COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In	tho	MAG	tter	of.
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EAST KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.)	
)	CASE NO. 2017-00084
ALLEGED FAILURE TO COMPLY)	
WITH KRS 278.042)	

ORDER

East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. ("EKPC") is a corporation organized under KRS Chapter 279 and engaged in the generation and transmission of electricity for compensation for lights, heat, power, and other uses. It is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. KRS 279.210(1) and KRS 278.010(3)(a) and (9). Pursuant to KRS 278.042, the Commission shall prescribe the service adequacy and safety standards for electric utilities, as stated in the Commission's administrative regulations, orders, and in the most recent edition of the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC"). Under 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), the Commission requires utilities to construct and maintain plants and facilities in accordance with engineering practices set forth in the NESC.

Commission Staff submitted to the Commission an Accident Investigation Staff Report ("Staff Report") dated May 3, 2016, attached hereto as an Appendix. The Staff Report alleges that on April 7, 2016, at approximately 3:45 p.m., EKPC Line Technician Dustin Cody Kidd was attempting to repair a pole damaged by a fallen tree when he sustained injuries after being struck on the face and right wrist by a failed block and hook. A crew for EKPC's contractor, Asplundh Tree Company, had cut a tree which fell

across the phase conductors on an EKPC 69-kilovolt transmission circuit. This caused the circuit to lock. A crew from EKPC was tasked to repair the damage caused by the tree. The EKPC crew wanted to lower the phase conductor to the ground instead of trying to cut the tree off the line. The crew was attempting to lift one of the phase conductors in order to unpin the insulators from the phase conductor. A hand line was being pulled by a pickup truck to lift the phase conductor when the hook attached to that conductor failed, allowing the hook to slip off the conductor. When the hook failed, it ran back to the block used in the hand line, causing the block to fail. Mr. Kidd was working near the block when it failed and was struck on the face and right wrist by the failed block and hook, causing broken bones in both his face and wrist. Mr. Kidd was removed from the pole by other crew members and was transported by helicopter to University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington, Kentucky.

The Staff Report alleges: 1) that the duties of the first-level supervisor or person in charge pursuant to the NESC were not met; 2) that inappropriate work methods or tools were used for this attempted repair, as the hand line was not rated for the amount of load that was being applied to it by the pickup truck at the time of failure; and 3) the EKPC supervisor should have been aware of this and used an alternate method to complete this task.

Based on its review of the Staff Report and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that *prima facie* evidence exists that EKPC has failed to comply with KRS 278.042, the 2012 edition of the NESC, and the EKPC Safety Manual. Specifically, the Commission finds that EKPC has violated the following provisions of the 2012 NESC and the EKPC Safety Manual:

Use of inappropriate work methods or tools:

- NESC Part 4, Section 42, Rule 420 Work Rules for the Operation of Electric Supply and Communications Lines and Equipment General Rules for Employees General Tools and Protective Equipment: Employees shall use the personal protective equipment, the protective devices, and the special tools provided for their work. Before starting work, these devices and tools shall be carefully inspected to make sure they are in good condition.
- 2. EKPC Safety Manual (Page B-1) Section B: Cardinal Rules: a) EKPC implemented Cardinal Safety Rules in 2015. Each of these Cardinal Rules were already key EKPC safety requirements, and are not new requirements. EKPC is placing an emphasis on these nine Cardinal Rules because each of them is crucial for employee safety. EKPC's Cardinal Safety Rules are designed to complement our existing safety policies and ensure safety procedures are followed at all locations. These rules place the highest priority on individual safety and hold each employee accountable for their actions. A violation of a Cardinal Rule could result in a serious incident, injury or death. Violation of these rules, may, upon completion of an investigation, result in disciplinary action up to and including termination. EKPC's Cardinal Safety Rules are: 9. Operate company equipment within its limits, with authorization and installed safety features.
- EKPC Safety Manual (Page J-4) Rule J-6 Rigging Equipment: a) All rigging equipment shall be sufficient strength, proper type, and safe for its intended use; b) Rigging equipment shall not be loaded beyond its rated capacity.

Failure of the duties of a first-level supervisor or person in charge:

4. NESC Part 4, Section 42, Rule 421 – Work Rules for the Operation of Electric Supply and Communications Lines and Equipment – General Rules for Employees – General Operating Routines – Duties of a first-level supervisor or person in charge: This individual shall: 1. Adopt such precautions as are within the individual's authority to prevent accidents. 2. See that the safety rules and operating procedures are observed by the employees under the direction of this individual. 5. Prohibit the use of tools or

devices unsuited to the work at hand or that have not been tested or inspected as required.

5. **EKPC** Manual (Page A-2) Rule A-5 Safety Supervisor/Foreman Responsibilities :a) Supervisors/Foremen shall be responsible for not only their own safety, but also for the safe work performance of other employees under their leadership. The supervisor/foreman will be held strictly responsible for the enforcement of safe work practices and compliance with safety rules and regulations. He/she shall not require nor allow an employee to perform work with faulty equipment. He/she shall also ensure that competent persons are in charge of each work group, and also be satisfied that work groups are of sufficient size and properly qualified to perform the assigned tasks efficiently and safely. Supervisors/foremen are responsible for the proper use and maintenance of all protective devices. The prevention of incidents is a primary part of every supervisor/foreman's responsibilities. circumstance shall safety be sacrificed for speed. Before assigning work to an employee, the supervisor/foreman shall be sure that the employee knows and understands the hazards associated with the work and the proper procedures to perform the work safely. This shall be known as a "Job Briefing" (as discussed later in this manual) documented.

The Commission further finds that a formal investigation into the incident that is the subject matter of the Staff Report should be conducted and that this investigation should also examine the adequacy, safety, and reasonableness of EKPC's practices related to the construction, installation, and repair of electric facilities.

The Commission, on its own motion, HEREBY ORDERS that:

- EKPC shall submit to the Commission a written response to the allegations contained in the Staff Report within 20 days of the date of this Order.
- EKPC shall appear on Tuesday, July 11, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern
 Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard
 in Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of presenting evidence concerning the alleged

violations of KRS 278.042, the 2012 edition of the NESC, and the EKPC Safety Manual, and showing cause why it should not be subject to the penalties prescribed in KRS 278.990(1) for these alleged violations.

- The July 11, 2017 hearing shall be recorded by digital video recording only.
- 4. The Staff Report in the Appendix to this Order is made a part of the record in this case.
- 5. At the scheduled hearing in this matter, EKPC shall also present evidence on the adequacy, safety, and reasonableness of its practices related to the construction, installation, and repair of electric facilities as they relate to the facts of this case and whether such practices require revision as related to this incident.
- Any requests for an informal conference with Commission Staff shall be set forth in writing and filed with the Commission within 20 days of the date of this Order.

By the Commission

ENTERED

MAR 0 8 2017

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2017-00084 DATED WAR 0 8 2017

Matthew G. Bevin Governor

Charles G. Snavely Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Public Service
Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-

0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Daniel E. Logsdon Jr. Vice Chairman

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION STAFF REPORT

Report Date: May 3, 2016

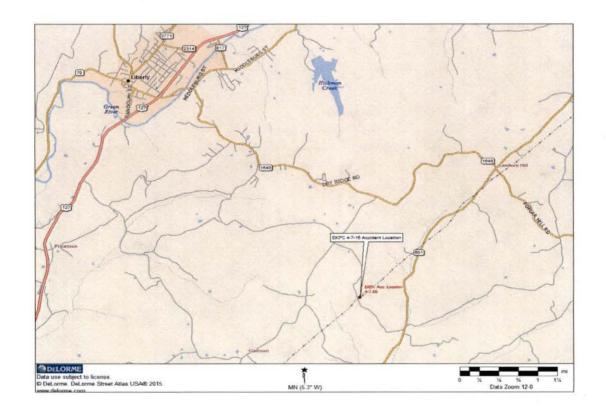
Accident Date: April 7, 2016

Serving Utility: East Kentucky Power Cooperative

Accident Location: 547 Trace Fork Road, Casey County, Kentucky

Accident Victim: Dustin Cody Kidd

PSC Investigator: Steve Kingsolver





Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Vice Chairman
Commonwealth of Kentucky
Public Service Commission

Daniel E. Logsdon Jr.

211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Fax: (502) 564-3460 psc.ky.gov

Electric Utility Employee Injury Accident Report

Utility:

East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC)

Reported By:

Mike Willoughby

EKPC Safety Manager

Incident Occurred:

Approximately 3:45 PM, April 7, 2016

Utility Discovered:

Approximately 3:45 PM, April 7, 2016

PSC Notified:

Approximately 9:50 PM, April 7, 2016 (by voicemail to

502-782-7905)

(A call was made to Kingsolver-Moore-Bowman at approximately 8:04 PM on 4-7-16 with no answers.)

(Victim admitted to hospital at approximately

7:00 PM, April 7, 2016)

Summary Report Received:

By Email: Thursday, April 14, 2016

By Mail: Monday, April 18, 2016

(See Attachment A)

PSC On-Site Investigation:

Approximately 10:00 AM, April 20, 2016

Incident Description:

This accident happened at approximately 3:45 PM on April 7, 2016. The location of this accident was near 547 Trace Fork Road in Casey County near Liberty, Kentucky. This accident took place in a remote area. A crew for a tree contractor working for EKPC, Asplundh Tree Company, was cutting a tree and the tree fell across the phase conductors of the Phil to Liberty Junction 69kV transmission circuit. This action locked



out (de-energized) the circuit. A crew from the EKPC Burnside Operations Center was assigned the task of repairing the damage caused by the tree. The victim, Cody Kidd, Level 2 Line Tech, with EKPC was injured during the process of repairing the damage. The victim was working on the pole where the failure occurred at the time of this accident. The crew wanted to let this phase conductor to the ground. The crew was attempting to lift one of the phase conductors to be able to unpin the insulators from the phase conductor. The crew was using a hand line to lift the phase conductor when the hook attached to the phase conductor failed allowing the hook to slip off of the phase conductor. The hand line was being pulled by a pickup truck at the time it failed. When the hook failed, it ran back to the block (Dolly) used in the hand line causing the block to fail. The victim was working near the block when it failed and the victim was struck on the right wrist and the face by the failed block and failed hook. This caused the bones in the right wrist and bones in the face to be broken. The victim was removed from the pole by other crew members and was transported by helicopter to the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington, Kentucky.

