

Power Line Hazards

Preventing Contacts With Energized Power Lines

Know Your Limits

- When it comes to electrical safety, there is **NO** crossing the line.
- Contact with overhead and underground power lines may result in serious injury or even death.
- Workers and their equipment must maintain a safe distance from power lines.
- It is a requirement under the law to ensure safety clearance permits are in place before starting any job near power lines.
- Special permits are required from the electrical utility when working within 5.5 meters of energized power lines.
- Operators of equipment that have the capability of contacting overhead or underground power lines must attend an approved Power Line Hazards Safety Course.
- Call the utility to locate underground power lines as they cannot be seen.
- Over 80% of contacts are made with heavy construction equipment. This type of machinery is at extremely high risk of contacting power lines.
- Many public contacts have occurred when people are trimming trees or cutting firewood.
- If your equipment has made contact with a power line while you are in or on it, remain in or on the equipment, warn others to stay away, and call for help.
- If interrupted, electricity will follow all available paths to the ground -including you- causing severe injury or even death.
- If you see a downed power line, stay back 30 meters and contact Newfoundland Power or Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro immediately. Stay in the area and warn others to stay clear until help arrives.
- Before working near power lines, contact **Newfoundland Power at 1.800.663.2802** or **Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro at 1.888.737.1296** to ensure you know the clearance recommended to safely complete your job.

