

Grant Co. PUD  
Flash Burn  
Accident Report  
May 23, 2017

Reported by  
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Accident Investigator  
Local 77

On Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at around 2:55 PM, an accident occurred involving a Grant County PUD line crew. A Journeyman Lineman was injured after making contact with the secondary side of an energized transformer and ground. The Journeyman Lineman received a flash burn to index finger and right hand. The lineman was taken to Moses Lake hospital where the Lineman was observed and treated for injuries and released later that night.

On that day, the crew had a tailboard at the jobsite, and the job was a URD single phase line extension for a new service tapping off a 25 KVA transformer, which was energized, servicing two residences. The job was to dig trench, lay 2 inch pipe in the ditch, pull 1/0 primary wire, and terminate both ends of the wire. The crew had finished all tasks discussed on tailboard and was now ready to complete the terminations at both ends of wire. Journeyman Lineman was at the 25 KVA energized transformer where the lineman was finishing up elbow termination when the concentric ground came in contact with the energized secondary busse, dust cap bleeder wire, and ground, creating a flash. Journeyman Lineman had reached back for tools and the end of the concentric wire came in contact with the busse. After flash occurred, Journeyman Lineman contacted the foreman (who was at the other end of the job), where Lineman was taken to hospital for further observation.

Journeyman Lineman had all appropriate PPE on, but took off right glove to handle tools better at that time.

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