The hand line apparently was not rated for the amount of load that was being applied to it by the pickup truck at the time of failure. The supervisor should have been aware of this and used an alternate method of completing this task.

Victim:	Name:	Position:	Employer:	
	Dustin Cody Kidd	Level 2 Line Tech	EKPC	

Age: 25

Injuries: To face and broken right wrist.

Medical Facility: Admitted to University of Kentucky Medical Center

Witnesses:	Name:	Position	Employer:
	Eugene Lowery	Line Foreman	EKPC
	Tony Gregory	Level 3 Line Tech	EKPC
	Josh Stivers	Level 1 Line Tech	EKPC
	Brian Ping	Level 3 Line Tech	EKPC
	Kenny Roy	Right of Way Specialist	EKPC

NOTE: For employee statements from the EKPC employees on the site of the accident. (See Attachment B)

Information From:	Name:	Position:	Employer:
	Mike Willoughby	Safety Manager	EKPC
	Allan Cheuvront	Supervisor	EKPC
	Eugene Lowery	Foreman	EKPC



FINDINGS:

It is the investigator's opinion that the EKPC employees involved in this accident did not meet the following requirements set forth in the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) and the EKPC Safety Manual.

RELEVANT CODES, STATUTES, REGULATIONS, OR SAFETY MANUAL ISSUES THAT ARE PERTINENT TO THE INVESTIGATION

278.042 Service adequacy and safety standards for electric utilities National Electrical Safety Code

- (1) For the purposes of this section, "NESC" means the National Electrical Safety Code as published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided by law, the commission shall, in enforcing service adequacy and safety standards for electric utilities, ensure that each electric utility constructs and maintains its plant and facilities in accordance with accepted engineering practices as set forth in the commission's administrative regulations and orders and in the most recent edition of the NESC.

Effective: June 24, 2003

History: Created 2003 Ky. Acts Ch. 84, sec. 1, Effective June 24, 2003.

2012 National Electric Safety Code:

See 2012 NESC Code to view each rule in its entirety.

#1: National Electrical Safety Code (P-270)

Lines and Equipment

Section 42: General rules for employees

420: General

Part 4:

H. Tools and Protective Equipment

Employees shall use the personal protective equipment, the protective devices, and the special tools provided for their work. Before starting work, these devices and tools shall be carefully inspected to make sure that they are in good condition.

Work Rules for the Operation of Electric Supply and Communications



#2: National Electrical Safety Code (Page-272)

Part 4: Work Rules for the Operation of Electric Supply and Communications

Lines and Equipment

Section 42: General rules for employees 421. General operating routines

- A. Duties of a first-level supervisor or person in charge This individual shall:
- Adopt such precautions as are within the individual's authority to prevent accidents.
- 2. See that the safety rules and operating procedures are observed by the employees under the direction of this individual.
- Prohibit the use of tools or devices unsuited to the work at hand or that have not been tested or inspected as required.

807 KAR 5:006. General rules.

RELATES TO: KRS 65.810, 74, 96.934, 220.510, 278, 49 C.F.R. Part 192, 49 U.S.C. 60105

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 278.230, 278.280(2), 49 C.F.R. 192
NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 278.230(3) requires every utility
to file with the commission reports, schedules, and other information that the
commission requires. KRS 278.280(2) requires the commission to promulgate an
administrative regulation for the performance of a service or the furnishing of a
commodity by a utility. This administrative regulation establishes requirements that
apply to electric, gas, water, sewage, and telephone utilities.

807 KAR 5:006 General Rules

Section 25: Safety Program

Section 25: Safety Program: Each utility shall adopt and execute a safety program, appropriate to the size and type of its operations. At a minimum, the safety program shall:

- (1) Establish a safety manual with written guidelines for safe working practices and procedures to be followed by utility employees.
- (2) Instruct employees in safe methods of performing their work. For electric utilities, this is to include the standards established in 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3.
- (3) Instruct employees who, in the course of their work, are subject to the hazard of electrical shock, asphyxiation or drowning, in accepted methods of artificial respiration.

EKPC Safety Manual: (Revision 3, November 5, 2015)



(April 7, 2016 Accident) (Victim: Kidd)

(See EKPC Safety Manual to view each rule in its entirety.)

#1: EKPC Safety Manual: (Page: A-2)

Rule A-5 Supervisor/Foreman Responsibilities

a) Supervisors/Foremen shall be responsible not only for their own safety, but also for the safe work performance of other employees under their leadership. The supervisor/foreman will be held strictly responsible for the enforcement of safe work practices and compliance with safety rules and regulations. He/she shall not require nor allow an employee to perform work with faulty equipment. He/she shall also ensure that competent persons are in charge of each work group, and also be satisfied that work groups are of sufficient size and properly qualified to perform the assigned tasks efficiently and safely. Supervisors/foremen are responsible for the proper use and maintenance of all protective devices. The prevention of incidents is a primary part of every supervisor/foreman's responsibilities. Under no circumstances shall safety be sacrificed for speed. Before assigning work to an employee, the supervisor/foreman shall be sure that the employee knows and understands the hazards associated with the work and the proper procedures to perform the work safely. This shall be known as a "Job Briefing" (as discussed later in this manual) and documented.

#2: EKPC Safety Manual: (Page: B-1)

SECTION B: CARDINAL RULES

a) EKPC implemented Cardinal Safety Rules in 2015. Each of these Cardinal Rules were already key EKPC safety requirements, and are not new requirements. EKPC is placing an emphasis on these nine Cardinal Rules because each of them is crucial for employee safety.

EKPC's Cardinal Safety Rules are designed to complement our existing safety policies and ensure safety procedures are followed at all locations. These rules place the highest priority on individual safety and hold each employee accountable for their actions. A violation of a Cardinal Rule could result in a serious incident, injury or death. Violation of these rules may, upon completion of an investigation, result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

EKPC's Cardinal Safety Rules are:

Operate company equipment within its limits, with authorization and installed safety features.



#3: EKPC Safety Manual (Page: J-4)

Rule J-6 Rigging Equipment

- a) All rigging equipment shall be sufficient strength, proper type, and safe for its intended use.
- b) Rigging equipment shall not be loaded beyond its rated capacity.



Investigated By: Name: Company:
Steve Kingsolver KPSC

Signed: Stew Kurgeolier

Date: 5-3-16

Attachments: A. EKPC Summary Report

B. EKPC Additional InformationC. KPSC Map of Accident SiteD. Accident Notification Information

Attachment A

Utility Summary Report





April 13, 2016

Mr. Steve Kingsolver Kentucky Public Service Commission Post Office Box 615 211 Sower Blvd Frankfort, Kentucky 40602 RECEIVED

APR 18 2016

Public Service Commission

Re: East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) Employee Injury April 7, 2016

Dear Mr. Kingsolver:

In accordance with the Kentucky Public Service Commission's (Commission) Regulation 807 KAR5:006, Section 27 (2), this letter serves as a summary written report of an incident which occurred on April 7, 2016 involving a utility related accident that resulted in a serious injury. The details of the incident are outlined below:

Date, Time & Location of Incident

Thursday, 04/07/16 – Approximately 03:45 pm
EKPC Structure # D152, Phil to Liberty Junction 69kV Line
Entry to property at 547 Trace Fork Road
Accident County: Casey
Safety Manager was notified that there had been an incident around 5:00 pm

Overview

Employee injured while working on a pole when a hook in the rigging failed and allowed the hook, block or both to strike him in the face and arm, causing serious injury.

Injured Party

Dustin Cody Kidd, a lineman on the EKPC Burnside Crew. Cody is 25 years old.

Description:

This is an on-going investigation and EKPC may have further information at a later date. Any relevant documentation and/or information not included in this initial report (such as photos or personnel interviews) will be provided to the Commission as it becomes available.

Thursday April 7, 2016

At approximately 11:30 am Asplundh tree Company notified EKPC Right of Way Agent Kenny Roy to let him know that they had cut a tree that fell across our Phil to Liberty Junction 69kV line. Kenny called Eugene Lowery, Burnside Line Crew Foreman and he subsequently contacted EKPC Dispatch, located at the Operations Control Center in Winchester Kentucky. Eugene helped EKPC Dispatch identify Motor Operated Air Brake Switches that they could open/close to back feed the line. The outage only lasted around 7 minutes.

Eugene headed back to the shop and called his crew consisting that day of Brian Ping, Josh Stivers, Tony Gregory and Cody Kidd and told them that they had a tree down on the line. He had the entire crew except Brian, who was on another job, to come back to the shop. He directed Brian to get the line switched out and hold carded and to then report to the site of the incident. Eugene and the rest of the crew loaded up climbing tools, ATV, etc. and headed to the site. The incident occurred several hundred yards off the road and the only access was a narrow road through the trees and field. The crew accessed the site with an ATV (Polaris). Eugene assessed the scene and got the entire crew (except for Brian Ping who had not arrived yet) together to discuss the job. The tree was across two conductors and had broken one of the pole tops in the H structure, as well as breaking the static on that side. There was also a rope wrapped around the other static and conductor. It had been originally tied to the tree cut by the Asplundh crew. All crew members stated that Eugene identified a Distribution under build a couple of structures away and talked about how they needed to ground the lines, etc. He also talked about the amount of stored energy the tree on the line could create and determined it was too dangerous to cut the tree off the line. He decided that the prudent thing to do was drop the conductors to the ground at the structure and then cut the tree. They drove the Polaris back to the main road and asked the Asplundh crew to widen the road enough for them to get the pickups back to the site. Brian Ping arrived at that time and this is when Eugene conducted the "official" job briefing that everyone signed³, going through the same precautions that they had previously discussed. They made sure they took clearance on the line and then installed the grounds.

With the road widened by Asplundh the crew drove the pickups back to the site. They removed the storm guys and Cody Kidd climbed pole 1 and Josh Stivers climbed pole 2. They rigged up to lift the conductor enough to unpin the insulator on the outside phase. When they had enough slack, Cody reached out to pull the pin, he didn't get it on the first attempt and he re-positioned and tried again. At that moment the hook on the conductor straightened and allowed the phase to drop out and either the hook, the block or maybe both, to strike Cody full in the face. The crew did not realize the extent of the injury at that time. Cody was still in his hooks and never lost consciousness. He told Josh who was on the adjacent pole that he couldn't see or move. Josh yelled down to the rest of the crew and Brian Ping climbed the pole and performed a pole top rescue. They had no cell phone service, so Eugene called EKPC Dispatch while Brian was performing the rescue. EKPC Dispatch called the Casey County Ambulance service. When they got Cody to the ground he walked under his own power and got into Eugene's truck. Eugene took him out to meet the ambulance. When the ambulance personnel released the extent of the injuries they called and requested helicopter transport to the UK trauma center.

