# CASE NUMBER:

99-125

KY. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AS OF : 10/27/99

HISTORY INDEX FOR CASE: 99-125 SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. Investigation - Service CLARK FACILITY



IN THE MATTER OF SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISSION REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION 3(1)

SEQ	ENTRY	
NBR	DATE	REMARKS
0001	04/06/99	Order entered; schedules 5/4 hearing; info due 4/26
M0001	04/26/99	DONALD PRATHER SHELBY ENERGY COOP-MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE AND REQ FOR INFORMAL CONFERENCE
M0002	04/26/99	SHELBY ENERGY DONALD PRATHER-ANSWER TO ORDER
0002	04/30/99	Order cancelling 5/4 hearing and scheduling IC on 5/17 at 10:30 in Conf.Rm. 1.
0003	05/19/99	Informal Conference Memorandum
0004	08/02/99	Stipulation of Facts and Agreement
0005	09/10/99	Stipulation of Facts and Agreement
0006	10/12/99	FINAL ORDER; STIPULATION ADOPTED AND APPROVED; ASSESES PENALTY OF \$4000
M0003	10/25/99	DUDLEY BOTTOM/SHELBY ENERGY-PENALTY PAYMENT OF \$4,000 RECEIVED
0007	10/27/99	Receipt for payment for \$4,000 received 10/25

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.	)
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISSION	) CASE NO
REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041,	) 99-125
SECTION 3(1)	)

# **RECEIPT OF PAYMENT**

This is to acknowledge receipt of one check in the amount of \$4,000.00, payable to Kentucky State Treasurer on October 19, 1999 from Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. This represents full payment of the penalty assessed against them in the above-styled action.

Stephanie Bell Secretary of the Commission Dated October 27, 1999



RECENTED

OCT 2 1 1999

GENERAL COUNSEL

OCT 25 1999

PUBLIC SERVICE

PUBLIC SERVICE

October 20, 1999

Office of General Counsel Public Service Commission 730 Schenkel Lane Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

RE:

Case No. 99-125

Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.

Enclosed please find Shelby Energy Cooperative's certified check in the amount of \$4,000 pertinent to Case No. 99-125.

Thank you.

Dudley Bottom, Jr.

President and CEO

**Enclosure** 



# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

730 SCHENKEL LANE POST OFFICE BOX 615 FRANKFORT, KY. 40602 (502) 564-3940

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

RE: Case No. 99-125 SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.

I, Stephanie Bell, Secretary of the Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case was served upon the following by U.S. Mail on October 12, 1999.

Parties of Record:

Dudley Bottom, General Manager Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. 620 Old Finchville Road Shelbyville, KY. 40065

Honorable Donald T. Prather Attorney for Shelby Energy 500 Main Street, P.O. Box 1059 Shelbyville, KY. 40066 1059

Secretary of the Commission

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.	)	
	) )	CASE NO 99-125
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISSION REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION 3(		

# ORDER

By order dated April 6, 1999, the Commission directed Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. ("Shelby Energy") to appear at a hearing on May 4, 1999 to show cause why it should not be subject to the penalties provided for under KRS 278.990 for three probable violations of Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), which requires utility facilities to be maintained in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code, 1990 Edition ("NESC"). More specifically, the cited NESC violations were of Section 42, Rule 420.H, which requires utility employees to use the personal protective equipment and devices provided for their work; Section 42, Rule 421.A, which requires the first line supervisor or person in charge to adopt such precautions as are within the individual's authority to prevent accidents and to see that the safety rules and operating procedures are observed by the employees under the direction of this individual; and Section 44, Rule 441.A, which requires employees to maintain a specified minimum distance from energized lines, unless the employee or the lines is insulated.

The probable violations arose from a November 12, 1998 accident in Pendleton, Kentucky. A Shelby Energy employee was working in an aerial bucket when he

contacted a 7200 volt overhead cut out assembly and was fatally injured. At Shelby Energy's request, the hearing was held in abeyance and an informal conference was convened to provide an opportunity to discuss the operative facts surrounding the accident. Shelby Energy appeared at the conference and the discussion with Commission Staff resulted in the filing of a Stipulation of Facts and Agreement ("Stipulation") on September 10, 1999.

The Stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by reference, sets forth the relevant facts surrounding the accident, discusses the significant remedial measures taken by Shelby Energy since that time, and provides for Shelby Energy to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$4000 in full satisfaction of the probable violations.

In determining whether the results of the Stipulation are in the public interest and are reasonable, the Commission has taken into consideration the comprehensive nature of the settlement and Shelby Energy's willingness to cooperate to achieve a speedy resolution of this proceeding. Based on the evidence of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that the Stipulation is in accordance with the law and does not violate any regulatory principle. The Stipulation is the product of arms-length negotiations among capable, knowledgeable parties, is in the public interest, and results in a reasonable resolution of all issues in this case.

### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. The Stipulation is adopted and approved in its entirety as a complete resolution of all issues in this case.

2. Shelby Energy shall pay \$4000 as a civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this order by certified check or money order payable to the Kentucky State Treasurer and mailed or delivered to the Office of General Counsel, Public Service Commission, 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 12th day of October, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director

# **APPENDIX**

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE
KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
IN CASE NO. 99-125
DATED OCTOBER 12, 1999

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. ) 99-125

# STIPULATION OF FACTS AND AGREEMENT

By Order dated April 6, 1999, the Commission initiated this proceeding to determine whether Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. ("Shelby Energy") should be subject to the penalties prescribed in KRS 278.990 for three violations of Commission regulation 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1). The Order arose out of an accident that occurred on November 12, 1998 in Pendleton, Kentucky, in which a Shelby Energy employee was fatally injured. Pursuant to Shelby Energy's request, an informal conference with Commission Staff was held at the Commission's offices on May 17, 1999.

Shelby Energy and Staff submitted the following agreement for the Commission's consideration in rendering its decision in this proceeding:

1. On November 12, 1998, a Shelby Energy employee, Michael A. Clark, was in the process of making up a single-phase line assembly at a 3-phase take off pole. While working in an aerial bucket, Mr. Clark contacted a 7,200 volt overhead cut out assembly and was fatally injured. Insulating material had been removed from

the 3-phase take off pole installation.

- 2. Mr. Clark was not wearing a rubber glove on his left hand at the time of the accident, and this constitutes a violation of the National Electric Safety Code, 1990 Edition ("NESC") Rule 420.H.
- 3. Mr. Clark failed to maintain the minimum required distance from an energized part, in violation of NESC Rule 441.A.
- 4. Mr. Clark's first line supervisor, Mr. Bramblett, had taken all reasonable precautions to prevent this particular accident, and there were no additional steps that Mr. Bramblett could have reasonably taken to ensure that Mr. Clark did not remove his gloves.
- 5. Shelby Energy, through its first line supervisors, takes all reasonable steps to ensure that its employees comply with work safety rules:

Line supervisors hold daily "tailgate" conferences to discuss and review the safety issues involved in performing work assignments. The Manager of Operations conducts numerous on-site safety spot checks and audits each month. Violations are discussed and procedures outlined in the Shelby Energy Cooperative disciplinary policy are followed. In addition, random outside safety audits are conducted by the Safety Department of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives and through shared service arrangements with other distribution cooperatives. These outside safety audits were not being performed at the time of this accident, but were in the planning process at that time. Copies of

Shelby Energy's Disciplinary Procedures in effect at the time of the accident are attached as Exhibit A, and those in effect beginning May 27, 1999 are attached as Exhibit B.

- 6. Shelby Energy does not admit that the violations of NESC Rule 420.H and 441.A were willful violations. However, Shelby Energy does agree that it is reasonable to resolve this proceeding as expeditiously as possible without an undue expenditure of time and resources by all parties involved.
- 7. Shelby Energy agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$4,000.00 as a full and complete resolution of all issues pending in this case. Shelby Energy's agreement to pay this civil penalty does not constitute an admission of liability by Shelby Energy, but the payment of the civil penalty is simply a means of resolving this case in an amicable, expeditious and cost-saving manner.
- 8. In the event that the Commission does not adopt this Stipulation of Facts and Agreement in its entirety, Shelby Energy and Staff reserve their rights to withdraw therefrom and require that a hearing be held on any and all issues involved herein, and that none of the provisions contained herein shall be binding upon the parties hereto or used as an admission by either party.
- 9. Shelby Energy and Staff agree that the foregoing Stipulation of Facts and Agreement is reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be adopted in its entirety by the Commission. If so adopted by the Commission, Shelby Energy agrees to waive its

right to a hearing and no petitioner for rehearing or Judicial appeal will be filed.

AGREED TO BY:

Donald T. Prather

Counsel for Shelby Energy

Cooperative, Inc.

Richard G. Raff

Counsel for Commission Staff

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# SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. Shelbyville, Kentucky

POLICY NO. 909

# **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

# I. OBJECTIVE

It is the policy of the Cooperative that all employees are expected to comply with the Cooperative's standards of behavior and performance, and that any noncompliance with these standards must be remedied.

## II. CONTENT

- 1. Under normal circumstances, the Cooperative endorses a policy of progressive discipline in which it attempts to provide employees with notice of deficiencies and an opportunity to improve. It does, however, retain the right to administer discipline in any manner it sees fit. This policy does not modify the status of employees as employees-at-will or in any way restrict the Cooperative's right to bypass the disciplinary procedures suggested.
- 2. The normal application of progressive discipline should be:
  - A. If an employee is not meeting Cooperative standards of behavior or performance, the employee's supervisor should take the following action:
    - (1) Meet with the employee to discuss the matter;
    - (2) Inform the employee of the nature of the problem and the action necessary to correct it; and
    - (3) Prepare a memorandum for the supervisor's own records indicating that the meeting has taken place.
  - B. If there is a second occurrence, the supervisor should hold another meeting with the employee and take the following action:
    - (1) Issue a written reprimand to the employee;
    - (2) Warn the employee that a third incident will result in more severe disciplinary action; and

EXHIBIT A

-

- (3) Prepare and forward to the Personnel Department a written report describing the first and second incidents and summarizing the action taken during the meeting with the employee. This information will be included in the employee's personnel file.
- C. If there are additional occurrences, the supervisor should take the following action, depending on the severity of the conduct.
  - (1) Issue a written reprimand or warning;
  - (2) Suspend the employee without pay for up to five working days; or
  - (3) Suspend the employee indefinitely and recommend termination.

After taking action under Content (2)(c), above, the supervisor should prepare and forward to the Personnel Department another written report describing the occurrences, indicating the timing between the occurrences, and summarizing the action taken or recommended and its justification.

