

Version: 24.0	Mechanical Equipment Operations Near Energized Lines	
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Brunel Energy, Inc.

Mechanical Equipment Operations Near Energized Lines

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1. Purpose

- 1.1. Brunel Energy, Inc., hereinafter referred to as, “the Company,” has established a program compliant with OSHA 1910.269.

2. Applicability

- 2.1. This policy applies to employees, subcontractors and/or visitor(s) of the Company. For the purposes of this policy, an employee shall be considered on the job whenever he/she is:
 - 2.1.1. On or in, any Company or client property, including parking areas; or
 - 2.1.2. On Company time even if off Company premises (including paid lunch, rest periods and periods of being on call).
- 2.2. As a condition of employment, Company employees are required to abide by additional governmental or customer policies and requirements that may be imposed at a worksite in addition to the requirements of these policies and procedures. Nothing set forth in this policy constitutes, construes, or interprets in any way as a contract of employment.

3. Definitions

- 3.1. **Qualified Person** is a person permitted to work near exposed energized parts who has been trained in and familiar with:
 - 3.1.1. The skill and techniques necessary to distinguish between exposed live parts from other parts of electric equipment.
 - 3.1.2. The skills and technique necessary to work safely on energized circuits.
 - 3.1.3. The knowledge, skills, and techniques to work safely on energized circuits.
 - 3.1.4. The proper use of special precautionary techniques, personal protective equipment, insulating and shielding materials, and insulated tools; and
 - 3.1.5. The clearance distances for work performed near overhead lines that are specified in the OSHA standard that appears in 29 CFR 1910.33 and the corresponding voltages to which the person will be exposed.
- 3.2. An **Unqualified Person** is a person with little or no training in avoiding the electrical hazards of working on or near exposed energized parts.
- 3.3. **On or Near** means close enough to exposed live parts (by either personal contact or contact by tools or materials for an employee to be exposed to any hazard they present).

4. Responsibilities

- 4.1. Manager(s):
 - 4.1.1. Responsible for ensuring employees are properly trained and safe work practices are followed.

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- 4.2. HSE Supervisor(s)
 - 4.2.1. Shall support management in the implementation and enforcement of this policy.
- 4.3. Employee(s)
 - 4.3.1. Shall be trained and certified in mechanical equipment operations. Employees shall be familiar with the use of special precautionary techniques, electrical safety, PPE, insulating and shielding materials and insulated tools. The employee shall not wear conductive apparel.
 - 4.3.2. Shall follow all safety guidelines.
- 4.4. Subcontractor(s)
 - 4.4.1. Shall be trained and certified in any equipment operations, use proper PPE, and follow all safety guidelines.

5. Requirements

- 5.1. All mechanical equipment will be fit for the purposes intended and will be maintained in a safe working order.
 - 5.1.1. Visual inspections shall be performed prior to each shift.
 - 5.1.2. Inspections shall identify critical safety components of the equipment (e.g., mechanical elevating equipment, rotating equipment) and ensure that they are in good working order.
 - 5.1.3. If the visual inspection determines that the equipment is unfit for use, the equipment shall be removed from the jobsite and tagged unsafe for use until repaired and cleared for use.
 - 5.1.4. All vehicles that are used which have an obstructed rear view shall be equipped with a reverse signal alarm that is sufficiently loud enough to be heard above the surrounding noise level.
 - 5.1.5. A designated employee/spotter shall signal to the operator when it is safe to back up.

6. Procedure

- 6.1. Mechanical equipment used to lift or move lines or other material shall be used within its maximum load rating and other design limitations for the conditions under which the work is being performed.
- 6.2. The load ratings of stringing lines, pulling lines, conductor grips, load-bearing hardware and accessories, rigging, and hoists shall not be exceeded.
- 6.3. Critical components of mechanical elevating and rotating equipment are inspected prior to use on each shift. Critical safety components of mechanical elevating and rotating equipment are components whose failure would result in a free fall or free rotation of the boom.

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- 6.4. Vehicles with obstructed views to the rear must have a spotter or reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level.
- 6.5. Approach Distances employees must adhere to the minimum approach distances for energized lines when operating mechanical equipment unless operated by a qualified employee.
- 6.6. A designated spotter other than the equipment operator shall observe the approach distance to exposed lines and equipment and give timely warnings before the minimum approach distance. The spotter will be assigned to observe the equipment in operation and provide warning to the operator if approach distances are in danger of being compromised.
- 6.7. Personal Protective Equipment will be used and provided at no charge to employees.
- 6.8. The Company shall ensure that energized lines exposed to contact are covered with an insulating protective material that is fit to withstand the type of contact that could happen during operation.
- 6.9. The Company shall implement the following techniques:
 - 6.9.1. Utilize the best available ground to minimize the time the lines remain energized.
 - 6.9.2. Bonding mechanical equipment together to minimize potential differences.
 - 6.9.3. Providing ground mates to extend areas of equipment potential.
 - 6.9.4. Using insulating protective equipment and or barricades to guard against any remaining hazardous electrical potential.

7. Training

- 7.1. Operators shall be trained and certified on the type of equipment they are operating.
- 7.2. Employees shall be trained in electrical safety awareness.
- 7.3. Employees shall be trained in work safety practices that pertain to their respective job assignments.
- 7.4. Employees shall be trained in clearance distances.

8. Recordkeeping

- 8.1. Operator certifications and training records shall be maintained.

9. Reference

- 9.1. OSHA 1910.269(p)