⁴ See attached photo 5



¹ See Attached Photo 1

² See attached Photos 2 & 3

³ See attached photo 4

I was made aware of the injury at approximately 5:00 pm but had no details except that he was being airlifted to UK. I headed to the hospital at that time. The helicopter landed at UK at around 6:20 pm but we could not get any information about his condition. Cody was officially moved to ICU a little after 7:00 pm.

Reported to Commission

April 7, 2016 at 8:04 – 8:05 pm I called Steve Kingsolver, Jeff Moore and Eric Bowman in succession. I did not reach any of them but left messages for both Steve and Jeff. I was at the hospital the entire time and did not have the PSC reporting hotline stored in my cell phone. I tried unsuccessfully to find it by using my phone browser. I was eventually able to reach someone who could look it up for me and I left a message on that line at 9:50 pm.

Mr. Kingsolver called me the next day and let me know that he had been out of the office on vacation. We discussed the incident and he requested an email summary before Monday April 11th, 2016. I sent him that summary Sunday April 10, 2016 at 1:02 pm. Mr. Kingsolver responded and asked me to provide the job briefing from that day (attached), pictures (attached) and any copies of interviews with the crew. (These are being transcribed and will be presented later as an addendum to this report)

EKPC Findings/ Actions:

The crew performed this task the same way they have done it many, many times. We are still early in the process of trying to determine why that hook straightened. It was sold to us by Hi Line Equipment and the specifications say it is rated for 500 lbs. There are absolutely no markings on the hook itself. We will continue to try and determine what happened and share all relevant findings with the Commission at a later date.

Employee Condition

Mr. Kidd remains at the University of KY Med Center as of this writing. He has already undergone two surgeries and the Doctors predict many more. He has recently been moved from ICU to advanced care but still has a long road back.

As previously stated, EKPC will provide further relevant information as it is determined. The attached photos taken at the time of the investigation by EKPC may assist in your review of this report.

Michael Willoughby

Manager of Safety, Security and Facilities

murael & Winagota

c: Tony Campbell, Don Mosier, Mike McNalley, Denver York, David Smart, Chuck Caudill, Amy Hamm, Patrick Woods, Roger Cowden and Steve McClure

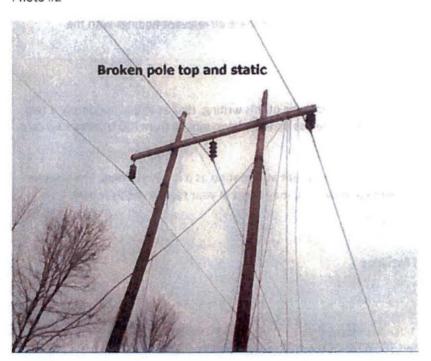


Photo #1



Tree on Phil to Liberty Junction EKPC 69kV line

Photo #2





Asplundh Rope



Photo #4

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Photo #5



Photo #6





Photo #7





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Work Performed:	REPATR LINE	TRE	EC	UT	or L	TO.	E.
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Special preca	autions						
Control of en	nergy sources						
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completed and signed forms should be forwarded to the appropriate Safety Coordinator upon completion of the work inment, no later than one month after the date of the Job Briefing.

.ety Coordinators shall retain all completed and signed Job Briefing forms for a period of one year to meet the requirements set forth by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC).

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Utility Additional Information



Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

From:

Mike Willoughby <mike.willoughby@ekpc.coop>

Sent:

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 9:51 AM

To:

Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

Cc:

Roger Cowden; David Smart

Subject: Attachments: Additional Information provided by EKPC for the Cody Kidd injury incident Asplundh incident 041116.pdf; Safe Work Manual EKPC.pdf; Brian Ping witness statement.docx; Eugene Lowery Witness statement.docx; Josh Stivers Witness Statement.docx; Kenny Roy Witness statement.docx; Tony Gregory Witness

Statement.docx; Survey Drawing.pdf

Steve,

Please find attached all of the additional information you requested that we provide to the Commission. Let me know if this is sufficient or if I need to also copy anyone else at the Commission.

Best Regards, Mike Willoughby

Requests by Mr. Kingsolver:

Additional Photos:

Already provided on flash drive at Burnside Meeting on 4/20/2016

When was the line in question put in service?

Line was energized 6/11/1954

Asplundh Report of incident:

See attached

GPS Coordinates for the structure where the incident occurred:

 37° 16′ 46. 03″ N 84° 52′ 38. 91″ W

Electronic Version of Safety Manual:

See attached

Witness Statements:

See attached

Measurements taken at the scene:

See attached Survey Drawing

Michael E. Willoughby
East KY Power Cooperative
Safety, Security & Facilities Manager
859-745-9307
Safe by Choice, Not by Chance

Outage Report

General Foreperson's Incident Investigation Report

CONFIDENTIAL

Completed by: Larry Salyers	_ Phone: 60	06-510-3938 Date: 04	1/11/2016	Crew #:	059011
Outage Caused By: <u>Donald Salyers</u>	_ 🖾 M 🗆 F	Job Title: Foreperson	Date of	f Birth:	Date Hired: 08/17/2009
Street 4580 Hwy, 39 North		City Crab Orchord		State	CY. ZIP 40419
Name of Foreperson: Donald Salvers Outage Time o Date: 04/07/2016 11:00 A		Number of People on Crew: 5 Location of Outage: D-Line 152 / Hwy, 501	Length of So Foreperson:	Year	s <u>11</u> Months
Time employee began work: 7:30 am e	st.	Crew Type: Manual			
Describe Type, Make, Model of Tools	Involved:				
Type Rope Jack	Make_R	ed Devil	Model P-	1	
Type Rope Jack	Make _N	Adison	Model _A-	0	
Equipment (if involved): Truck Number:	Chipper	ra	Special Equipment Number:		
1. Describe the incident (2. Consequences (Describe (SEE SUMMARY REPORT)	What Was	s Being Done And What	Happened	?):	ons:
Was this storm work? ☐ Yes ☒ No Describe weather conditions: Warm &		23 mph with gust up to 33 mph.			
Utility: East Kentucky Power (EKP) General Foreperson		Regional Safety Signature: Bill Jo Manager			
Signature: Larry Salvers		Signature: Bobby	King		
Region Office M Other: EVP					

Incident Summary Report

1	Draft	Preliminary	X	Final

DATE: 04/11/2016

TO: East Kentucky Power (EKP)

FROM: Larry Salyers

Re: Transmission Outage

Purpose: Provide a comprehensive review of the facts concerning the incident. This report shall be completed only by an individual trained in incident investigation techniques.

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION: (Crew makeup, events preceding, task at hand, equipment and tools involved)

A five person crew was in the process of trimming and removing trees in a 69kV Transmission ROW. The crew set up rigging to remove a large tree leaning towards the lines. The crew placed a 1/2 inch hand line in a tree and attached it to a Rope Jack. They them placed a 5/8 inch hand line in the tree and attached it to another, larger, Rope Jack. The Crew Members tightened both hand lines using the Rope Jacks and the Foreperson made a notch in the tree. After the notch was cut the Crew Members used the Rope Jacks and tightened the hand lines a little more. The Foreperson asked the crew if they were ready and they replied yes so the Foreperson stated he was making the back cut. The tree started falling in its intended direction but during the fall it broke off of the stump and fell over the Transmission lines knocking them to the ground.

INJURY/ILLNESS/DAMAGES:

69kV Transmission lines were knocked to the ground.

KEY/CONTRIBUING FACTORS:

- 1. On the day of the Outage the wind was blowing around 23 mph with gust up to 33 mph.
- The crew was using a Rope Jack in an attempt to pull the tree around.
- Rope Jacks are designed to start a trees fall in its intended direction not pull it around.
- 4. Improper notch and back cut.

RECOMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- 1. If a tree cannot be felled it will be topped down to or below the lines.
- 2. If the crew has any doubt they can trim or fell a tree safely they will contact the Utility Forester and ask for another work location.
- 3. Crew will receive more training on the use of Rope Jacks.

General Foreperson

Date

Larry Salyers

04/11/2016



Eugene Lowery: Current Position Line Foreman Burnside Service Center

Eugene has been employed at EKPC since 8/1986. He was hired as a General Laborer and was promoted to the line crew in July 1989. He was promoted to a leadership role in 5/2000. His title was changed to Line Foreman in 2/2009.

Eugene stated that on the morning of the incident there had been an operation on the Russell County to Sewellton Junction line, so he and Brian Ping headed down that way to see if they could determine the cause of the operation. Tony Gregory stayed at the shop, Bryan Harness was on vacation, and Cody Kidd and Josh Stivers were headed to Winchester to get the big bucket truck that they needed for a job planned later that week. At some point Eugene broke his glasses and went back to Somerset to have them repaired, leaving Brian to try and locate where the operation had occurred.

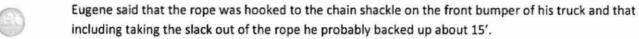
Somewhere around 11 o'clock or a little after Kenny Roy called Eugene to inform him that Asplundh had cut a tree that had fallen on the line near Structure D-152. Eugene called Dispatch and asked if we had experienced an outage, they confirmed that the Liberty Junction to Windsor line had tripped out. Eugene informed them of the tree on the line at that time. He instructed that if they would open the MOAB (motor operated air brake switch) at Phil and close back in at Windsor that it would get everything back on line. Eugene called Cody and Josh and told them to turn around and head back to the shop because of the outage. He also called Brian and told him to come to the location where the tree had fallen on the line. At some point everyone headed to the site in Casey County where the tree was on the line. At that point in time there was not a big enough road for a pickup to access the site. Eugene, Tony, Josh, Cody, and Kenny Roy took an ATV to where the tree was on the line to survey the damage and assess what would need to be done to correct the situation. Everyone was there at that point except for Brian Ping. At that time they discussed about where to ground the line. Eugene was aware that there was distribution under build located near the next structure. So they discussed where to put the grounds and then they then went back out to the field adjacent to the county road. Brian Ping joined them at that time and they had their formal job briefing, Eugene stated he informed everyone there, including Bobby King (Asplundh Employee) who had joined them by then, about what had to be done, grounding, etc. He had all EKPC employees sign the job briefing form at that time. He also asked Asplundh to cut a big enough road for them to get pick-ups to the site. After a brief dispute with the land owner, that was resolved by Kenny Roy, the Asplundh Crew cut the road into the incident site. After the crew got back to the incident site, Eugene went over the job plan again and explained what he expected of everyone. The fallen tree had broken one static line and it had also pinned two of the conductors to the ground. Eugene decided to drop the conductors to the ground, ascertaining that it was just too dangerous to try and cut the tree off the line. His plan was to drop all of the phases to the ground and then also lower the cross arm to the ground and only then would they attempt to cut the tree. The third conductor and second static were wrapped together with a rope that been on the tree when it fell. By lowering the conductors and the cross arm they would also be able to untangle those lines on the ground.

