and provide medical evidence to supervisors and OWCP case manager if disabled for work.

For further information and instructions on the Individual Accident / Incident Report, contact your local safety manager or the main safety office at (360) 418-2397.

For further information and instructions for the OWCP and billing process, contact the OWCP Case Manager at (503) 230-3320 or HR Help at (503) 230-3230.

Additional reporting information is also located on BPA’s Safety web site under accident reporting.

Information for Medical Facility:
BPA is a Federal government agency & self-insured for work-related injuries. Bills for medical treatment must include a Case number. Bills must be submitted on a HICF 1500 To: OWCP, DOL; PO Box 8300; London, KY 40742-8300

Bills must contain your ACS provider number
For questions call OWCP at (866)335-8319 or BPA OWCP Case Manager at (503)230-3320
SULFUR HEXAFLUORIDE (SF₆) GAS ACCIDENT PROTOCOL

Section 1 - Health Hazards

Pure SF₆: Pure SF₆ is colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic and nonflammable. SF₆ gas is heavier than air, so the main health hazard associated with exposure to pure SF₆ gas is asphyxiation by displacement of oxygen. Caution is required when working in the bottom of power circuit breaker tanks, trenches, manholes, or other confined areas where pockets of SF₆ gas could accumulate. Contact with liquefied SF₆ gas can cause frostbite to exposed tissue.

Arced SF₆: When SF₆ gas is subjected to an electrical arc, a number of toxic arc byproducts are formed. The type of arc byproducts produced depend on a number of circumstances including but not limited to arc intensity, duration, surrounding materials and moisture content of the gas. SF₆ arc byproducts may have the characteristic odor of rotten eggs. The most hazardous side effect from exposure to arced SF₆ is the combination of moisture with the fluorine contained in most of the byproducts which in turn produces hydrofluoric acid. Some of the most common SF₆ arc byproducts produced are:

- Sulfur Tetrafluoride (SF₄)
- Sulfuryl Fluoride (SO₂F₂)
- Sulfur Difluoride (SF₂)
- Hydrogen Fluoride (HF)
- Thionyl Fluoride (SOF₂)
- Hydrofluoric Acid (HF+H₂O)

Exposure to arced SF₆ gas and solid arc byproducts can cause nausea and irritation to the eyes and upper respiratory tract. Early symptoms of eye, skin or throat irritation are not indicative of a serious problem. Take them as a warning and get out of the contaminated area. Skin exposure to SF₆ arc byproducts can cause chemical burns.

In extremely rare cases, exposure to these arc byproducts can result in chemical burns and pulmonary edema, a potentially fatal accumulation of fluid in the lungs.

In the event that an employee is exposed to a release of arced SF₆ gas and solid arc byproducts follow the Employee First Aid Guidelines listed below.

Section 2 - Employee First Aid Guidelines

Do not become another victim. Employees should not attempt to retrieve or render aid to an unconscious victim in the location of a potential SF₆ gas release. Proper air monitoring, training and personal protective equipment provided by emergency medical services (EMS) will be needed to assist in removal of an unconscious victim from the contaminated area. If the victim is conscious, proceed with caution and have them move away from the immediate release area if they have not done so already.
Immediately contact (EMS) by calling 911. Inform 911 of the potential exposure to arced SF₆ gas and solid arc byproducts listed below. Provide a copy of the SULFUR HEXAFLUORIDE (SF₆) GAS ACCIDENT PROTOCOL to the EMS personnel when they arrive on site.

Skin / eye exposure: After contacting EMS, assist the victim if needed in the removal of contaminated clothing and irrigate skin / eyes with water for at least 15 minutes or until EMS personnel arrive on site and take over caring for the victim.

Section 3 Instructions for Emergency Medical Personnel

This Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) employee has been involved in an accident involving exposure to arced Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF₆) gas used in electrical equipment. Under arced conditions, the gas is known to convert from its pure state into hazardous arc byproducts, including:

| Sulfur Tetrafluoride (SF₄) | Sulfuryl Fluoride (SO₂F₂) |
| Sulfur Difluoride (SF₂) | Hydrogen Fluoride (HF) |
| Thionyl Fluoride (SOF₂) | Hydrofluoric Acid (HF+H₂O) |

These arc byproducts are toxic and corrosive and may cause chemical burns and pulmonary edema.

This information is provided because the employee could have been exposed to these hazardous arc byproducts and the Material Safety Data Sheet for pure SF₆ gas may not address these potential exposure concerns.

Consult with your Regional Burn Center for Treatment Recommendations.

- Legacy Emanuel Medical Center (Portland, OR): (888) 598-4232
- Harborview Medical Center (Seattle, WA): (206) 744-5735
- Intermountain Burn Center-University Of Utah (Salt Lake City, UT): (801) 581-2700

Other resources: Poison Control Center’s Universal number is (800)-222-1222.

Immediately following your assessment, please update the on-call BPA Environmental and Occupational Health Medical Professional by calling (503) 294-2166. The information you provide will be used to assist the employee in obtaining the best outcome. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
BPA Safety Motto

No job is so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take time to perform our work safely.

If it’s not grounded, IT’S NOT DEAD.