- 3. The progressive disciplinary procedures described in Content (2), above, may also be applied to an employee who is experiencing a series of unrelated problems involving job performance and/or behavior.
- 4. In cases involving serious misconduct, or any time the supervisor determines it is necessary, such a major breach of policy or violation of law, the procedures contained in Content (2) above, or in any other employer policies, may be disregarded. The supervisor should suspend the employee immediately and, if appropriate, recommend termination of the employee. An investigation of the incidents leading up to the suspension should be conducted to determine what further action, if any, should be taken. Employees suspended from work will not receive or accrue any employee benefits during the suspension, unless management grants an exception.
- 5. The Personnel Department, under normal circumstances, will review all recommendations for termination and consult the President and General Manager before any final action is taken.
- 6. At any investigatory interview conducted for the purpose of determining the facts involved in any suspected violation of Cooperative rules and regulations, the following procedures normally should apply:
  - A. Prior to the interview, the employee who is suspected of violating Cooperative rules and regulations should be told in general terms what the interview is about.
  - B. The employee may have a coworked present at the interview, provided

he/she so requests and such interview covers issues affecting other employees.

7. If a disciplined employee works a full year without further action being instituted under this policy, the employee's record will normally be cleared of any disciplinary incidents and the next failure to meet behavior or performance standards may be treated as a first occurrence.

# III. RESPONSIBILITY

The President and General Manger is responsible for seeing that this policy is carried out.

Adopted: ,

March 23, 1995

Revised:

November 20, 1997

# SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. Shelbyville, Kentucky

#### POLICY NO. 909

# **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

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- 5. The Administrative Services Department, under normal circumstances, will review all recommendations for termination and consult the President and Chief Executive Officer before any final action is taken.
- 6. Prior to any investigatory interview conducted for the purpose of determining the facts involved in any suspected violation of Cooperative rules and regulations, the employee who is suspected of violating Cooperative rules and regulations may be informed in general terms what the interview is about.

# III. RESPONSIBILITY

The President and Chief Executive Officer is responsible for seeing that this policy is carried out.

Adopted: March 23, 1995

Revised: November 20, 1997

May 27, 1999



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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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Fax (502) 564-3460

Ronald B. McCloud, Secretary Public Protection and Regulation Cabinet

Helen Helton
Executive Director
Public Service Commission

Paul E. Patton Governor

September 10, 1999

Ms. Helen Helton Executive Director Public Service Commission 730 Schenkel Lane P. O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

RE:

Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.

Case No. 99-125

Dear Ms. Helton:

Enclosed for filing is a Stipulation of Facts and Agreement between Commission Staff and Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. which resolves all outstanding issues in Case No. 99-125. The signatories to this agreement request that the Commission review and approve this Agreement.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Raff

Staff Attorney

/rst

**Enclosure** 

CC:

Parties of Record

File



# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. ) 99-125

# STIPULATION OF FACTS AND AGREEMENT

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Shelby Energy and Staff submitted the following agreement for the Commission's consideration in rendering its decision in this proceeding:

1. On November 12, 1998, a Shelby Energy employee, Michael A. Clark, was in the process of making up a single-phase line assembly at a 3-phase take off pole. While working in an aerial bucket, Mr. Clark contacted a 7,200 volt overhead cut out assembly and was fatally injured. Insulating material had been removed from

the 3-phase take off pole installation.

- 2. Mr. Clark was not wearing a rubber glove on his left hand at the time of the accident, and this constitutes a violation of the National Electric Safety Code, 1990 Edition ("NESC") Rule 420.H.
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- 5. Shelby Energy, through its first line supervisors, takes all reasonable steps to ensure that its employees comply with work safety rules:

Line supervisors hold daily "tailgate" conferences to discuss and review the safety issues involved in performing work assignments. The Manager of Operations conducts numerous on-site safety spot checks and audits each month. Violations are discussed and procedures outlined in the Shelby Energy Cooperative disciplinary policy are followed. In addition, random outside safety audits are conducted by the Safety Department of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives and through shared service arrangements with other distribution cooperatives. These outside safety audits were not being performed at the time of this accident, but were in the planning process at that time. Copies of

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- 6. Shelby Energy does not admit that the violations of NESC Rule 420.H and 441.A were willful violations. However, Shelby Energy does agree that it is reasonable to resolve this proceeding as expeditiously as possible without an undue expenditure of time and resources by all parties involved.
- 7. Shelby Energy agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$4,000.00 as a full and complete resolution of all issues pending in this case. Shelby Energy's agreement to pay this civil penalty does not constitute an admission of liability by Shelby Energy, but the payment of the civil penalty is simply a means of resolving this case in an amicable, expeditious and cost-saving manner.
- 8. In the event that the Commission does not adopt this Stipulation of Facts and Agreement in its entirety, Shelby Energy and Staff reserve their rights to withdraw therefrom and require that a hearing be held on any and all issues involved herein, and that none of the provisions contained herein shall be binding upon the parties hereto or used as an admission by either party.
- 9. Shelby Energy and Staff agree that the foregoing Stipulation of Facts and Agreement is reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be adopted in its entirety by the Commission. If so adopted by the Commission, Shelby Energy agrees to waive its

right to a hearing and no petitioner for rehearing or Judicial appeal will be filed.

AGREED TO BY:

Donald T. Prather

Counsel for Shelby Energy

Cooperative, Inc.

Richard G.

Counsel for Commission Staff

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Ougust 13, 1999

D-6-0

# SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. Shelbyville, Kentucky

## POLICY NO. 909

# **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

# I. OBJECTIVE

It is the policy of the Cooperative that all employees are expected to comply with the Cooperative's standards of behavior and performance, and that any noncompliance with these standards must be remedied.

#### II. CONTENT

- 1. Under normal circumstances, the Cooperative endorses a policy of progressive discipline in which it attempts to provide employees with notice of deficiencies and an opportunity to improve. It does, however, retain the right to administer discipline in any manner it sees fit. This policy does not modify the status of employees as employees-at-will or in any way restrict the Cooperative's right to bypass the disciplinary procedures suggested.
- 2. The normal application of progressive discipline should be:
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After taking action under Content (2)(c), above, the supervisor should prepare and forward to the Personnel Department another written report describing the occurrences, indicating the timing between the occurrences, and summarizing the action taken or recommended and its justification.

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# III. RESPONSIBILITY

The President and General Manger is responsible for seeing that this policy is carried out.

Adopted: ,

March 23, 1995

Revised:

November 20, 1997

# SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. Shelbyville, Kentucky

### POLICY NO. 909

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#### III. RESPONSIBILITY

The President and Chief Executive Officer is responsible for seeing that this policy is carried out.

Adopted: March 23, 1995 Revised: November 20, 1997 May 27, 1999



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Ronald B. McCloud, Secretary Public Protection and Regulation Cabinet

Helen Helton
Executive Director
Public Service Commission

Paul E. Patton Governor

August 2, 1999

Hon. Donald Prather 500 Main Street P. O. Box 1059 Shelbyville, Kentucky 40066-1059

Re:

Shelby Energy Case No. 99-125

Dear Mr. Prather:

Enclosed please find a draft Stipulation of Facts which I believe is in accord with the general agreement reached at the May 17, 1999 informal conference.

As you can see, I have left blank a place for you to insert a discussion of the procedures taken by Shelby Energy to enforce work safety rules. To avoid your having to retype the Stipulation, you may want to just make changes to the attached draft and include an insert on Shelby Energy's efforts, which we can insert in the document.

My notes, unfortunately, do not reflect the amount of the penalty which we agreed upon. However, based on the settlements that staff has been entering into within the past few years with other utilities, and the Commission's "get tough" policy, I feel reasonably certain that the agreed upon amount was \$4,000, since if it wasn't, it is unlikely that the Commission would accept a lesser amount. In any event, if your notes do reflect a different amount, please contact me.

I truly apologize for the delay in getting this document to you. Hopefully you can review it with your client and get it back to me by August 13, 1999.

Sincerely yours,

Richard G. Raff

Staff Attorney

**Enclosure** 



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTCUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC. ) 99-125

# STIPULATION OF FACTS AND AGREEMENT

By Order dated April 6, 1999, the Commission initiated this proceeding to determine whether Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. ("Shelby Energy") should be subject to the penalties prescribed in KRS 278.990 for three violations of Commission regulation 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1). The Order arose out of an accident that occurred on November 12, 1998 in Pendleton, Kentucky, in which a Shelby Energy employee was fatally injured. Pursuant to Shelby Energy's request, an informal conference with Commission Staff was held at the Commission's offices on May 17, 1999.

Shelby Energy and Staff submit the following agreement for the Commission's consideration in rendering its decision in this proceeding:

1. On November 12, 1998, a Shelby Energy employee, Michael A. Clark, was in the process of making up a single-phase line assembly at a 3-phase take off pole. While working in an aerial bucket, Mr. Clark contacted a 7,200 volt overhead cut out assembly and was fatally injured. Insulating material had been removed from the 3-phase take off pole installation, and Mr. Clark was not wearing his rubber gloves or sleeves at the time of the accident.

1

- 2. Mr. Clark was not wearing a rubber glove on his left hand at the time of the accident, and this constitutes a violation of the National Electric Safety Code, 1990 Edition ("NESC"), Rule 420.H.
- 3. Mr. Clark failed to maintain the minimum required distance from an energized part, in violation of NESC Rule 441.A.
- 4. Mr. Clark's first line supervisor, Mr. Bramblett, had taken all reasonable precautions to prevent this particular accident, and there were no additional steps that Mr. Bramblett could have reasonably taken to ensure that Mr. Clark did not remove his gloves.
- 5. Shelby Energy, through its first line supervisors, takes all reasonable steps to ensure that its employees comply with work safety rules.

[insert here discussion of procedures utilized by supervisors to enforce work rules, performance of on-site audits and spot checks, and enforcement of disciplinary procedures against employees found to be in violation of work rules, and additional safety inspections conducted by employees of East Kentucky Power and Owen Electric.]

6. Shelby Energy does not admit that the violations of NESC Rule 420.H and 441.A were willful violations. However, Shelby Energy does agree that it is reasonable to resolve this proceeding as expeditiously as possible without an undue expenditure of time and resources by all parties involved.