After the line was grounded and the storm guys released, Cody Kidd ascended pole number one, and Josh Stivers went up pole number two. They got into position, and Cody rigged his hand line to the cross arm while the guys on the ground rigged the block at the bottom part of the pole. Once everything was rigged, the rope was hooked to a hook on the front of Eugene's truck and he began backing up. He stopped when he saw the insulator go slack. Cody then reached out to un-pin the insulator from the cross arm but didn't get it on the first attempt. Eugene instructed him to leave the insulator on the cross arm and un-pin it from the phase. He reached out to un-pin it and he couldn't get it the first time, so he repositioned himself and he reached out a second time. Eugene, who was still in the truck and conversing with the crew through the open window, stated at that same instant he felt something jerk. He looked up and Cody was just leaning back on the pole like he was waiting, Eugene felt that something had slipped or failed but couldn't determine what it was because the conductor was still attached to the insulator. He remembers thinking it was good that nothing had fallen. He got out of the truck and asked Josh and Cody what had happened? Someone told him that Cody got hurt; he asked if he was ok and Tony Gregory said no. Eugene told them to go get him and Brian Ping got his tools and headed up the pole. At the same time, Eugene got in his truck and called EKPC Dispatch, they had very limited cell service in the area so Eugene asked EKPC Dispatch to call 911 for him. He gave Dispatch specific directions as to where they were located.

By that time Brian had performed a pole top rescue and gotten Cody down. Eugene put him in his pickup and headed out toward the main road. Eugene stated that Dispatch must have given the 911 operator his cellphone number because they called as soon as he had a cellular signal and asked for his location. He informed them that he was just coming out on Trace Fork Road, and if it was going to be a while he would meet them at the intersection of 501 and 127. They confirmed that they would meet them at that location and Eugene proceeded to that intersection. He arrived less than a minute ahead of the ambulance. Eugene told Cody to stay in the truck and to let them come get him, but when the EMTs got to the door, Cody opened the door got out of the truck and walked back and got in the ambulance under his own power.

When asked if he thought the tree was flat on the ground? In other words, if he thought it had that line actually pinned to the ground or was it lying on it with the line off of the ground a few inches? Eugene said he didn't physically go down to the tree to look, so he wasn't sure. Eugene stated he felt like he only had two options and both could be dangerous. He said he made what he thought was the right call with the information he had at the time. He also said that that he had made the decision to cut trees off of lines in the past and seen it throw limbs 100 feet into the air. Eugene stated that these situations are unpredictable and each tree will cut differently, meaning that each situation is unique.

When asked why that the insulators were not all hanging at the same angle (one was straight down and the middle one at more of an angle) Eugene said that the middle phase was pulled more because it was further over the hill. He said that's another thing he always looks at before deciding what to do, and "usually if they are straight up and down, they are good to go."



Eugene was asked specifically about the job briefing and what was discussed. Eugene said "they had talked about what they had over there (the entire situation), where they needed to ground (distribution under build close to the next structure), told everyone the tree was on the line and it was too dangerous to try and get the tree off so were going to let the phases down, the rope is wrapped around the static so we have to let the phases down, we have to drop the cross arm off because we can't drop the static until we get the cross arm where it can come straight down, we actually talked about it three times." When asked if it was with the same people all three times? Eugene said, except Brian Ping who was not at the first one, but he was there for the second and third.

Tony Gregory: Current Position Line Technician Level 3 Burnside Service Center

Tony Gregory has been employed at EKPC since 12/1994. He was hired as a General Laborer and was promoted to Line Technician Level 1 in 5/2000. He was promoted to Line Technician Level 2 in 5/2002. He was promoted to Line Technician Level 3 in 9/2008.

Tony was at the shop when he heard from Eugene that the tree had been felled on the line. He said that Eugene called Cody and Josh to come back in and while he was waiting on them to return he went out to grab some lunch. When everyone got back to the shop they loaded up the Polaris and the tools they thought they would need and headed to the incident scene. When they got there they all rode the Polaris back to the place where the tree had fallen (D152). He said they discussed the job, grounding, etc. Tony stated that Eugene drove him and Cody to the next structure (D153) and they climbed the poles and grounded the line. They then went back to the main road and everyone convened there for the official job briefing. Brian Ping had arrived by that time and he climbed and grounded the lines at structure D150. He stated that this was when Asplundh cut the road out so they could get the pickups back to the site. When they got back to D152, they discussed again what they were going to do. They discussed, among other things, how they were going to rig to drop the phases and the cross arm. Tony said that after everyone knew exactly what they were going to do, Cody climbed pole 1 and Josh climbed pole 2. Tony states that he walked over the hill to look at the broken static but the terrain was so steep that he walked back to the top of the hill to find another route. When he got back to the top they already had everything rigged and had slacked the insulators on the first phase. Tony said he heard a pop and saw Cody's hard hat fly off. Since it was a windy day he didn't think much about that at the time, assuming a gust had caught it and blown it off his head. Tony said he thought the Becky had broken because he had seen that happen before. Either Tony, someone else or multiple people yelled to ask if Cody was okay and Tony remembers him saying that he could not see. He said Josh said that Cody was hurt. Brian put on tools and performed a pole top rescue. Tony said that several people on the scene helped let Cody to the ground where they helped him get his belt and hooks off. Cody walked over to the mule and sat down, then when Eugene pulled up in the truck Cody stood up and walked over and got in the truck. Tony said that he never said he could see but he assumed he could see by the way he was walking around.

He says they have done this same thing many times and he has never seen a hook fail. He said normally the Becky will break before anything else.

Josh Stivers: Current Position Line Technician Level 1 Burnside Service Center

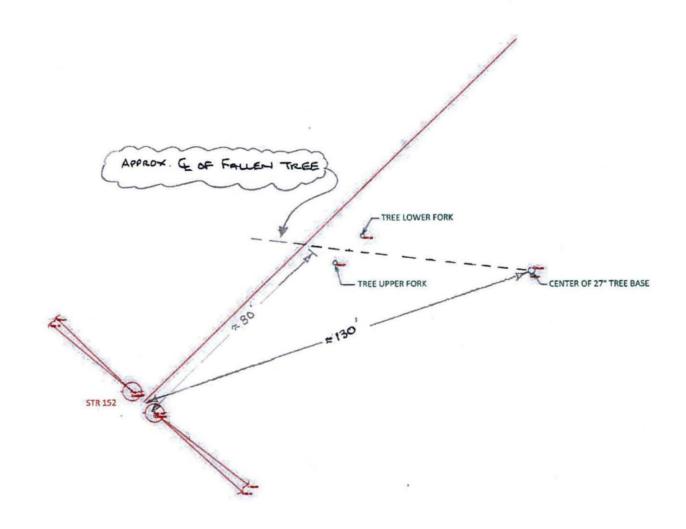
Josh Stivers has been employed at EKPC since 6/2013. He was hired as a Line Technician on the Burnside Line Crew. He was promoted to Line Technician Level 1 on 9/2014.

Josh stated that he and Cody were on the way to Winchester and got a call from Eugene Lowery (*Crew Foreman*) that Asplundh had cut a tree on a line and that they needed to turn around and come back to the shop. Josh said they were somewhere around Berea when they got the call. When they got back to the shop they loaded up tools and the ATV (Polaris) and headed out to the site. Josh was not sure but thought that he and Cody rode back to the site with Eugene. When they got to the site they (Eugene, Tony Gregory, Kenny Roy, Josh and Cody Kidd) drove back to the incident scene in the Polaris. Josh recalls that they discussed the job, what they were going to do and that Eugene pointed out that there was distribution under build and talked about how they needed to ground, etc. They all then went back out to the road and had a formal job briefing. Josh and Kenny went back to the structure D152 and removed the storm guys, while the rest of the crew worked on grounding the lines. Josh stated that Eugene decided to ask Asplundh to cut a road in and the property owner intervened. Josh said that Kenny Roy talked to the property owner and got his okay for them to cut the road back to the site.

Cody Kidd went up pole number one and Josh Stivers went up pole number two. Josh said that he was just above the attachment point of the storm guys. He said that Cody put up his rigging the way "we do every time." He said that Cody started to unpin the insulator from the top but Eugene told him since they were going to take the entire cross arm down anyway to just unpin it from the conductor. Josh said that it looked normal to him; he said it "didn't even really look like it had a lot of pressure on it." He stated that Cody was trying to remove the pin from the bottom of the insulator and Josh heard a pop. Josh said he was not watching Cody at the exact moment that the incident occurred and had no idea if the hook, block or both hit Cody. When he heard the noise he looked back at Cody and asked him if he was ok and Cody said "no, I can't see." Josh asked him if he could move and he also replied no. Josh said that at first he thought that Cody had just busted his mouth but when he looked closer could see that it had busted out his teeth. Eugene yelled to go get him and Josh threw his hand line down to Brian Ping who was putting on his tools to come up after Cody. Josh descended the pole and along with other people on the scene, helped let Cody down after Brian had secured him. They helped Cody get his belt and hooks off and he walked over to the Polaris and sat down. Cody then got up and walked over to the front seat of Eugene's truck, got in and he and Eugene left.

Brian Ping and Josh took photos at the scene. Allan Cheuvront was informed and headed to the Kidd home to get Brittany but she was already on the way to the hospital.

Josh is friends with the Kidd family and stated that Brittany (spouse) wanted to know what was being done to find out why the hook straightened out. Testing, etc. Josh was able to give the investigation team the box that the hook came in when delivered from Hi-Line.



