

# POWER TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

# V

## SUBDIVISION V

### POWER TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

**Authority:** Sec. 107, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (Construction Safety Act) (40 U.S.C. 333); Secs. 4, 6, 8, Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657); Secretary of Labor's Order No. 12-71 (36 FR 8754), 8-76 (41 FR 25059), 9-83 (48 FR 35736), or 1-90 (55 FR 9033), as applicable. Section 1926.951 also issued under 29 CFR Part 1911.

#### **§1926.950 General Requirements.**

**(a) Application.** The occupational safety and health standards contained in this Subpart V shall apply to the construction of electric transmission and distribution lines and equipment.

**(1)** As used in this Subpart V the term “**construction**” includes the erection of new electric transmission and distribution lines and equipment, and the alteration, conversion, and improvement of existing electric transmission and distribution lines and equipment.

**(2)** Existing electric transmission and distribution lines and electrical equipment need not be modified to conform to the requirements of applicable standards in this Subpart V, until such work as described in paragraph (a)(1) of this section is to be performed on such lines or equipment.

**(3)** The standards set forth in this Subpart V provide minimum requirements for safety and health. Employers may require adherence to additional standards which are not in conflict with the standards contained in this Subpart V.

#### **(b) Initial inspections, tests, or determinations.**

**(1)** Existing conditions shall be determined before starting work, by an inspection or a test. Such conditions shall include, but not be limited to, energized lines and equipment, conditions of poles, and the location of circuits and equipment, including power and communication lines, CATV and fire alarm circuits.

**(2)** Electric equipment and lines shall be considered energized until determined to be deenergized by tests or other appropriate methods or means.

**(3)** Operating voltage of equipment and lines shall be determined before working on or near energized parts.

**437-003-0110 Personnel.** *Only qualified persons shall be engaged in the construction, maintenance and/or operation of electrical transmission and distribution facilities. This paragraph shall not be construed as prohibiting in-service training when properly supervised and all necessary precautions are exercised to safeguard such work.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

### **TWO-WORKER RULES**

**437-003-0115 High Voltage.** *Not less than two journeymen, or workers with equivalent training and experience, shall be required for work on energized high voltage equipment. A qualified apprentice may work in place of one of the journeymen for the purpose of training.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

**Note:** See OAR 437-003-0120 for additional exceptions.

### **437-003-0120 More Than 750 Volts.**

**(1)** *Two journeymen shall work together on the same pole or structure when working energized circuits in excess of 750 volts between phases. Two separate poles or structures shall be considered as one for the purpose of this rule if both workers can step to the other pole or structure without having to descend to the ground to do so.*

**(2) Exceptions:** *The following exceptions to the two-worker rule apply:*

**(a)** *When re-fusing circuits with a hot stick.*

**(b)** *When operating switches by means of operating handles or switch sticks.*

**(c)** *When a qualified apprentice is assigned to work with a journeyman for the purpose of training.*

**(d)** *Where life or the public safety are in immediate danger, one worker may remove only the immediate hazard if no other workers are immediately available.*

**(e)** *When installing or removing a hot line clamp connection with an approved hot stick on single phase line or apparatus, providing that the connection or disconnection does not interrupt or pick up a load.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

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**437-003-0125 Proximity.** *Workers within reach of each other shall not work on different phases of the same circuit, or on different circuits, or on one energized phase and a ground conductor at the same time.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

**437-003-0130 Training/Experience.** *At least two journeymen or workers having the equivalent training and experience are required to work where contact with energized high voltage is possible, unless or until proper guards or barriers have been installed.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

**437-003-0135 Additional Personnel.** *When it is necessary to patrol lines when road conditions, weather conditions, or other factors make it impossible to patrol safely with one person, additional help shall be provided to perform the job safely.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

**437-003-0140 Working Foreman.** *A foreman shall not work as a journeyman while supervising two or more other journeymen who are engaged in high voltage or equally hazardous work.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

## SAFETY WATCHER

**437-003-0145 General.** *A qualified safety watcher shall be provided whenever workers or equipment are required to perform work in areas where inadvertent motions or movements would violate specified clearances. The safety watcher's sole duty is to keep constant watch over persons under his observation and to warn them of danger.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.

**437-003-0150 Foreman as Safety Watcher.** *The foreman may act as the safety watcher providing his other duties do not interfere. Should the foreman, for any reason, find his attention distracted or leave the immediate vicinity, he shall either designate another qualified person as the safety watcher or order the work stopped.*

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(3).  
**Hist:** APD Admin. Order 8-1989, f. 7/7/89, ef. 7/7/89.