



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Consumer and Business Services

Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (OR-OSHA)

350 Winter Street NE, Room 430

P.O. Box 14480

Salem, OR 97309-0405

Phone: (503) 378-3272

Toll Free: 1-800-922-2689

Fax: (503) 947-7461

www.orosha.org

May 6, 1996

Revised July 8, 2008

Steve Hillinger
Pruett Inc
5550 SW Rosewood
Lake Oswego OR 97035

Dear Mr. Hillinger:

This is in response to your April 29, 1996 letter requesting a rule interpretation on the 10 foot rule in 437 -002-0306(2)(a), as it applies to tree trimmers who are not qualified to do high voltage line clearance tree trimming work.

When working around high voltage lines of 600 volts and above, a person must be trained in high voltage hazards and follow the requirements in 1910.269(r) or maintain at least a 10 foot clearance from all power lines.

When working around low voltage lines of 600 volts and below, a person must follow the electrical safety related work practices in 437-002-0047 of the electrical standards. Under this standard, a person with no electrical safety training on the hazards of working around low voltage power lines, such as service drops from the power line to a structure, must maintain a 10 foot clearance as required in 437-002-0047(2). If a person is trained in the hazards of working around low voltage power lines, as outlined in section 1910.332, then they can follow the line clearances in table S-5. Under this table for lines rated 0 to 300 volts workers are to avoid contact. For lines over 300 volts to 600 volts they are to maintain a one-foot clearance.

If we can be of further assistance to you please call (503) 378-3272.

Sincerely,

Peggy A Munsell Manager
Standards & Technical Resources Section
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division