Brian Ping: Current Position Line Technician Level 3 Burnside Service Center

Brian Ping was first employed at EKPC in 8/2000 as a Line Technician Trainee. Brian was promoted to Line Technician Level 1 and left EKPC in 2/2002. He was rehired as a Line Technician for the Bardstown Line Crew in 7/2006. He was promoted to Line Technician Level 1 in 6/2008. He was promoted to Line Technician Level 2 in 8/2009. He left EKPC employment again in 1/2012 and was rehired as a Line Technician Level 2 in May 2013 (Burnside Crew). He was promoted to Line Technician Level 3 in 1/2014.

Brian stated that he and Eugene were in Russell County trying to find the cause of a line operation when Eugene broke his glasses and had to return to Somerset. He said Kenny Roy came over to try and help him find the cause of the operation. He got finished with that and then got the call from Eugene that there was a tree on the line.

Brian said the plan was for him to head to Phil Substation to isolate the downed line, switch it out, hold card it, and take clearance, but Dispatch called and said they needed the breakers in at Casey County Substation first. So he called Eugene and told him he was headed to Casey County to put the transformer and breaker back in service. He finished that task and then headed to Phil to open the switches there, but Dispatch called again and asked him to go back to Casey County. He went back to Casey County Sub and took the transformer and breaker back out of service. He stopped to get gas and then headed to Phil again to get everything isolated and hold carded. He also went to Liberty Junction, isolated and hold card needed equipment and took clearance on the line. He let Eugene know that he had clearance on the line and told him that he would meet them at the structure D152. On his way to structure D152 he saw Eugene and some of the crew down in the bottom (D151) putting grounds on the line so he stopped there. They went back to the top of the hill and had a job briefing. Eugene told Brian what they had seen at the site and talked about how they'd run into trouble with the property owner about getting back to the structure. He stated they had to wait until Kenny talked to the property owner before going back to the structure. Brian said that after Kenny got permission, Asplundh cut a road for them and they were able to get back there and put another set of grounds on structure (D154). He states they then went to the job site and discussed how they were going to perform the work.

When Cody got hurt Brian said he was on the ground near the right corner of Eugene's truck toward the front. Cody was already up there and Josh was on the other pole, up about as high as the storm guys. Brian says that when he saw Cody was hurt he grabbed somebody's tools and hand line and went up after him. Brian said he knew he was hurt bad, but when he got close he saw that he was hurt really bad, so he started rigging for a pole top rescue.

Brian:" I didn't rig on the arm, I rigged up here (pointed on picture) with my safety all the way up to the bottom of the pole and actually walked up in my hooks to get as high as I could up here (pointing to picture) cause I didn't want to jerk him none, and there was enough men on the ground where they could hold it, I didn't wrap it around the arm cause there was plenty of guys on the ground to hold him, where if there had been just two of us I'd had to let him off of the arm by myself so I rigged up here (pointing to picture) then I stepped up with my belt and reached way up here as far as I could and put

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the Becky and Dolly up there and I seen the guys on the ground had it, so I started leaning him in and got his belt loose from the pole and he actually, as I was tying it off around the arm to do you know the rescue, he actually moved his arm and I helped him lean in toward the pole and he actually grabbed the hand line as I was letting him down so I brought it and put it on the arm, you know, off the pole, {pointing to picture}"

Brian couldn't tell if the conductors were pinned completely to the ground.

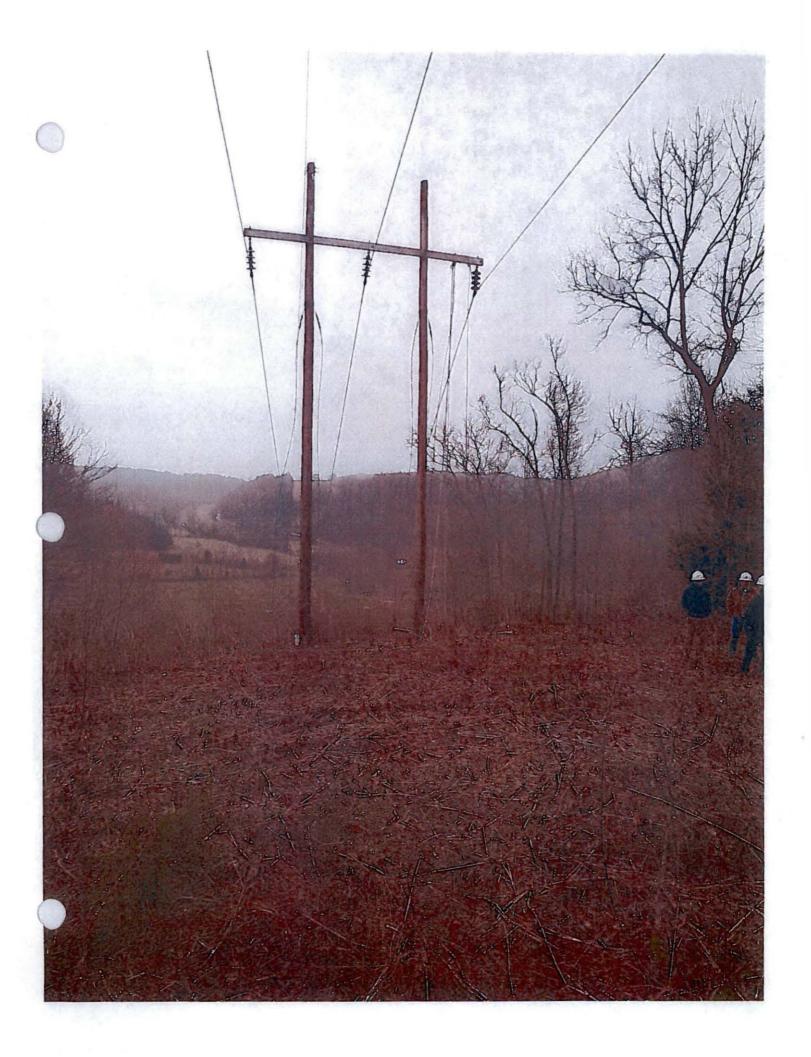
Kenny Roy: Current Position Right of Way Specialist Burnside Service Center

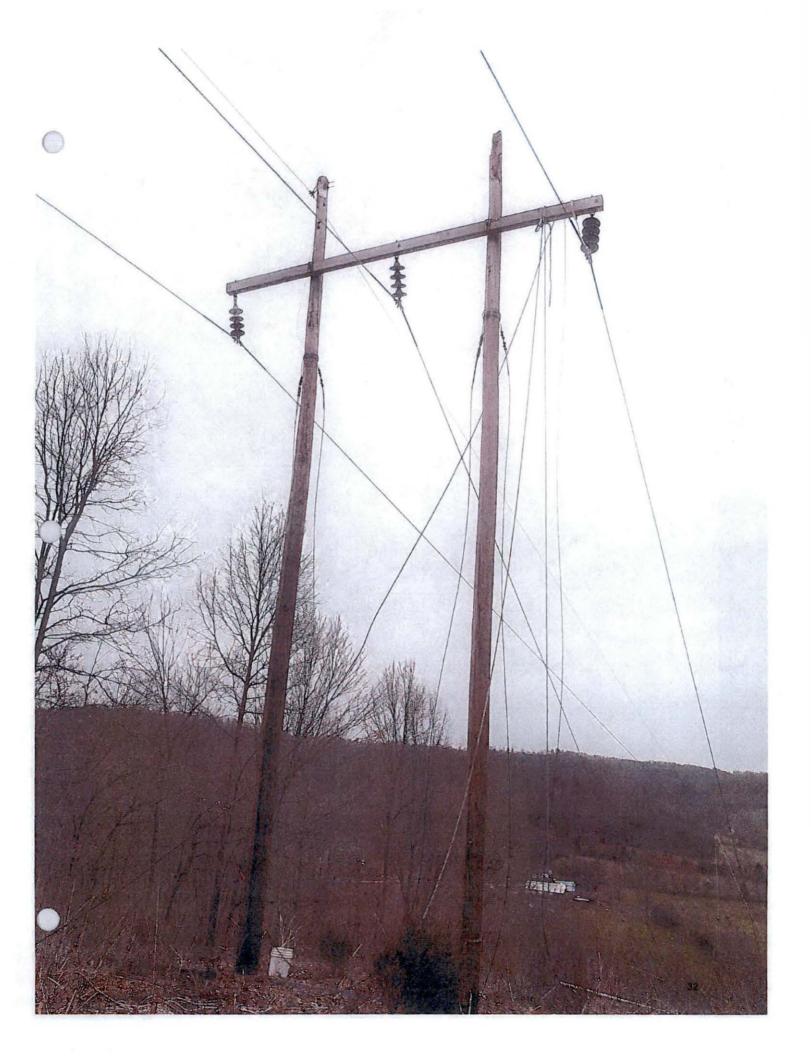
Kenny Roy has been employed at EKPC since 6/2015 as a Right of Way Specialist.

