

SAFE WORK PRACTICES OVERHEAD POWERLINES/BURIED POWERLINES

**This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

General: It takes very little electrical current to kill. If the contact is made for only an instant, 110 volts may kill. There have been cases where as little as 60 or 70 volts have been fatal. ***Always respect electricity!***

1. Whenever possible, all lines no matter how low the voltage, should be de-energized prior to any work being done. This de-energizing work and subsequent installation or repairs should be made only by a qualified electrician.
2. When working in or on energized substations, transmission lines, power plants, etc., all accident prevention rules, procedures and regulations are to be followed by all employees.
3. Electricians working around energized lines or equipment in hard hat areas are to wear approved electrical hardhats.
4. Never make repairs to electrical equipment unless you are trained and authorized to do so.
5. Material must not be carried on the shoulders while working around energized equipment, lines or buses.
6. As an added safety precaution, handle all wires as though they were energized.
7. No electrical work is to be done "hot" if it can be done "cold".
8. Metal ladders shall not be used for electrical work or under any circumstances where they may contact electrical conductors.
9. Electrical permit requirements must be complied with at all work sites.