- 7. Shelby Energy agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$4,000 as a full and complete resolution of all issues pending in this case. Shelby Energy's agreement to pay this civil penalty does not constitute an admission of liability by Shelby Energy, but the payment of the civil penalty is simply a means of resolving this case in an amicable, expeditious and cost-saving manner.
- 8. In the event that the Commission does not adopt this Stipulation of Facts and Agreement in its entirety, Shelby Energy and Staff reserve their rights to withdraw therefrom and require that a hearing be held on any and all issues involved herein, and that none of the provisions contained herein shall be binding upon the parties hereto or used as an admission by either party.
- 9. Shelby Energy and Staff agree that the foregoing Stipulation of Facts and Agreement is reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be adopted in its entirety by the Commission. If so adopted by the Commission, Shelby Energy agrees to waive its right to a hearing and no petition for rehearing or judicial appeal will be filed.

AGREED TO BY:		
Donald T. Prather Counsel for Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.	Date	
Richard G. Raff Counsel for Commission Staff	Date	



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
730 SCHENKEL LANE
POST OFFICE BOX 615
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40602
www.psc.state.ky.us
(502) 564-3940
Fax (502) 564-3460

Public Protection and Regulation Cabinet

Ronald B. McCloud, Secretary

Helen Helton
Executive Director
Public Service Commission

Paul E. Patton Governor

May 19, 1999

Mr. Dudley Bottom, Jr. General Manager Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. 620 Old Finchville Road Shelbyville, Kentucky 40065

Hon. Donald T. Prather 500 Main Street P.O. Box 1059 Shelbyville, Kentucky 40066-1059

Re: Case No. 99-125

#### Gentlemen:

Attached is a copy of the memorandum which is being filed into the record of the above-referenced case. If you have any comments that you would like to make regarding the contents of the informal conference memorandum, please do so within five days of receipt of this letter. Should you have any questions regarding same, please contact Richard Raff at (502) 564-3940, Extension 260.

Sincerely,

Helen C. Helton Executive Director

Attachment

## INTRA-AGENCY MEMORANDUM

# KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TO:

Main Case File 99-125

FROM:

Richard G. Raff #

**Staff Attorney** 

DATE:

May 19, 1999

RE:

Shelby Energy

Pursuant to the Commission's April 30, 1999 Order, an informal conference was held in the Commission's offices on May 17, 1999. A list of those in attendance is attached hereto.

After discussing the factual and legal issues addressed in the Commission's Show Cause Order, Shelby Energy and Staff agreed in principal to negotiate a stipulation of facts. Shelby Energy stressed that it did not believe that any of the cited violations were willful, but if this position can be reflect in the stipulation, it was agreeable to paying a civil penalty which, if accepted by the Commission, would result in a complete resolution of all issues in this case without a hearing.

Staff agreed to produce a first draft of a stipulation by June 1 and Shelby Energy will supplement the draft with a discussion of its policies and procedures for enforcing work safety rules.

Attachment

CC:

Parties of Record

Manha M. North Dudley Bottom, Jr. PSC Engineering Shelly Evergy Cooperative



## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

730 SCHENKEL LANE POST OFFICE BOX 615 FRANKFORT, KY. 40602 (502) 564-3940

April 30, 1999

Dudley Bottom, General Manager Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. 620 Old Finchville Road Shelbyville, KY. 40065

Honorable Donald T. Prather Attorney for Shelby Energy 500 Main Street, P.O. Box 1059 Shelbyville, KY. 40066 1059

RE: Case No. 99-125

We enclose one attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bell Secretary of the Commission

SB/hv Enclosure

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.	)
	) CASE NO. 99-125
	)
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISION	)
REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION 3(1)	)

## ORDER

On April 26, 1999, Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. filed a motion to continue the hearing scheduled for May 4, 1999 and requested an informal conference. Good cause having been shown and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission HEREBY ORDERS that:

- 1. The hearing scheduled in this matter for May 4, 1999 is cancelled and continued generally.
- 2. An informal conference will be held on May 17, 1999, at 10:30 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Conference Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky.

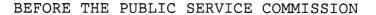
Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 30th day of April, 1999.

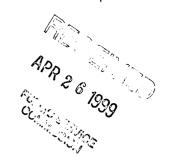
By the Commission

ATTEST:

**Executive Director** 

### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY





In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.			)			
			) )	CASE	NO.	99-125
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISSION REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION	-	(1)	) )			

#### ANSWER

Comes Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. ("Shelby Energy"), by counsel, and for its Answer to the Order, states as follows:

- 1. Shelby Energy admits that Michael A. Clark was not wearing his left rubber glove<sup>1</sup> at the time he was electrocuted, in violation of NESC Rule 420H, and that since his insulating glove(s) had been removed up in the bucket, he approached too close to the energized part, in violation of NESC Rule 441A.
- 2. Shelby Energy denies that Mr. Bramblett, the First Line Supervisor, violated NESC Rule 421A. There were not any further reasonable precautions within his authority he could have adopted to prevent this particular accident, nor any further reasonable steps he could have taken to see that Mr. Clark's gloves were not removed while Mr. Clark was up in the bucket.
  - 3. Shelby Energy denies that any of the alleged violations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The evidence is contradictory as to whether Mr. Clark was wearing his right glove at the time of the accident.

occurred <u>willfully</u> and therefore no penalties are appropriate under KRS 278.990(1). In fact, there is no evidence at all to support the Commission's allegation of willfulness, since no one knows whether the glove(s) simply fell off, were accidentally pulled off, or were intentionally removed.

4. Mr. Clark was wearing his gloves when he went up in the bucket truck and he should have been wearing his gloves when he was working. It was not possible for Mr. Bramblett to know Mr. Clark's glove or gloves had been removed since Mr. Bramblett was working directly under the bucket and could not see Mr. Clark. Mr. Clark was a very experienced and well-trained lineman who knew he should be wearing his gloves. If Mr. Clark had been wearing his gloves, he would not have been injured nor would he be subject to the minimum specified distance from energized conductors or parts.

### FIRST DEFENSE

None of the alleged actions or omissions can possibly be "wilful" within the meaning of KRS 278.990(1) and therefore no penalties are legally assessable in this matter.

#### SECOND DEFENSE

Mr. Clark violated NESC, Section 42, Rule 420H, in that he was not wearing his gloves at the time of the accident. Shelby Energy did not violate said Rule.

### THIRD DEFENSE

If Mr. Clark had worn his glove(s) as he was supposed to, there would not have been any violation of NESC Rule 441.A and Mr. Clark would not have been injured even if his head came into direct

contact with an energized line since he was in an insulated bucket and would have been wearing insulating gloves.

### FOURTH DEFENSE

Mr. Clark had 15 1/2 years of experience as a lineman, some of that as a supervisor for a previous employer. Mr. Clark was welltrained in safety rules through his 15 1/2 years as a lineman for a contractor and Shelby Energy. The work initially performed by Mr. Clark, which was the most dangerous part of the project, was performed properly with all appropriate safety materials including gloves, helmet and cover-up. Mr. Clark descended to the ground and then ascended again. It is undisputed that he had his gloves on when he went up, and that he did not need to go as high with his Given the fact that Mr. Clark was wearing his rubber bucket. gloves, had many, many years of experience and safety training, and was not expected to raise the bucket that high, it was not reasonable for supervisor Bramblett to anticipate Mr. Clark would remove his glove(s) in such close proximity to an energized line. The glove(s) apparently either slipped off, were accidentally pulled off, or were intentionally taken off by Mr. Clark-against safety rules and his training and years of experience. It would not be reasonable to anticipate this as a possibility since no reasonable person would do so, especially in such proximity to the energized line. There was no reasonable precaution for Supervisor Bramblett to take in this particular instance.

WHEREFORE, Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. respectfully requests as follows:

- 1. That the Citations be abated and set aside, or in the alternative, that no fines be levied because there were no wilful violations.
- 2. All other proper relief and Orders to which Shelby Energy may be entitled to.

Respectfully submitted,

Mathis, Riggs & Prather, P.S.C.

Donald T. Prather

500 Main Street, P.O. Box 1059 Shelbyville, Kentucky 40066-1059

Phone: (502) 633-5220 Fax: (502) 633-0667

Attorney for Shelby Energy

Cooperative, Inc.

2recc\clark\answer.psc

## MATHIS, RIGGS & PRATHER, P.S.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

500 MAIN STREET · P.O. BOX 1059 SHELBYVILLE, KENTUCKY 40066-1059

C. LEWIS MATHIS, JR. T. SHERMAN RIGGS DONALD T. PRATHER

April 23, 1999

HAROLD Y. SAUNDERS OF COUNSEL

TELEPHONE: (502) 633-5220 FAX: (502) 633-0667



Ms. Helen Helton, Executive Director Public Service Commission 730 Schenkel Lane P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

RE: Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.

Case No. 99-125

Dear Ms. Helton:

Enclosed is the original and ten copies of Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.'s Motion for Continuance and Request for Informal Conference, and Answer for filing with the Commission in the above captioned matter. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

MATHIS, RIGGS & PRATHER, P.S.C.

Donald T. Prather

DTP/kr Enclosures

cc: w\enc: Dudley Bottom, Jr.

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# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



In the Matter of:

SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.	)
	) CASE NO. 99-125
	)
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISSION	)
REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION 3 (1)	)

# MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE and REQUEST FOR INFORMAL CONFERENCE

Comes the Defendant, Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. ("Shelby Energy"), by counsel, and respectfully moves that the Commission reschedule the hearing presently set for May 4, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. The reason for this Motion is that Shelby Energy's President and CEO, Dudley Bottom, Jr., will be in Washington, D.C. on that date on electric cooperative business with non-refundable airline tickets and lodging. Mr. Bottom has decisional authority in the event any settlement is reached, and is anticipated as a witness at the hearing. If the Commission wishes to reschedule the hearing at this time, Shelby Energy requests that the hearing be rescheduled on one of the following dates: May 13, 14, 17, 21, 24, 25, June 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, or 11.

Additionally, Shelby Energy respectfully requests an informal conference with the Commission staff. This case may very well be settled since Shelby Energy does not anticipate contesting the violation of NESC, Section 42, Rule 420H, which requires utility employees to use the personal protective equipment and devices

provided for their work and Rule 441.A, which prohibits an employee who is not wearing insulating gloves from approaching too close to energized ungrounded parts. Shelby Energy does intend to contest the alleged violation of NESC, Section 42, Rules 421.A, and none of the alleged violations were wilful. The informal conference may very well eliminate the need for a hearing altogether.

Respectfully submitted,

Mathis, Riggs & Prather, P.S.C.

Donald T. Prather

500 Main Street, P.O. Box 1059 Shelbyville, Kentucky 40066-1059

Phone: (502) 633-5220 Fax: (502) 633-0667

Attorney for Shelby Energy

Cooperative, Inc.