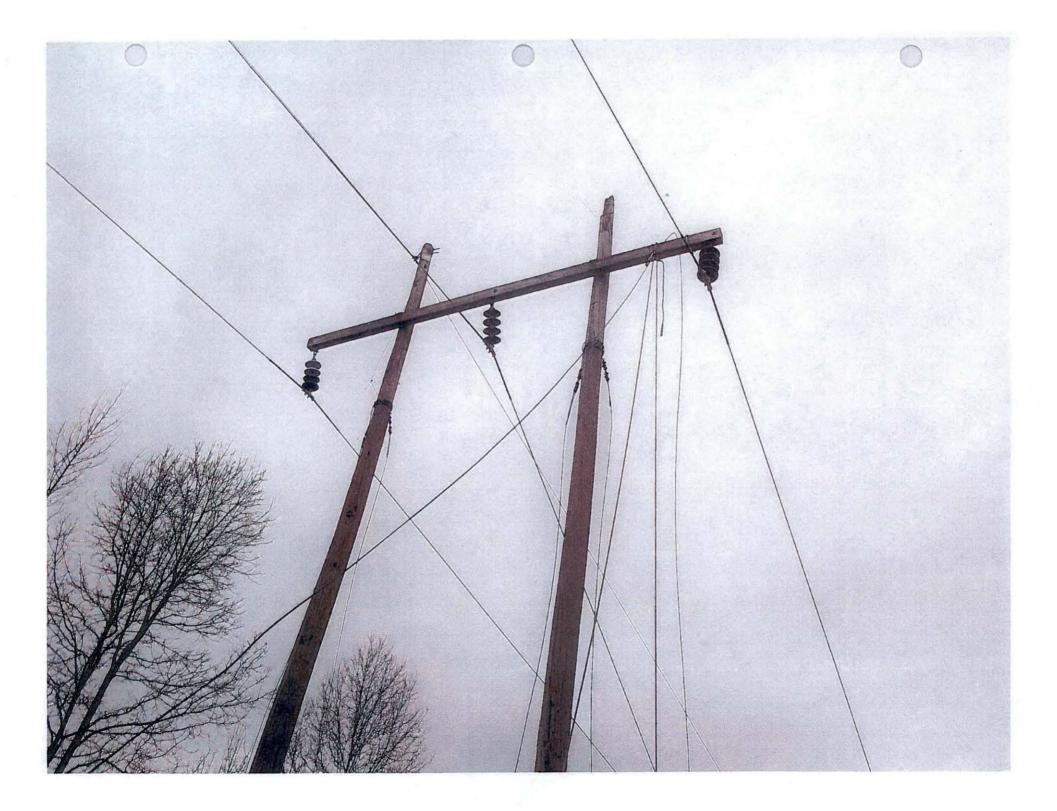
Kenny said Asplundh called him around 11:30 am to tell him they had cut a tree on the line and they thought the power was out. Kenny did not know if the line was actually out so he informed them to get out of the vicinity and await further instruction from EKPC personnel. He immediately contacted Eugene and let him know of this situation. Kenny was in Russel Springs with Brian Ping trying to find out why there had been an operation on the Russell County to Sewellton Junction line. He immediately headed for the incident site in Casey County.

When he arrived, there were ground line treatment personnel as well as Asplundh personnel on site and Kenny advised all of them to leave the area until he could be sure it was safe. When Eugene arrived Kenny went with the line crew to the site where the tree had fallen to assess the damage. Kenny said that the distribution under build was discussed and Eugene decided to ground at the next structure (D153) and two structures back from the incident site (D150). He said that Eugene discussed at that time what they were going to try and do: basically have two linemen let the phases and cross arm down and then cut the tree off the line. Kenny said they grounded the line and then went back to the truck and had an official job briefing/tailgate session, he says Brian Ping had arrived by then. Then they went back to structure D152 discussed the job again and Josh and Cody climbed the poles. He said that they rigged the line and Eugene got the pressure of the bells and that is when Cody attempted to unpin the insulators. He tried to unpin it from the top the first time but was unsuccessful so he repositioned and attempted to unpin the insulator from the conductor and this is when the hook straightened out (he clarified by stating that he did not know the hook straightened until after the event had occurred and they got Cody off the site).

Kenny said that he was sure that the middle and outside phase were pinned completely to the ground. He said that he had seen Cody perform this task (dropping the conductors) many times but never with a tree on the line. He also said he felt that they had three job briefings but only one that was official (signed off). He said we discussed it the first time we went to the site, went back to the truck and had the official briefing and then discussed it again before the actual work began. Kenny said that he and Josh took the storm guys down while the rest of the crew was grounding the line.



