ComEd Contractor Experiences an Electrical Shock Injury

On November 7, at approximately 1300 hours in the West Region, Winnebago Township, a Meade Electric Overhead Electrician sustained an electrical shock injury. There were two Meade crews working on a single-phase spacer job on 12kV feeder R6201 when the incident occurred. The crews were installing a new copper ground to the newly installed spacer cable messenger. The existing primary was previously moved to an aux arm and rubber hoses were installed.

Preliminary reports indicate that the Meade electrician was resuscitated on site and airlifted to a hospital for treatment. The extent of his injuries is unknown at this time. Meade Electric is currently conducting an investigation. Our thoughts are with the Meade employee and his family.

As a reminder, when working on or near energized conductors, extra precautions must be taken.

Protection from electrical contact must be the priority when working on or near energized equipment. Employees must be aware of the Minimum Approach Distance (MAD). Employees are considered in the MAD if any part of his/her body, the aerial lift, or conductive material held by an employee, such as tools, conductors, or equipment, could extend into the area.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) can mean the difference between walking away injury free or going to the hospital. Wearing all required PPE significantly reduces the likelihood of a life-altering injury and is considered your last line of defense for any potential unseen issues.