2recc\clark\notmot.psc



## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

730 SCHENKEL LANE POST OFFICE BOX 615 FRANKFORT, KY. 40602 (502) 564-3940

April 6, 1999

Dudley Bottom, General Manager Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. 620 Old Finchville Road Shelbyville, KY. 40065

RE: Case No. 99-125

We enclose one attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bell

Secretary of the Commission

SB/sa Enclosure

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.	CASE NO. 99-125
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMMISSION ) REGULATION 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION 3(1) )	) )

Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc. ("Shelby Energy") is a Kentucky corporation engaged in the distribution of electricity to the public for compensation for lights, heat, power, and other uses and is a utility subject to Commission jurisdiction. KRS 278.010, 279.210.

ORDER

KRS 278.280(2) directs the Commission to prescribe rules and regulations for the performance of services by utilities. Pursuant to this statutory directive, the Commission promulgated 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), which requires the maintenance of utility facilities to be in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code, 1990 Edition ("NESC"). The NESC, Section 42, Rule 420H, requires utility, employees to use the personal protective equipment and devices provided for their work; Section 42, Rule 421.A, requires the first line supervisor or person in charge to adopt such precautions as are within the individual's authority to prevent accidents and to see that the safety rules and operating procedures are observed by the employees under the direction of this individual; and Section 44, Rule 441.A, requires employees to

maintain a specified minimum distance from energized lines, unless the employee or the line is insulated.

The Commission Staff submitted to the Commission a Utility Accident Investigation Report dated January 15, 1999, attached hereto as Appendix A, which alleges that on November 12, 1998 a Shelby Energy employee, Michael A. Clark, was in the process of making up a single-phase line assembly at a 3-phase take off pole. Mr. Clark was working in an aerial bucket when he contacted a 7,200 volt overhead cut out assembly and was fatally injured. Insulating material had been removed from the 3-phase take off pole installation, and Mr. Clark was not wearing his rubber gloves or sleeves at the time of the accident. The line supervisor, William Bramblett, was the supervisor in charge of the work site and was working on the ground below at the time of the accident.

The Utility Accident Investigation Report notes three probable violations of Commission regulations: 1) 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), due to a violation of NESC Rule 420H, by Mr. Clark's failure to wear personal protective equipment and protective devices consisting of rubber gloves and sleeves; 2) 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), due to a violation of NESC Rule 421A by the failure of Mr. Bramblett, the first line supervisor, to-adopt such precautions within his authority to prevent accidents and to see that the safety rules and operating procedures were observed by the employee under his direction; and 3) 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), due to a violation of NESC Rule 441, by Mr. Clark's failure to maintain the minimum specified distance from energized, uninsulated lines.

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

1. Shelby Energy shall submit to the Commission within 20 days of the date of this Order a written response to the allegations contained in the Utility Accident Investigation Report.

2. Shelby Energy shall appear on May 4, 1999, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky, to present evidence concerning the incident which is the subject of the Utility Accident Investigation Report, specifically the alleged violations of Commission Regulations 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), and to show cause, if any it can, why it should not be subject to the penalties of KRS 278.990 for the three probable violations of the aforementioned Commission regulations.

3. The Utility Accident Investigation Report dated January 15, 1999 is hereby made a part of the record of this case.

4. Any request by Shelby Energy for an informal conference with the Commission Staff shall be set forth in writing and filed with the Commission within 20 days of the date of this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 6th day of April, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST

**Executive Director** 

APPENDIX A

AN APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCK PUBLIC
SERVIC COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 99-125 DATED APRIL 6, 1999

· January 15, 1999

## UTILITY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Utility:	Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.					
Reported By:	Wayne Anderson, Manager Plant Engineering					
Dates & Times Accident Occurred:	11/12/98 – 10:25 a.m.					
Utility Notified:	11/12/98 – 10:26 a.m.	, <u></u>		*****		
PSC Notified:	11/12/98 – 10:35 a.m.				<u> </u>	
Investigated:	11/13/98					
Written Report Rcvd:	11/18/98			·		
Location of Accident:	Rolling "C" Farm, 400 Rolling "C" Ro	ad, Pendlet	on, Kentu	ucky 4005	5	
Description of Accident:	Mr. Michael A. Clark was in the process of making up a single-phase line assembly at take off pole #35490, when the accident occurred. Mr. Clark was working a 3-phase take off pole from an aerial bucket when he inadvertently contacted a 7200 Volt overhead cutout assembly which had previously been installed. Cover up material had been removed from the 3-phase take off pole installation. Mr. Clark was not wearing his rubber gloves or sleeves at the time of the accident. Mr. William Cliff Bramblett, Line Supervisor, and Michael Nethery, Operation Apprentice, were working on the ground below and heard the arc. Mr. Bramblett was the Supervisor in-charge of the work site when the					
Victims:	accident occurred.			·	, .*	
Name:	Michael A. Clark	Fatal:	Yes	Age:	34	
Addr./Empl.:	620 Old Finchville Road, Shelbyville	Kentucky/S	helby En	ergy		
Injuries:	Electrocution with burn to his left har burned hair.	nd, forearm,	and mid	waist area	ı. Also	
Witnesses:	Name	Address/E	mployme	nt		
	William Cliff Bramblett	1615 Che Energy				
	Michael Netherly	327 Payne Energy	e Road, S	Shelbyville	/Shelby	

January 1	15.	19	99
-----------	-----	----	----

January 13, 1999						
	John C. Douglas		960 Alum Springs Cross Pike, Danville, KY/Townsend Tree Service			
			601 Phillips Lane, Junction City. KY			
	Byron Edward Ma	rise	/Townsend Tree S	ervice		
	Name		Address/Employme	nt		
	William Cliff Braml	blett	Shelby Energy Em	ployee		
	Michael Netherly		Shelby Energy Em	ployee		
	Wayne Anderson		Shelby Energy Em	ployee		
	Don Turner		Shelby Energy Em	ployee		
	Mark Hughes		KY OSHA			
	Shelby Energy's A	ccident Report				
	State Police Repo	rt				
Sources of	Deputy Coroner's	Report	(Oldham County)			
Information:	John W. Land, On	-site Investigator	PSC Engineering S	Staff		
Probable Violations:			Electric Safety Code,			
Probable violations:	42, General Rules	for Employees; Ru	ıle 420.H., Tools and	Protective	Equipment;	
	Rule 421.A.1. & 2	2., Duties of a Fire	st Level Supervisor	or Person	In-Charge;	
	Section 44., Addition	onal Rules for Supp	oly Employees; Rule 4	141.A., Cle	arance from	
	Live Parts			···		
		Minimum	Applicable NESC			
Line Clearances At		Allowed by	Edition!		Constr.	
Point of Accident:	Measured	NESC	1990	Volt.	Date	
Road Phase to						
Ground Elevation:	28' – 4"	18' – 6"	1990	7200V	1998	
Center Phase to		40. 0.	1000	70001		
Ground Elevation:	29' – 10"	18' – 6"	1990		4000	
Field Phase to			<del> </del>	7200V	1998	
Comment Classification	00' 40"	401 0"				
Ground Elevation:	28' 10"	18' – 6"	1990	7200V	1998	
Primary Neutral to			1990	7200V	1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation:	28' - 10" 25' - 7 ½"	18' – 6" 15' – 5"				
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top			1990	7200V N/A	1998 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground	25' – 7 ½"	15' – 5"	1990 1990	7200V N/A	1998 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground Elevation:			1990	7200V N/A	1998 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Neutral	25' 7 ½" 26' 11"	15' – 5" 18' – 6"	1990 1990 1990	7200V N/A 7200V	1998 1998 • 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Neutral to Ground Elevation:	25' – 7 ½"	15' – 5"	1990 1990	7200V N/A	1998 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Neutral to Ground Elevation: From Top of	25' 7 ½" 26' 11"	15' – 5" 18' – 6"	1990 1990 1990	7200V N/A 7200V	1998 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Neutral to Ground Elevation:	25' - 7 ½" 26' - 11" 25' - 8"	15' – 5" 18' – 6"	1990 1990 1990	7200V N/A 7200V	1998 1998	
Primary Neutral to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Top Line to Ground Elevation: Single Phase Neutral to Ground Elevation: From Top of Energized Cutout to	25' 7 ½" 26' 11"	15' – 5" 18' – 6" 15' – 5"	1990 1990 1990 1990	7200V N/A 7200V N/A	1998 1998  1998 1998	

Current edition adopted by the Commission. If clearances are not in compliance with the current edition, then the edition in effect when the facilities were last constructed or modified would apply.

January 15, 1999					
Communication Conductor to Ground Elevation:	16' – 8 ½"	15' – 5"	1990	N/A	1998
Date of		·			
Measurement:	11/13/98				
Approximate Temp.:	53°F				
Measurements Made By:	Don Turner, Shelby	y Energy and John	W. Land, PSC Er	ngineering St	taff
Investigated By:	John W. Land				
Signed:	Kohne Lane	<u> </u>			

Attachments A. Shelby Energy Cooperative's Accident Report B. Photographs of Accident Site

## Attachment A

Shelby Energy Cooperative's Accident Report

EXTEND 10 PRINTER AND TEMP 482. ACO POLE INTO "UND UNDER NO. 10KILLI REMARKS 9c: 88495' Gustic SHEET NO\_ Robert SIZE LOOP METER 4TP & EL METER LINE ō SPAN NO. 35,571 Õ × UNDER- SEC.4 SYSTEM DESIGNATION TEH P. SER STAKLING SHEE 14-1826-5 3-25 25 1-47 GR. UNIT LEAD GUY. 30 #15C VCI-7 UNIT CLEAR. COOPERATIVE SHELBY 45-9 VASP TOLES T.B.C. SKETCH OF WORK (BACK) 3550 454 35,571 495 긹 ž č Staked by . The Date 10-20-95
Ch'kd by . The Date 10-22-95
Released by MM Date 10-30-93
Energized by MM Date 10-30-93
Location HEAR Ruling Span Stated 455 = 440 Quantity Conductor Type ACS A ACS Size Replaced units with O. Reset meters and transformers with Map Reference 3-79-43-94 Pri. Wire Size 3/0, Al 2 RETIREMENT-NO REPLACEMENT Indicate retired units with . Pri | Sec. | Sec. | Ser. | SUMMARY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT No. Wires No. of Members Quantity NO. OF SERVICES REPLACEMENT Ext. Name Ext. No. Units Feet Span 806  $\bigcirc$ 

i DIC	GGER TEST REPORT
Customer: <u>Sholby Recc</u> Model: <u>Alter D842A BQ</u> Serial No.: <u>D397B£/87/</u>	Report No.:
	PLATFORM PIN LA  HEAD OF BOOM OL  POLE CLAWS & BRACKET OL
	UPPER CONTROLS OLC  DIGGER HANGER BRACKET WELD CYNCKED - Red  DIGGER HEAD OLC
	AUGER STOP O
	LIFT CYLINDER BLOCK AND PIN O
	ELECTRICAL HAZARD DECALS OK PEDESTAL WELDS OK  PEDE
	OUTRIGGER WELDS LEFT, Fronticueld CVACLED TO
Comments: OK	

## **DIELECTRIC TEST REPORT**

Customer: Shelby Recc						
Model #: ALTEC DB424	BR	- Tech	Technician: MB/IC			
Serial #: 03978E187	) 	Temperature: 600				
Truck #:_9				DEY		
Report #:	····	. Date	Date: 4/9/98			
TEST AREAS	APPLIED	T	T	COMMENTS		
ARTICULATING BOOM	VOLTAGE K.V.A.C.	TIME IN SECONDS	LEAKAGE m.A.	ANSI A92.2		
Upper Boom 🗆 1/6						
Lower Boom Insert						
Total Unit   Basket Shaft To Chassis				e* , <del></del>		
EXTENDABLE BOOM /						
Total Unit	69	180	.55	Masso d		
Basket Shaft To Chassis		, , ,	, 2	PASSE		
Platform Liner						
Hydraulic Oil Deass	21	1				
21 KVAC Minimum	31					
These are Tests—Not a Guarantee!						

