

ALERT 14 – 15

FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE HAZARDS RESULTS IN TWO DOWNED POWERLINES IN THE SAME DAY

WHAT HAPPENED:

1st Incident: During rig down operations, a forklift operator told a swamper to move a pole truck across the location and out of the way. The swamper decided to move the truck off of location, but failed to check the height of the poles on the truck. After crossing the cattle guard, the extended pole on the truck made contact with an overhead ground wire causing it to break and fall to the ground.

2nd Incident: After a lengthy safety stand down, a loaded truck was leaving the location and was rounding a right hand curve on the lease road. The truck driver pulled over on the right hand shoulder to avoid a truck parked on the left side. At that time the load leaned to the right on the steep shoulder and made contact with a different power pole. This caused the power pole to break and fall across the lease road. This incident occurred 75 yards past the first incident and approximately 2.5 hours later.

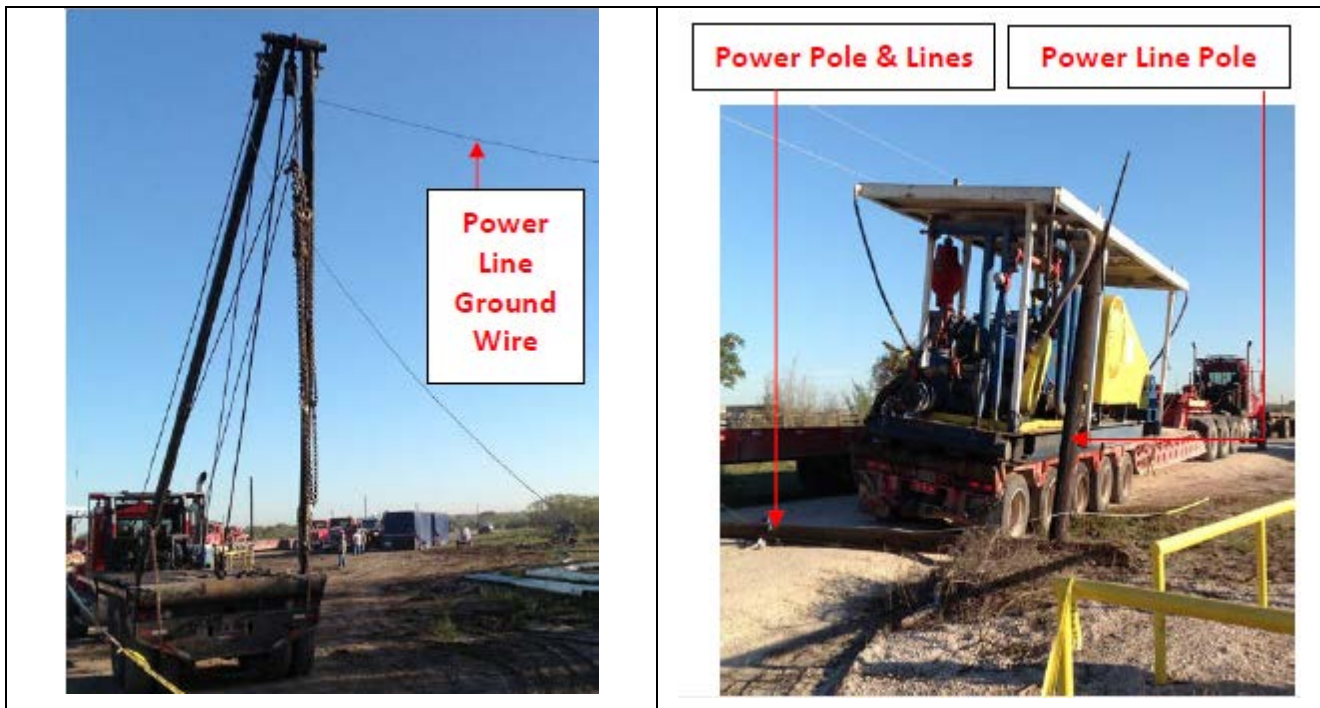
WHAT CAUSED IT:

1st Incident:

- Not following company policies when asking a swamper to move a truck rather than calling a designated truck driver.
- Not doing a walk around inspection of the pole truck and checking the pole height before moving it.
- Not focusing on potential hazards.

2nd Incident:

- Not stopping and having the parked truck move out of the way before proceeding.
- Not using a spotter while working in a congested area.



CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company did the following:

The company instructed all employees to:

- Discuss and identify any power lines that might pose a hazard in the truck routes during pre-job safety meetings.
- Utilize spotters when in congested areas and under power lines with marginal clearance.
- Follow proper JSA procedures.
- Never allow a worker to perform a task he/she is not designated or trained to do.
- Always identify the Short Service Employee(s) (SSE) on a job site.

The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company's attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.