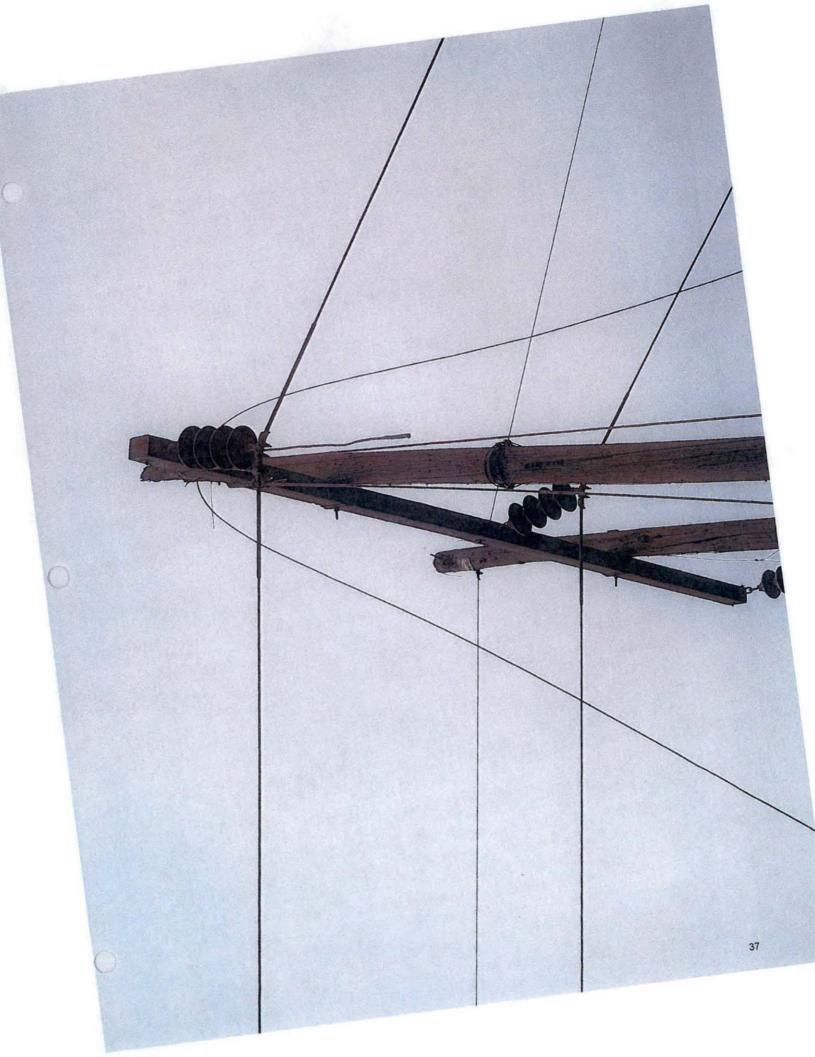




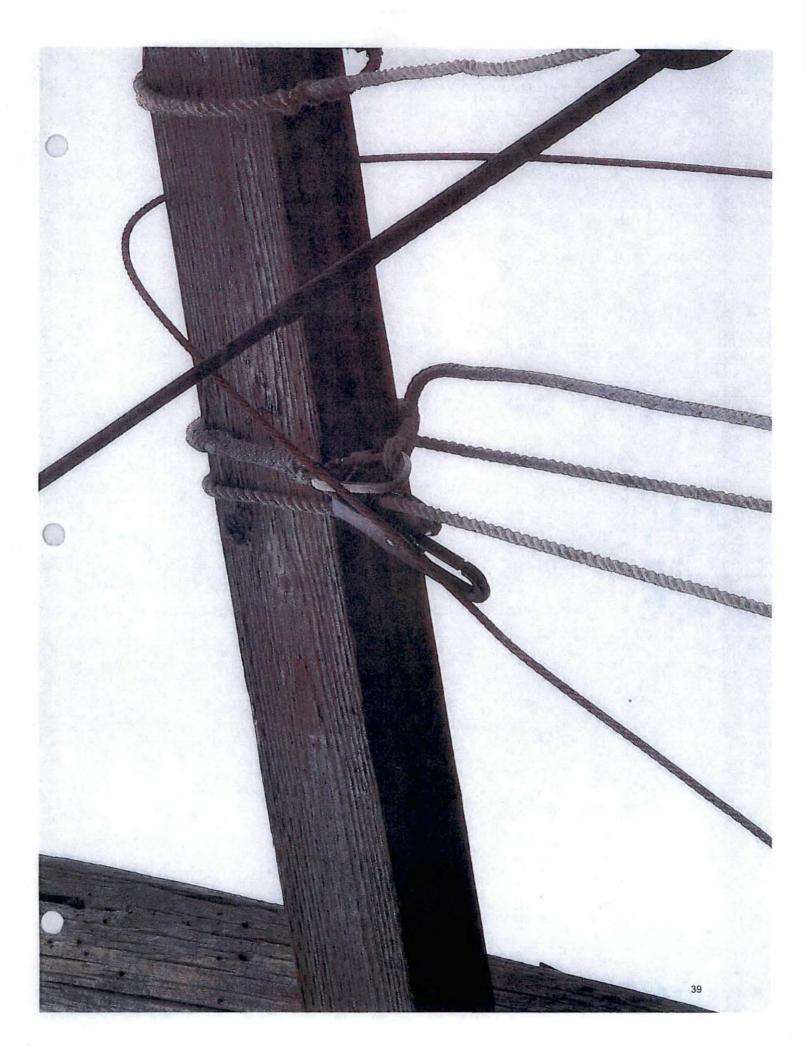


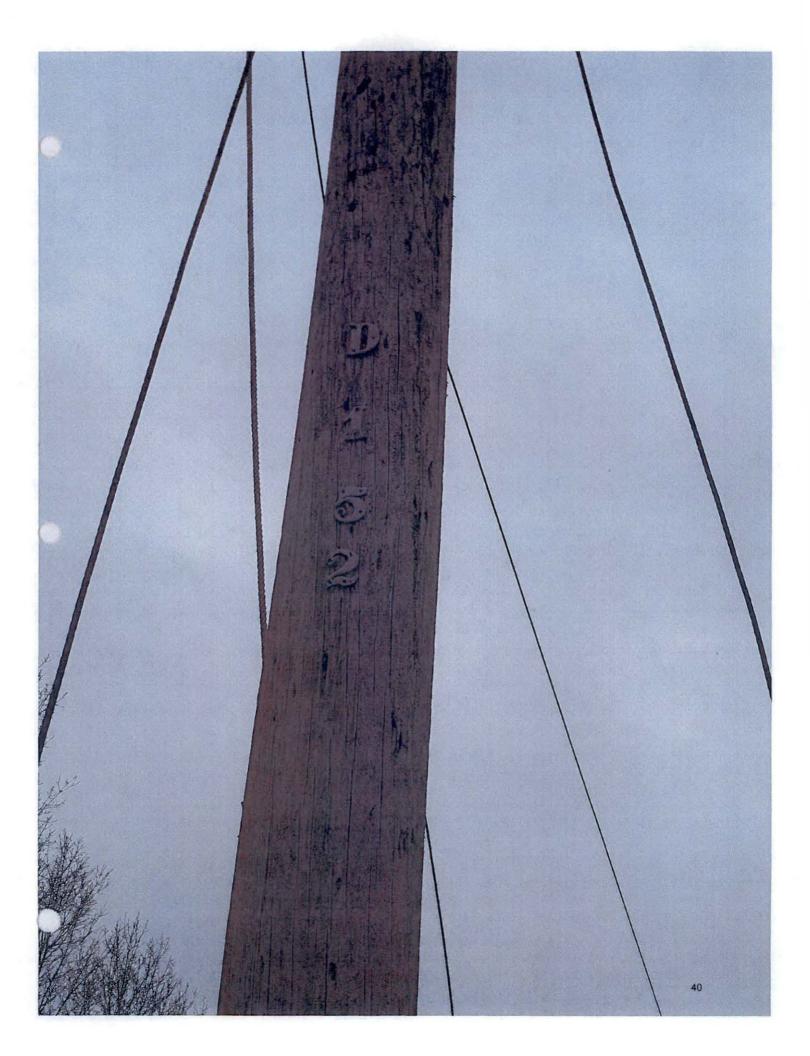




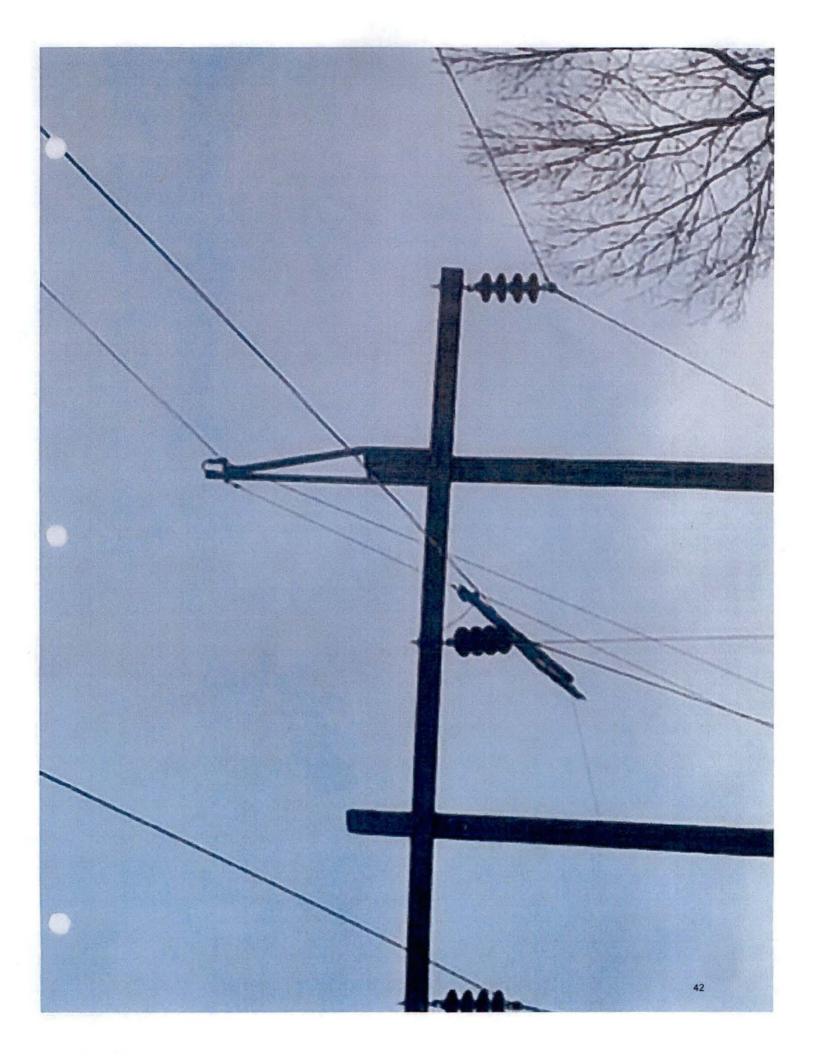




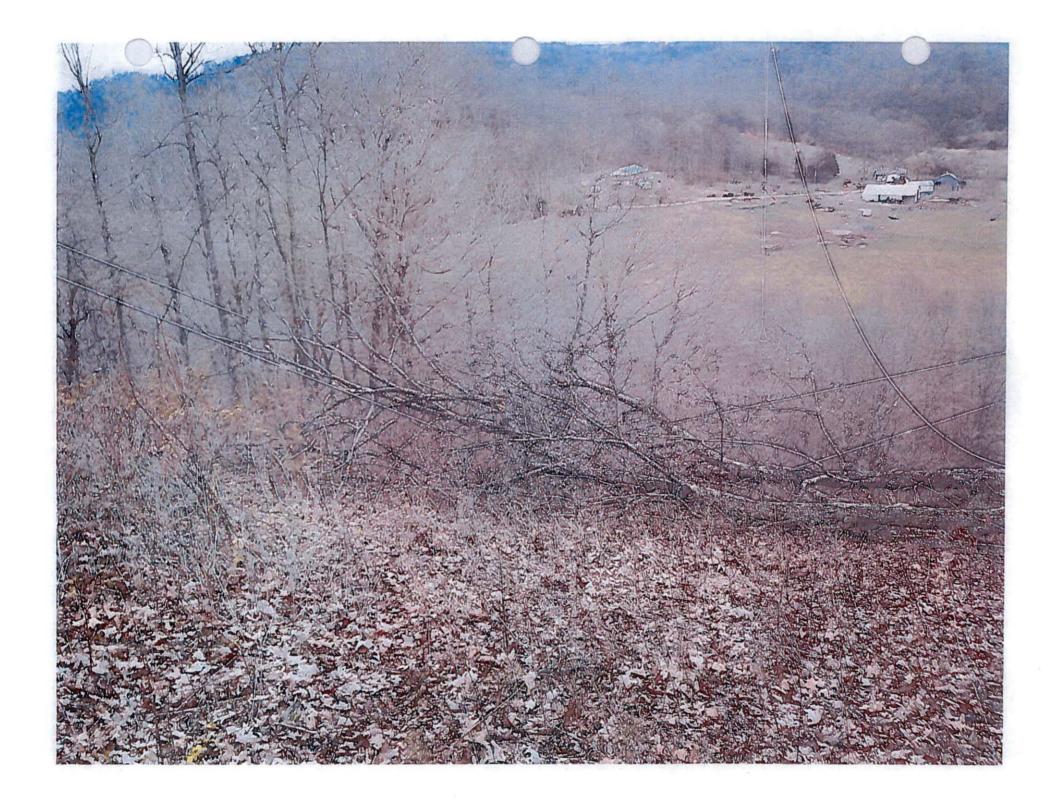


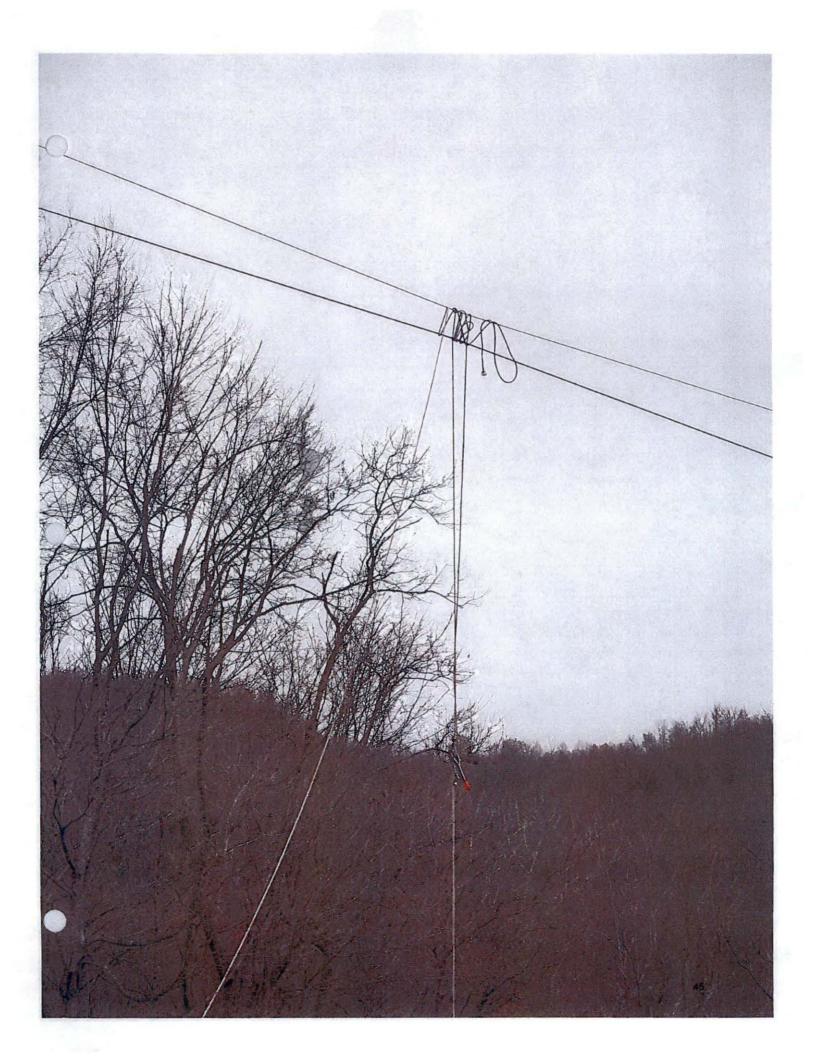






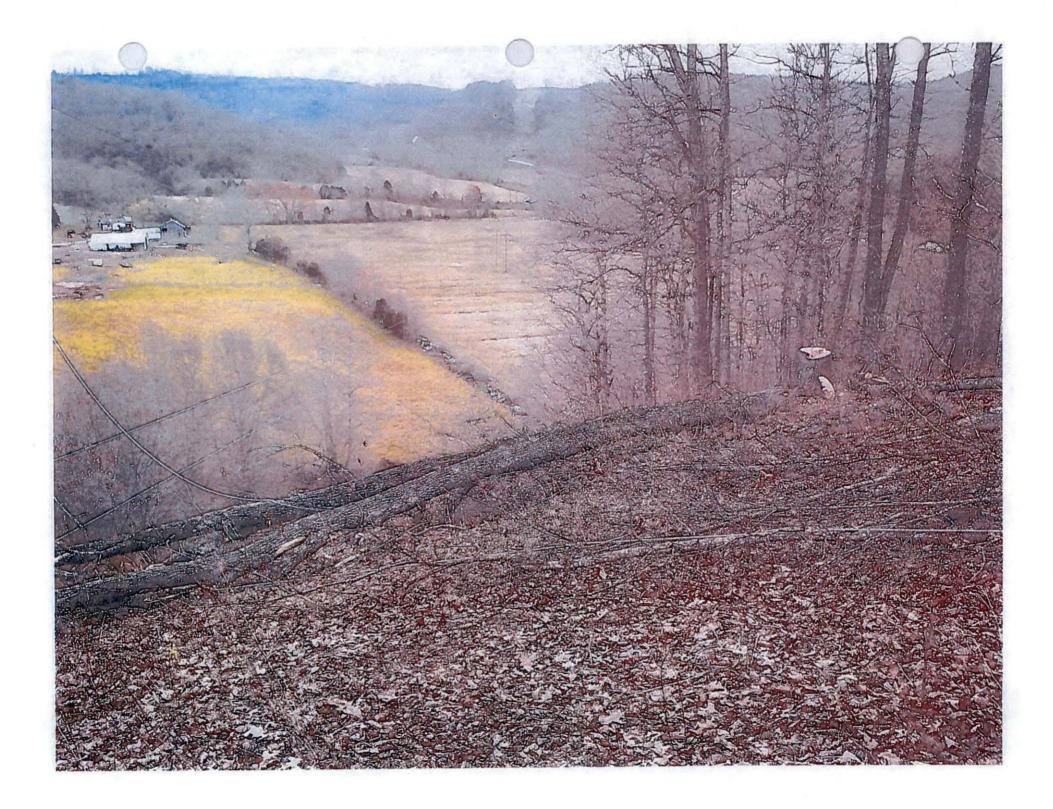




























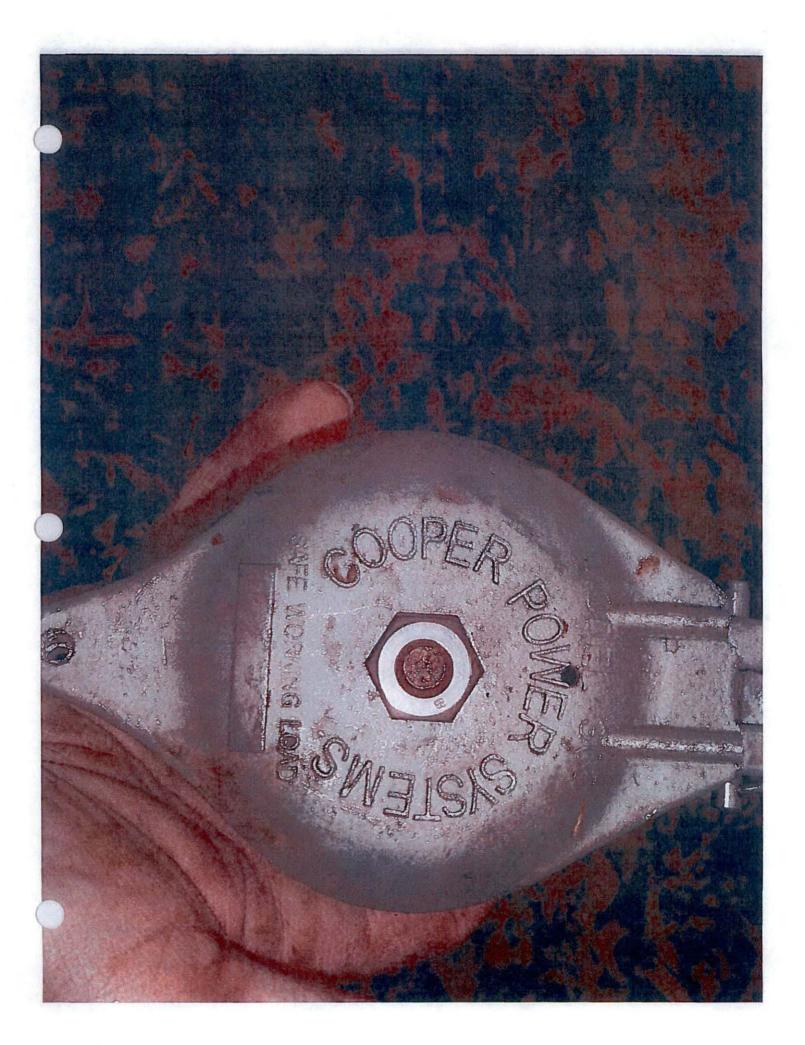


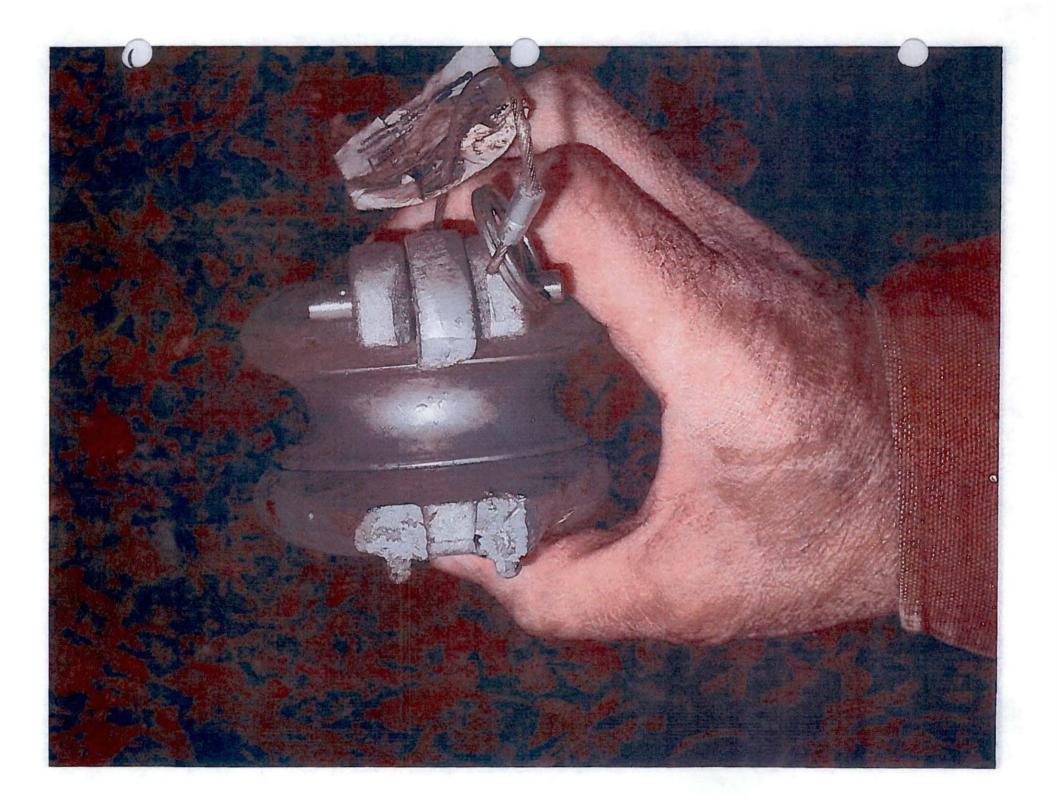












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KPSC Map of Accident Site



Attach	nmen	t D
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Accident Notification Information



Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

From:

PSC - Utility Electric Notifications

Sent:

Thursday, April 07, 2016 9:52 PM

To:

Willard, Kyle (PSC); Shupp, John (PSC); Kingsolver, Steve (PSC); Moore, Jeffrey C (PSC); Gorjian, Fereydoon (PSC); Rhodes, Jim R (PSC); Morris, Scott A (PSC); Johnson, Jeff A (PSC); Rice, James D (PSC); Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC); Smith, Virginia L (PSC); Raff, Richard (PSC); Gardner, Jim (PSC); Logsdon, Dan (PSC); Bell, Stephanie (PSC); Greenwell,

Aaron D (PSC); Thomas, Roger (PSC)

Subject:

FW: Voice Message from 8593985464

Attachments:

Audio_Recording_S1-295755_001_compand.wav

From: Electric.PSC@cdcmss.aura.ky.gov

Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 9:52:03 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

To: PSC - Utility Electric Notifications; PSC.Telephone.Notice@ky.gov

Subject: Voice Message from 8593985464

Voice message copy

Caller: 8593985464 Duration: 00:34

To hear the voice message, play the attached recording or call your Messaging mailbox.

Messaging access number: 5027822872

Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

From:

Mike Willoughby <mike.willoughby@ekpc.coop>

Sent:

Friday, April 08, 2016 10:20 AM