Clallar D BUCKET TEST REPORT
Customer; Date: 4/9/96 Report No.:
Model: Am 55041 Truck No.: 13
Customer; She by Recc Date: 4/9/98 Report No.: 5  Model: 4/9/98 Truck No.: 5  Serial No.: 0397-R324/  Technician: MB/TC
PLATFORM PIN CANNOT 125T
PLATFORM BRACKET OL
UPPER CONTROLS OL
BOOM EXTERIOR CONDITION CLEAN AND WAX
ELECTRICAL HAZARD DECALS
///
ELBOW WELDS
N ELBOW WELDS
ELBOW PINS OK
CYLINDER BLOCK & PIN OK
CYLINDER BLOCK & PIN OK
LOWER CONTROLS
MAIN BOOM PIN OK
CYLINDER BLOCK & PIN OK
TURRET WELDS OF
LOWER PEDESTAL WELDS
ANCHOR BOLTS OF
OUTRIGGER WELDS
Confinence Tiby boom lootterished winch gent box Hydralic Hose circut
MEARING OIL

## **DIELECTRIC TEST REPORT**

Customer: Shelby Rece	•				
Model #: AM.550H		Technician: MB/TC			
Serial #: 0397-1324/		Temperature: 500			
Truck #: <u>/3</u>	Unit's Condition:				
Report #:		. Date	4/9/98	>	
TEST AREAS	APPLIED VOLTAGE	TIME IN	LEAKAGE	COMMENTS	
ARTICULATING BOOM	K.V.A.C.	SECONDS	m.A.	ANSI A92.2-1979	
Upper Boom	69	180	.18	Passed	
Lower Boom Insert	50	300	.60	Passed	
Total Unit  Basket Shaft To Chassis	69	186	.28	Passed	
EXTENDABLE BOOM					
Total Unit   Basket Shaft To Chassis	NA				
Platform Liner	35	60	PASSE	d .	
Hydraulic Oil Pass  21 KVAC Minimum	32K1				
74	nese are Tests	s—Not a Gu	arantee!		

ج. راح

Paul E. Patton Governor



Joe Norsworthy Secretary

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
LABOR CABINET
OSH Compliance
1047 U.S. Highway 127 South, Suite 4
Frankfort, KY 40601
Anthony E. Long, Director

## Facsimile Transmission

To:
Name . . . . . John LaND

Company . . . . . Location . . . . .

Fax Number. . . . 564-1582

Phone Number . .

From:

Name: . . . . . . FROM\_NAME>

Phone Numbeer . . 564-3070

Fax Number . . . . 502-564-5723

**COMMENTS:** 

Date and time of transmission: Friday, December 18, 1998 10:43:08 AM Number of Pages: . . . . . . . 10 (Including this cover page.)

Phone: 502-564-3070

## UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

AGENCY COPY

UOR 1 Rev. 5-87

1. AG	ENC	Kentucky	State	Police	2. ORI:	5445	0300	1CE 3.0	ISE NO. 5	-98-1	148		
4. TIT	LE O	F INVESTIGATION	Death			2. C MISDEME	NOR 30E TH	ER CITA	ופוסא אסוד:	<del> </del>			
	ISS	DEGREE	Van-CI	-iminal		1998 DEC	E- ADEC	MICAL					
5. STA	TUTI	E NA	•	6.	VIOLATION CODE	030	99 "	CON	APLEXITY	SUPPLEME	NTARY		
7. REF	ORT	ED SY (1, 1)	Faa			9. H	OW REPORTED CO	00E: [ / ]	TIME				
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& AD	DRES	is,		PHONE	(502)		, , ,		ARRIVED [/2".	35 CLEARED	112:30		
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	1	0 111	cs105	., 6	7 5-12		40	055	2. 2 <del>/ 0U</del> TSIDE		4 SE RURAL		
ATIO	1	CITY F CHALLTO		Henry	STAT	E FY		<u> </u>	12. LOCATION TYP	= Fiela	<del></del>		
5	'~	ME 1. CAR		3. C HOME	NOT	1. E CAR		HOME		1000E: 1701			
ŏ		2 3 BUSINESS		4. C PROPERT	Y 1	Z. C BUSINES		PROPERTY !					
7	09-	OCATION TYPE CODES: 01- DRUG STORE/DR. OFFICE/	HOSPITAL: 10-FIE	LD/WOODS, 11-3	OVNT/PUB BLDG, 12	B; 04-CHURCH; GROCERY, 13+	OS-COMMERCION WY/REVALLEY: 14-	-PICE BLDG: 08 -HCTEL/M; 15-L	-Constr. Site; 07: Ake/waterway, 16	CONV STORE; C8-0 -LICUOR STORE; 17	DEPT/DISCNT STORE -PICING LOT/GLARAGE		
	18-	res.:Home: 19-school. :	20-SPECIALTY ST	ORE: 21-OTHER:	22-gas station."						·		
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• •									PURSUA	INT TO KRS 15A.19K	J AND KN3 17130		

### CONTINUATION PAGE/SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT

KYKSP0500

Case No. <u>5-98-1148</u>

TITLE OF CASE: Death Inv. Non-Criminal Viol. Code: 03009

SYNOPSIS:

Dispatched to KY-146 approximately 2 miles west of Pendleton where a Shelby Energy work crew was installing power lines. Was advised a call came in from Shelby Energy that they had a lineman down at that location.

MODUS OPERANDI:

While installing a power line to a pole, the victim came in contact with a 7,200 volt power line and was electrocuted.

DATE AND TIME OF

OCCURRENCE:

Thursday Nov. 14, 1998 1020 hrs.

ACCUSED:

None

SUSPECTS:

None

WITNESSES:

BRAMBLETT, WILLIAM C.

1615 Cherry Lane

Shelbyville, Ky. 40065 DOB: 03-05-57 ph. (502) 633-4412

NETHERLY, MICHAEL 327 Payne Road

Shelbyville, Ky. 40065

DOB: 02-24-71 ph. (502) 633-0839

DOUGLAS, JOHN C.

960 Alum Springs Crosspike

Danville, Ky. 40422

DOB: 02-07-56 ph. (606) 238-7341

MARISE, BYRON EDWARD 601 Phillips Lane

Junction City, Ky. 40440

DOB: 05-07-70

work ph. 1-800-438-9705

STOLEN PROPERTY:

None

TRP. J. FLECHLER 529 5 hrs. 11-16-98 Officer Making Rpt. Badge Time Spent Date of Report Rev'd By:

5-98-1148-2

htFAX

## CONTINUATION PAGE/SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT

10 Case No. <u>5-98-1148</u>

CASE: Death Inv. Non-Criminal Viol. Code: 03009

**ROPERTY:** 

None

E AND HOW

None

E DISP:

None

:ATION:

(Thursday Nov. 14, 1998 1035 hr.)

When I arrived at the scene the rescue squad was already there and working with the victim, MICHAEL CLARK. At that time they were giving him CPR and trying to get a pulse. He was then taken immediately to Tri-County Hospital by ambulance. MICHAEL CLARK was pronounced dead at 1107 hrs. by Oldham County Deputy Coroner, DAN DOTY. An autopsy was ordered to determine the exact cause of death.

MICHAEL CLARK was employed by Shelby Energy from Shelbyville, Ky., and had worked for them since September 1997. Prior to that he had worked for a sub-contractor that Shelby Energy uses. His job status was a line technician.

MICHAEL CLARK, WILLIAM BRAMBLETT, and MICHAEL NETHERLY, were all working together on the job site where the incident occurred. Their job was to run new service to a house under construction there. Power had to be run several hundred yards across a field to several poles.

CLARK and BRAMBLETT were working out of company truck #13, which is a 1997 International bucket truck. MICHAEL CLARK was up in the bucket next to the power lines attaching the new service line. WILLIAM BRAMBLETT was on the ground at the same pole attaching a ground wire to the truck and checking the ohms of the pole. MICHAEL

FLECHLER 529 5 hrs. 11-16-98 WMaking Rpt. Badge Time Spent Date of Report Rev'd By:

ghtFAX

### CONTINUATION PAGE/SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT

KYKSP0500

Case No. <u>5-98-1148</u>

TITLE OF CASE: Death Inv. Non-Criminal Viol. Code: 03009

NETHERLY was working at his truck, which was parked behind the truck CLARK was working cut of.

WILLIAM BRAMBLETT said he was next to the base of the pole and heard a electric arc which lasted for a couple of seconds. He looked up, saw smoke coming out of the bucket, and could not see MICHAEL CLARK. He yelled to MICHAEL NETHERLY to call for an ambulance, while he tried to help CLARK.

JOHN DOUGLAS and BYRON MARISE work for Townsend Tree Service from Muncie, Tn.(ph. 1-800-438-9705), and were trimming trees about 2 miles east of there on KY-146. Their business radio is on the same frequency as Shelby Energy and heard MICHAEL NETHERLY calling in the accident. They immediately got in their truck and came to the scene to render assistance.

WILLIAM BRAMBLETT said when he got the bucket down to the truck bed, MICHAEL CLARK was down inside it. The hair on the back of MICHAEL CLARK'S head was on fire and he rubbed it to put it out. He pulled CLARK up and back, and CLARK was gasping for air. Foam was coming from CLARK'S mouth, his eyes were open, but were glazed over.

