

## Suggestions to the NREA Safety Standards Manual

### 4.2-3 Grounding (B)

- **Present Wording**

Before cutting into a cable or opening a splice, the cable shall be positively identified and verified to be the proper cable. Spiking procedures shall be used to verify that a cable is de-energized.

- **Suggested New Wording**

Before cutting into a cable or opening a splice, the cable shall be positively identified and verified to be the proper cable. All cables in the trench/ditch shall be de-energized, checked for the presence of voltage and grounded. It is recommended where practical, that the cable(s) being worked on, be spiked.

### 1.10-6 Foot Protection

- **Present Wording**

Employees shall use protective footwear when working in areas where there is a danger of foot injuries due to falling or rolling objects, or objects piercing the sole, or where employee's feet are exposed to electrical hazards. Protective footwear shall comply with ANSI Standard Z41. (Reference: OSHA 1910.136)

- **Suggested New Wording**

Each System shall do a hazard assessment to determine if there are hazards present or likely to be present, where PPE footwear is needed. Safety toe, electrical hazard and puncture resistant must be considered in the assessment. If hazards are present, the employees shall use protective footwear when working in areas where there is a danger of foot injuries due to falling or rolling objects, or objects piercing the sole, or where employee's feet are exposed to electrical hazards. Protective footwear shall comply with ASTM F-2412-2005 "Standard Test Methods for Foot Protection," and ASTM f-2413-2005, "Standard Specification for Performance Requirements for Protective Footwear". (Reference: [OSHA 1910.136(b)(1)(i)])

## **4.2-7 Excavation and Trenching**

- **Present Wording**

A. Excavation to a distance of 12 inches from the expected location of the cable may be done with mechanical equipment, but the last 12 inches shall be dug by hand tools having non-conducting handles.

- **Suggested New Wording**

A. Excavation to a distance of 18 inches from either side of the expected location of the cable may be done with mechanical equipment, but the last 18 inches from either side shall be dug with hand tools having non-conducting handles.

## **1.2-7 Responsibility of the NREA Safety Department**

- **Present Wording**

{The second sentence states:}

It aids in supervision, develops and maintains an effective safety program, assists in accident investigations and field inspections and accumulates and distributes accident records and statistics.

- **Suggested New Wording**

It aids in supervision, develops and maintains an effective safety program, and assists in accident investigations.