To:

Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

Subject:

Lineman hurt: East Kentucky power

Steve,

We had a lineman hurt pretty bad yesterday evening. We have people on site conducting an investigation as we speak but I don't have any details right now. What I know is that he was struck in the face while on the pole with part of the hand line block and tackle. Still not sure exactly what happened. It happened in Casey county and his name is Cody Kidd. He was admitted. to UK last night and is in critical condition.

Called the reporting line, you, Jeff, and Eric Bowman last night from the hospital but never got in touch with anyone. Left messages with you, Jeff and the hotline. Called everybody again this morning but still haven't talked to anybody in person.

If I do not hear from you I will be sure and submit a seven day report.

Mike Willoughby

Sent from my iPhone

Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

From:

Kingsolver, Steve (PSC)

Sent:

Friday, April 08, 2016 11:21 AM

To: Subject: PSC - Utility Electric Notifications Fwd: Lineman hurt: East Kentucky power

I have talked to Mike on this morning at approximately 11AM (4-8-16). He is on the process of his internal investigation and will provide more detail in an email to me in the near future. I had a voice message from Mike at 8:21PM on 4-7-16.

Steve Kingsolver

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mike Willoughby <mike.willoughby@ekpc.coop>

Date: April 8, 2016 at 10:19:39 AM EDT

To: "Steve. Kingsolver" < Steve. Kingsolver@ky.gov > Subject: Lineman hurt: East Kentucky power

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Mike Willoughby

Sent from my iPhone

*East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. 4775 Lexington Road P. O. Box 707 Winchester, KY 40392-0707

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