JOHN DOUGLAS and BYRON MARISE then arrived at the scene and helped get CLARK out of the bucket. WILLIAM BRAMBLETT said he could not feel a pulse on CLARK and started CPR. They continued CPR until the ambulance arrived at which time the ambulance crew took over.

MICHAEL CLARK did not have his gloves on at the time of the accident and had a electrical

11-16-98 TRP. J. PLECHLER 529 5 hrs. Officer Making Rpt. Badge Time Spent Date of Report Rev'd By:

### INUATION PAGE/SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT

12/18/98 10:54:89

Case No. <u>5-98-1148</u>

ath Inv. Non-Criminal Viol. Code: 03009

burn to his left hand, and forearm. He also had burn marks to his left side around the waist area and belt line of his pants. The burn marks to his hand were in a pattern that indicated he had a hold of the wire that he was installing.

The wire was a bare wire and was still on the ground all the way back to the house under construction. Where the end of the wire was clamped, there was about and 8 inch tail coming off it. On this tail, they attach a ground leader to the common ground on the power pole. At the time of the accident, the ground leader was not yet attached. The end of the tail had a burn mark on it where contact was made. The connector to which the power line is eventually attached had a burn mark on the top connector of it.

According to DON TURNER who is a manager for Shelby Energy, MICHAEL CLARK may have either raised his buck higher as he was connecting the wire he was running touching the main power line, or he accidently backed his head into the main power line as he was working on the wires. The exact cause of the accident is unknown since no one was watching CLARK at the time of the accident.

OPEN

Photos

11-16-98 Time Spent Date of Report Rev'd

### CONTINUATION PAGE/SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT

KYKSP0500

Case No. <u>5-98-1148</u>

TITLE OF CASE: Death Inv. Non-Criminal Viol. Code: 03009

INVESTIGATION:

(Friday Dec. 4, 1998)

Attached is the death certificate on MICHEAL CLARK. His death was due to high voltage electrocution which caused cardiac arythima. The death certificate was signed by DAN DOTY,

Deputy Coroner of Oldham County.

STATUS OF CASE:

CLOSED

ATTACHMENTS:

Death Certificate

Page 800

116\_\_\_\_\_

FILE NO

## CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. DECEDENTS NAME (Fit Michael Anth								UMC:341W	rs No			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	st, Middle Last;	;						2. SEX		3. CA	TE OF DEATH I	Wonth Day, Year:	
	onv Cla	=k						Male		N	lovember	12, 199	
1. 300 m. secon m. m.	5a. AGE L		Sb. UNCER 1 YEAR (Months) (Days)		Sc. UNE	ic. UNDER 1 DAY lours: { (Minutes)		S. CATE OF BIPTH (Month, Day, Year)		7 BIRTHPLACE 'City/State of Foreign Country,		E 'City/State or	
225-96-4335	34	. 34					Dec 18,		1963		Staten Island,		
8. WAS DECEDENT EVER U.S. ARMED FORCES?	SPITAL	<del></del>		94.	PLACE OF	HTASC	Check only one)						
(Yes or NO)					ER/Outpatient (160A				☐ Nursing Home			na 🔲 Residence 🙄 Other (Spe	
St. FACILITY NAME (If not	FACILITY NAME (If not institution, give street and number)					Sc. CITY, FOWN, OR LOCATION OF DEATH					COUNTY OF DE	47-1	
Tri-County B	ri-County Baptist Hospital				lagrange					0	ldham		
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KY	Shell				Shelbyville			444 F			Frankfort Rd.		
ISE, INSIDE CITY 134.	ZIP CODE	P CODE 14. WAS DECEDENT OF (Specify No or Yes - II Mexican, Puer o Rical			Il yes. specify Cuber.			15. RACE - American Indian, Black, White, etc. (Specify)		16. DECEDENT'S EDUCATION (Specify andy highest grade complete)			
(Med or No)										ElemiSecondary (0-12) College (1-4 or		3:10 pt   1-4 gr 5	
No 4	0065	<b>□</b> **	o 🗇 74	15			whi	te			12		
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The thyroid gland demonstrates no abnormality.

HEAD

There is a small well localized left fronto-parietal subgaleal hemorrhage that measures 1.1 inches in greatest dimension. The calvarium is intact and displays no abnormality. The dura is of normal tenseness. The superior sagittal sinus is patent and in the midline. The leptomeninges are glistening and translucent. The brain is of normal convolutional pattern and weighs 1400 grams.

Examination of the arteries at the base of the brain reveals them to be of normal distribution and dimension. They are smooth-walled, collapsed and transparent. The uncinate gyri and cerebeliar tonsils do not demonstrate pressure phenomena.

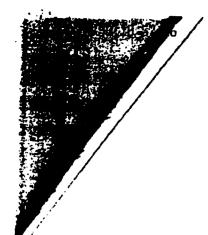
Multiple frontal sections of the brain at approximate levels of 2cm reveal normal relations of gray and white substance. No focal abnormal markings are demonstrated. The ventricles contain clear fluid and the lining ependyma is smooth and glistening. The choroid plexuses display no abnormality. The basal ganglia are normal.

Multiple horizontal sections of the cerebellum, pons and medulla reveal normal architecture of these structures without focal abnormal markings.

Examination of the base of the skull, after removal of the brain and dura, fails to reveal fracture.

## DISPOSTION OF EVIDENCE

- 1. A sample of heart blood submitted for blood alcohol and blood drug screen.
- 2. A sample of vitreous humerus submitted for vitreous alcohol.
- 3. A sample of urine is submitted for urine drug screen.
- 4. A blood card is retained at the Medical Examiner's Office for possible future analysis.
- The clothing and personal effects are submitted with the body for funeral home pickup.



## FINAL DIAGNOSIS

## CLARK, MICHAEL A. - ME98-773

- 1. High voltage electrocution burn injuries
  - A) Entrance site found at lest hand
  - B) Second degree injuries of the face, neck, chest and left abdomen.
  - C) Second and third degree burn entry of the left neck, back of the head and left car
  - D) Left subgaleal hemorrhage, small
- 2. History of line workman high voltage related electrocution injury at place of work
- 3. Natural disease
  - A) Concentric left ventricular hypertrophy
  - B) Diffuse pulmonary congestion
  - C) Hepatosplenomegaly with associated congestion
  - D) Remote appendectomy

OPINION:

This 34-year old white male, Michael Clark, died of cardiac arythmia secondary to high voltage electrocution.

Donna Hunsaker, MD

DATE PERFORMED: November 12, 1998

DATE COMPLETED:

COUNTY OF JURISDICTION: Oldham

### EMPLOYEE CONTACT INVESTIGATION

RECEIVED

NOV 1 8 1998

DIVISION OF UTILITY ENGINEERING & SERVICES

November 12, 1998

Reported By: Michael Nethery, Cooperative Employee, Operations Apprentice

Date and Time of Notification: November 12, 1998 10:26 A.M.

Person(s) Involved: Michael A. Clark, Cooperative Employee, Line Technician

Extent of Injuries: Fatality

Location: Rolling "C" Farm, 400 Rolling "C" Road, Pendleton, KY 40055, Shelby

Energy Cooperative Account No. 3-29-43-093, approximately 8.7 miles

west of New Castle, on the north side of KY 146.

Nature of Accident: Line Technician Michael A. Clark was working with Line

Supervisor Cliff Bramblett and Operations Apprentice Michael Nethery on a new construction work order (WO #9809011), its purpose being to construct a two span, single phase, 7,200 volt overhead power line to provide electric service to a new residence under construction. Clark was working the new tap "take-off" pole (pole no. 35490) from an aerial bucket truck when he apparently made contact with the energized line side contacts of the fused cutout installed to sectionalize the single

phase tap that was under construction.

Investigated By: Wayne Anderson, Manager-Plant Engineering, Shelby Energy
Also present at site during the investigation were the following Shelby

Energy employees: R. Atha, C. Barnett, C. Bramblett, R. Douglas,

D. Martin, M. Nethery, J. Parker, D. Turner, J. Willard.

Site Investigation: Shelby Energy Manager-Plant Engineering, Wayne Anderson

conducted the Cooperative's investigation of the accident, beginning at 12:30 P.M., November 12, 1998. Shelby Energy representatives Wayne Anderson and Don Turner, along with Ray King and Bill Massey of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives, met with Mr. John Land of the Public Service Commission and Mr. Mark Hughes of the Kentucky Cabinet of Labor on Friday, November 13,

1998 at 8:30 A.M. A visit to the accident site followed.

Conditions Found: Rural residential site with electric service facilities being installed from an existing three phase, 7.2/12.47 kV overhead distribution line

620 Old Finchville Road,

Shelbyville, Kentucky 40065-1714

Shelby Co. (502) 633-4420 • Trimble Co. (502) 255-3260 • Henry Co. (502) 845-2845

that traverses the property approximately 900 feet from the construction site of the residence. A pole had previously been added into the three phase line to provide a "take-off" point for the new single phase, overhead, primary tap line that was being constructed to serve the new residence. The transformer pole and intermediate primary tangent pole were framed and set. Take-off and deadend anchors were set and associated guying assemblies were in place. The Shelby Energy crew of Bramblett, Clark and Nethery was in process of preparing to install the single phase tap line primary and neutral conductors when the accident occured. The primary and neutral conductors were paid out and laying on the ground adjacent to the poles on which they were to be installed. The primary conductor was attached to the take off pole. A fused cutout and lightning arrester were framed in place on the field side of the crossarm of the take-off pole. The line side supply jumper for the new tap line was connected to the load side connector of the body of the fused cutout and was coiled up, to be connected to the tap line primary conductor. A mechanical grounding jumper was connected to the three phase feeder neutral and was hanging straight down from it, parallel to the pole.

Detailed measurements were taken at the take-off pole (pole no. 35490) and are included herewith. The take-off pole and all equipment and hardware attached thereto were carefully examined. Evidence of arcing and/or burning was noted at the line side contacts and tool attachment hooks of the fused cutout. Evidence of arcing and/or burning was also noted on the end of the tap primary conductor protruding from the end of its deadend clamp. Evidence of arcing and or burning was also noted on the soft-drawn copper load side jumper connected to the fused cutout.

See attached data sheet, sketches and photographs for further details.

Other Conditions: Cooperative construction vehicles were set up or parked adjacent to the take-off pole (pole no. 35490). Cooperative truck no. 13, an aerial bucket truck was set up to work the pole, with its outriggers (stabilizers) extended. The truck was grounded via connection to the take-off pole, pole ground. It was the aerial bucket of truck no. 13 that Clark was working from. Cooperative truck no. 9, a digger/derrick was parked nearby, but was not involved in the work in progress.

