

# ELECTRICAL HAZARD INCIDENTS

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- CONSIDER ALL DOWNED LINES ENERGIZED UNTIL POWER COMPANY SAYS OTHERWISE.
- Consider conductivity of surrounding objects (guard rails, fences, wet ground, road striping, etc.)
- We SHALL NOT enter any electrically energized areas without first consulting with the power company.
- Request the power company response ASAP; you can always cancel them later.

## CONSIDERATIONS:

- Utility employees often secure points of entry and egress and work alone.
- Powerlines can be energized through inductions from parallel lines or back-fed by auxiliary sources (generators, solar, etc.).
- Transformers can contain 60-1000+ gallons of transformer oil (polychlorinated biphenyls), which has a **flash point of +/- 300°F**. Consider HAZMAT 8 for consultation.

## PROTOCOL:

1. Companies shall stay on scene until the IC is confident that our presence is not needed to secure the area. Use scene tape, notify the nearby property owners, and take other prudent means to reasonably secure the area. **Confirm the power company is at least notified before clearing.**

	Minimum Perimeter (Use Life Hazard Tape)	Protocol
Service Drops	10 feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempt to locate shutoffs</li> <li>• Prepare for power company arrival</li> <li>• Keep IC and on-scene crews informed</li> <li>• Have ECSO announce status on operational frequencies.</li> </ul>
Primary or secondary Lines	At least same distance as downed section is long.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not enter substation until cleared by power company</li> <li>• Have an escort up to the IDLH</li> <li>• Protect exposures outside the yard</li> <li>• Strongly consider conductivity of runoff</li> <li>• Stay clear of incoming and outgoing overhead lines</li> <li>• NO FOAM until power company authorizes</li> <li>• FOG PATTERNS ONLY</li> </ul>
Substations	Fenced area until power company advises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>When a transformer vault fire occurs the damage is usually immediate and irreversible</b></li> <li>• Focus of isolating the area and limiting extension</li> <li>• NO ENTRY to the vault for extinguishment without approval. Probably a confined Space. Provide LOTO.</li> </ul>
Transformer vaults	Dependent- stay away from other manhole covers in area.	

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## References:

