

Safe Work Practices

<p>Title:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Insulating Protective Equipment (IPE/Cover-Up)</p>	<p>Reference: SWP-5.02</p>	<p>Revision:</p>
	<p>Page: 1 of 2</p>	
	<p>Date: 3/28/2017</p>	
	<p>Revised:</p>	
<p>1.0 GENERAL</p> <p>1.1 The purpose of this document is to outline the use insulating protective equipment (IPE).</p> <p>2.0 INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE AND ELECTRICAL TESTING</p> <p>2.1 All insulating protective equipment will be thoroughly inspected before each use.</p> <p>2.2 Inspect IPE on outside and inside surfaces for cuts, scratches, corona cutting, holes, tears and punctures, aging, rope or wire burns and texture changes such as swelling, softening, hardening, becoming sticky or inelastic.</p> <p>2.3 If mechanical damage extends one quarter of the wall thickness or if there are signs of chemical deterioration, the item shall be removed from service.</p> <p>2.4 If IPE is found to be dirty, it shall be cleaned with an approved cleaner prior to use.</p> <p>2.5 Line hose and blankets will be electrically tested annually during a trucks P.M. and anytime the integrity of the equipment is considered to be compromised.</p> <p>3.0 USING IPE ON ENERGIZED CONDUCTORS AND EQUIPMENT</p> <p>3.1 IPE shall be used at the voltages for which it is rated.</p> <p>3.2 IPE shall be installed with rubber gloves or hot sticks, if applicable.</p> <p>3.3 Protective cover-up should be applied from below and the conductors nearest shall be covered first. When removed, the reverse order shall be observed.</p> <p>3.4 Neutral conductors underneath an energized circuit shall be considered energized and should be covered with rubber protective devices before beginning work. Safety Manual 5.7.5.5.a.ii</p> <p>3.5 IPE shall only be considered as additional protection against accidental contact.</p> <p>3.6 If an employee is working within the Minimum Approach Distance of an energized conductor or equipment, it must be covered. If the work is on the conductor or equipment, the cover may be removed and all adjacent equipment within reach and at a different potential shall be covered.</p>		

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- 3.7 If within reaching distance, all energized conductors, neutral, grounded conductors, guy wires, messenger cables, potential grounds and pole shall have approved IPE devices installed.
- 3.8 Reaching distance shall be considered the greatest distance the employee can reach with arms and fingers fully extended, plus the additional length of any conductive material or equipment being handled.
- 3.9 If IPE could move or become dislodged, it shall be fastened to prevent it from slipping out of place.
- 3.10 Employees shall be aware of their position at all times to avoid accidental contact with IPE.
- 3.11 Intentional contact between employees and IPE shall not be permitted. Only proper handling with rubber gloves will be allowed.

4.0 STORAGE

- 4.1 When line hose are stored in the truck, they shall be kept flat and dry. Care should be made to ensure flaps and edges are tucked in to prevent unnecessary wear and memory.

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