R. Wayne Antierson

Manager, Plant Engineering
Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.

### Attachments:

Measurements and information from Site Investigation

Listing of Measuring Instruments Used

Copy of Cooperative System map of general area

Copies of Cooperative Work Order Staking Sheet and Line patrol/inspection notes

Sketches and Photos

## MEASUREMENTS AND INFORMATION OBTAINED AT SITE

Conductor Size and Type: 3 Phase Feeder: 3/0 ACSR, Primary and 1/0 ACSR, Neutral

1 Phase Tap line: #2 ACSR, Primary and Neutral Jumper Conductors: #6 Soft-drawn Copper

Operating Voltages: Primary - 7,200 Volts Phase to Ground

12,470 Volts Phase to Phase

Cooperative Structure: No. 35490, 35 ft. - Class 3, SYP Pole, Three phase

primary tangent structure with single phase tap, with following RUS specification Construction Units; VC1-2, VA5-2, M2-11,

VM5-9, M5-6, E1-3, E3-10, F1-4T,

Temperature: 53 degrees F.

Weather Conditions: Sunny with light wind

Time Measurements were Taken: 12:30-1:45 P.M.

Primary Phase Height from Grade: Field- 28 ft-10.5 in., Center- 29ft.-11 in.

Road- 28ft.-5 in., Tap- 26ft.- 4 in.

Neutral Height from Grade: Feeder-25 ft.-8in.

Telephone, CATV/Cable Height from Grade: Tel.- 16 ft. - 6 in., CATV- 17 ft.-6 in.

(not attached to pole)

Height of Line side contacts of fused cutout from Grade: 27 ft. - 10 in.

Height of Power Guy Attachment from Grade: 24 ft. - 6 in.

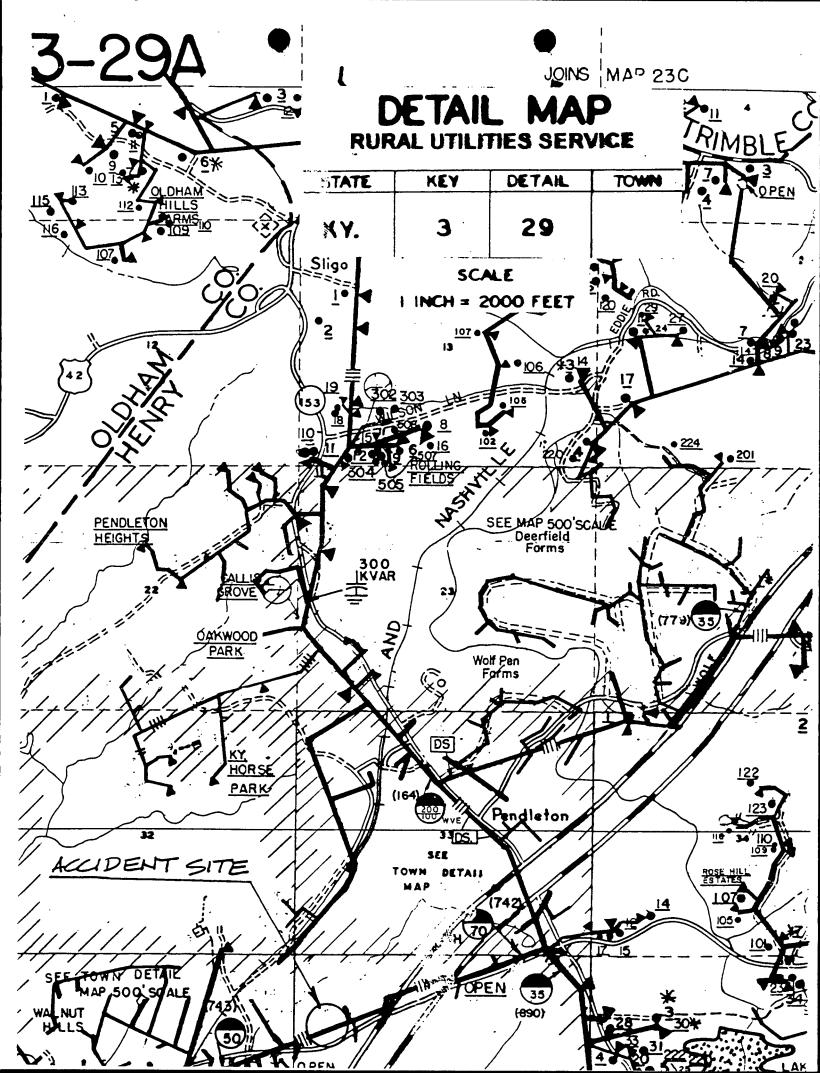
Anchor Lead: (Distance from pole to Anchor Rod) 24 ft. - 6 in.

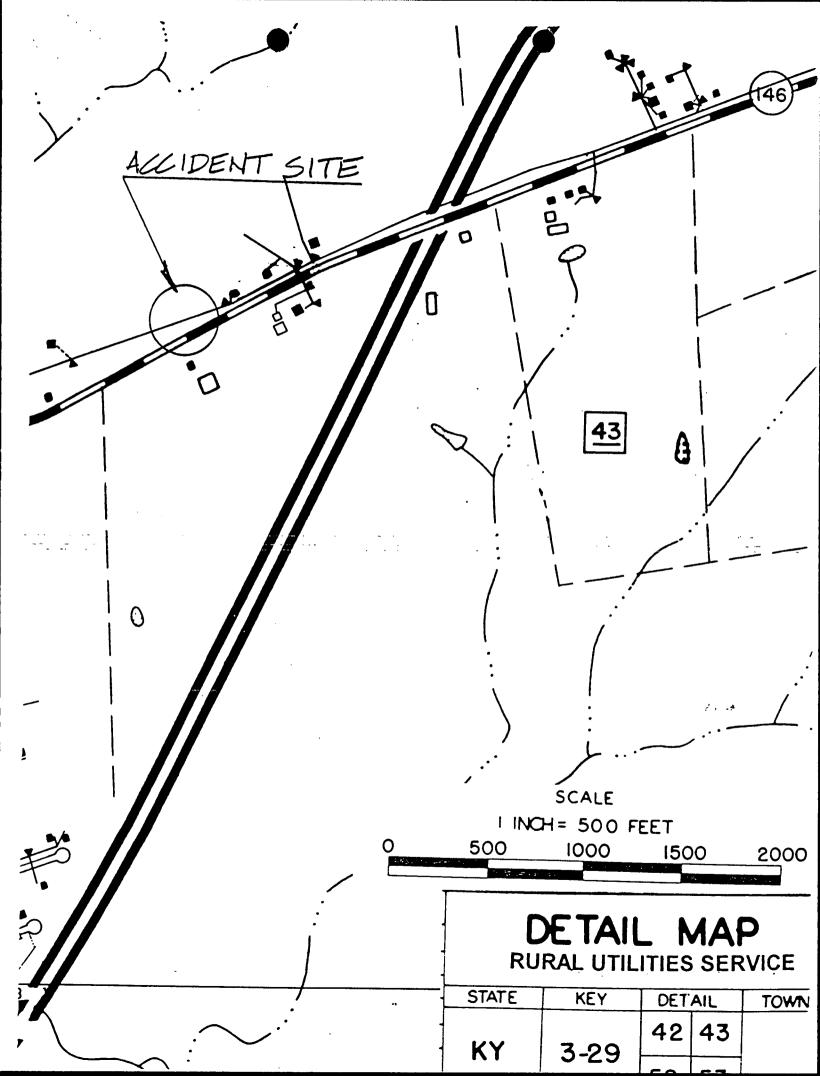
## Measuring Instruments Used:

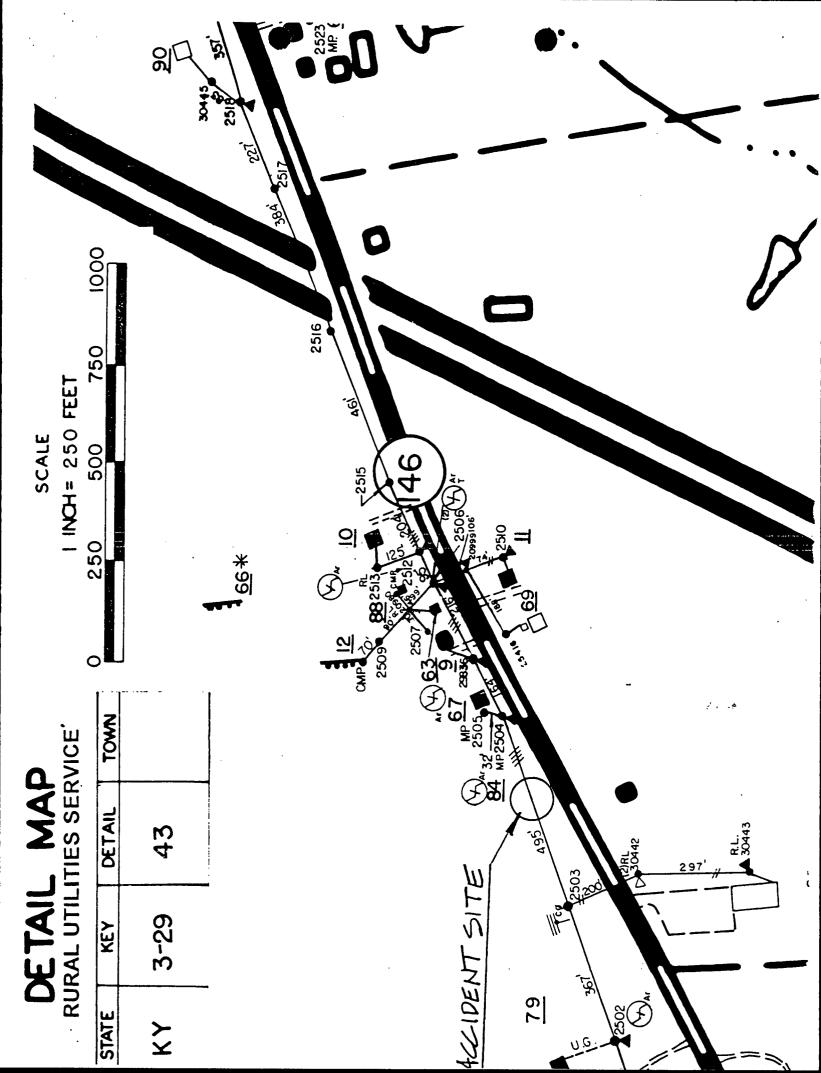
Hastings Tel-o-Pole Model E1 135 Telescopic Measuring Stick, graduated in feet and inches, Mfg. Date: 9/89 (Part of Cooperative Accident Investigation Kit)

Keson Fiberglass Measuring Tape, 165 ft. length, graduated in feet and inches, OTR-18-165 (Part of Cooperative Accident Investigation Kit)

Distance Measuring Company - Measuring Wheel, Serial No. 44027, (Part of Cooperative Accident Inveatigation Kit)







CIRCUIT UNKNOWN (PROBABLY LATE 1940'S OR EARLY 1950'S). HOWEVER, AS-BUILT STAKING SHEET FROM 1970 INDICATES WHERE EXISTING LINE WAS CONVERTED TO 3PHASE W/ 3-3/0ACSR PRIMARY CONDUCTORS AND 1-1/6 ACSR NEUTRAL.

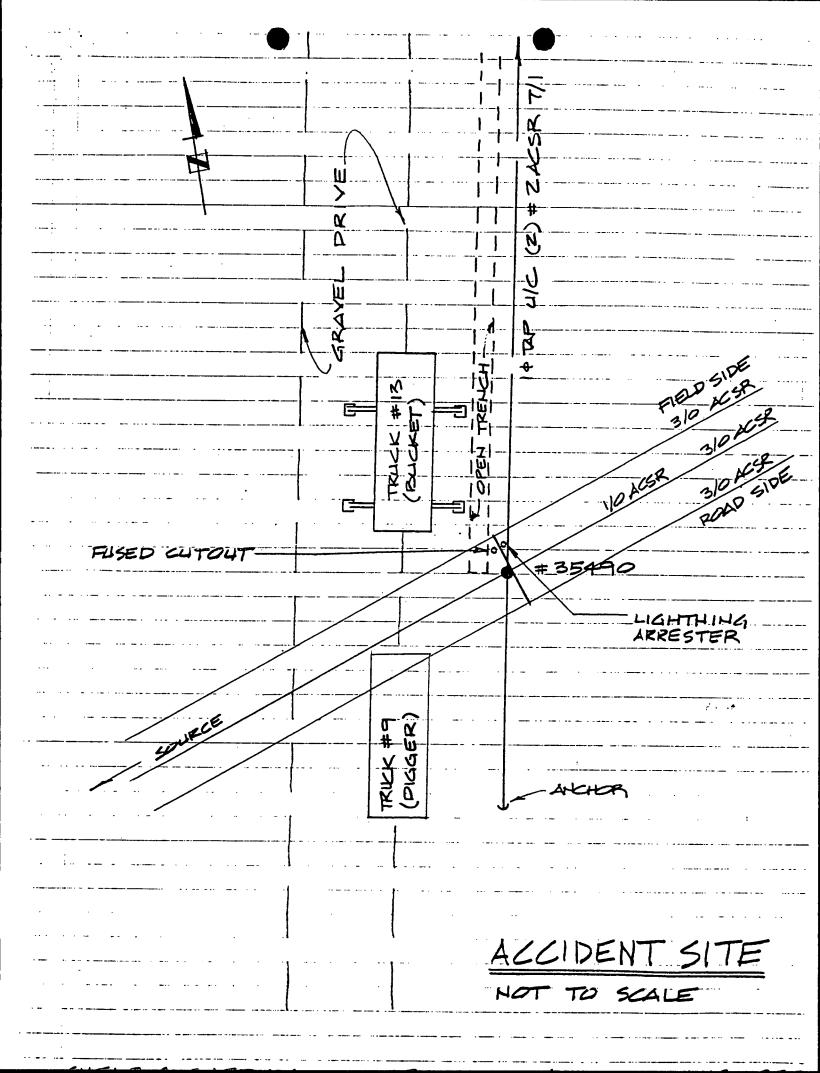
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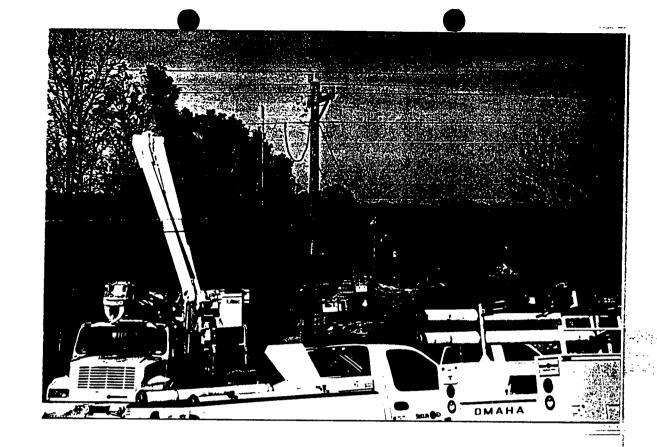
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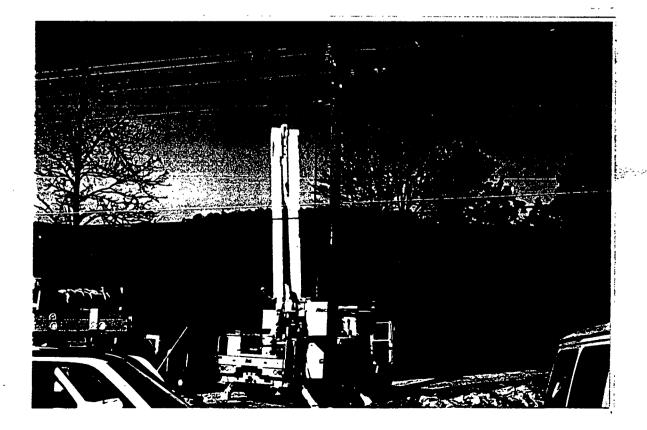
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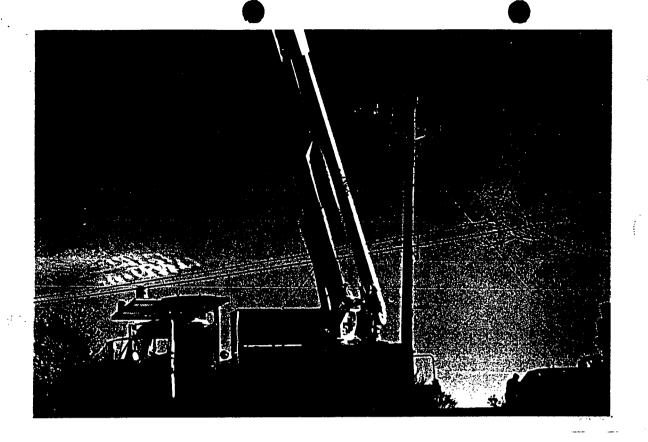


Attachment B
Photographs of Accident Site

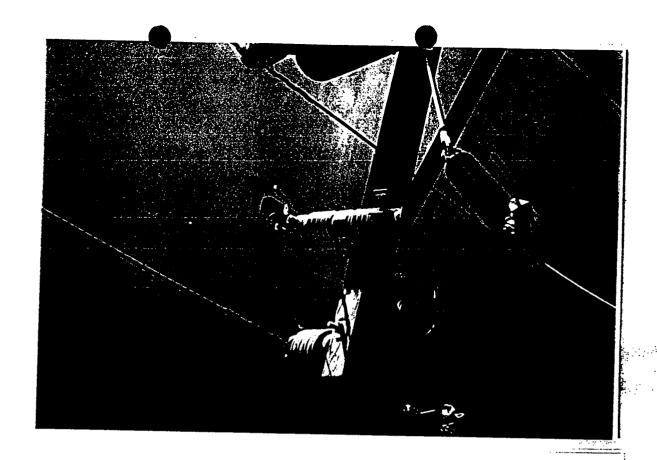


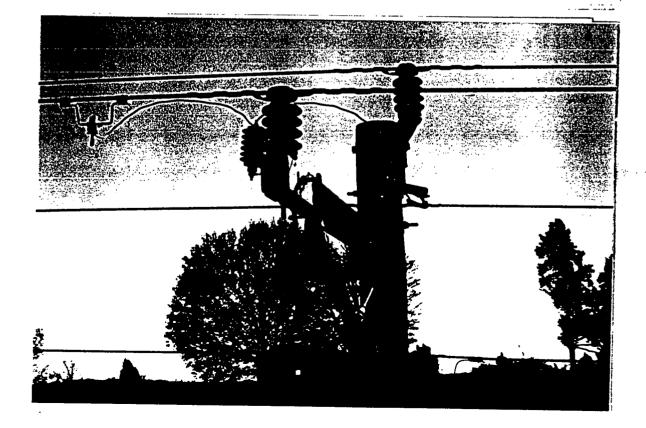


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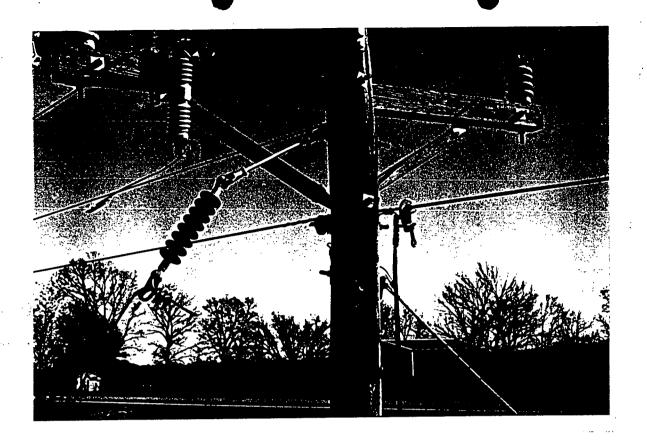






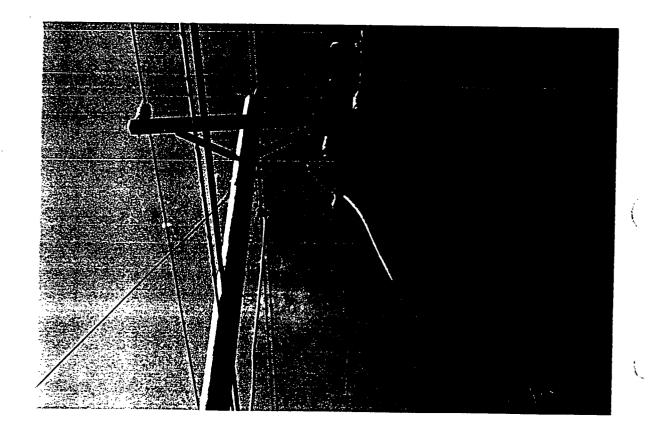


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