

Safety Alert

Electric Arc Flashes

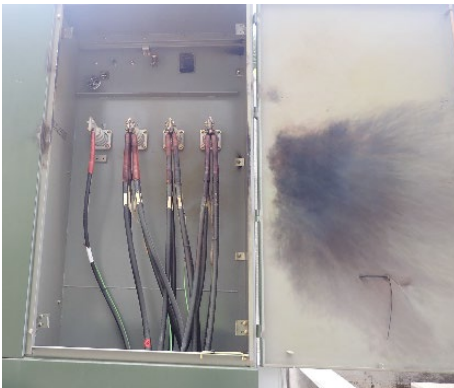
In the last six months, 11 miners received injuries due to electric arc flashes.



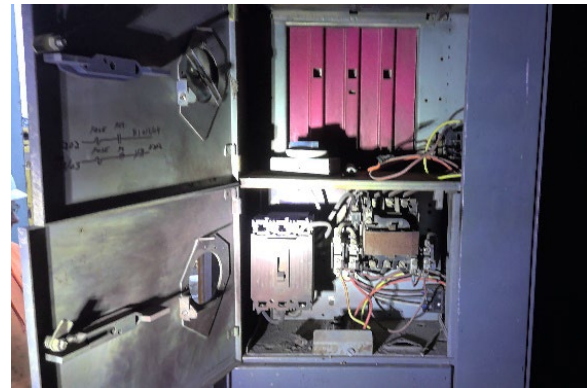
An electrician received burns from an arc flash when he cut an energized power line.



An electrician and trainee electrician were injured by an arc flash after the electrician re-entered a grounded cable into a cathead and energized the breaker.



Two contract miners received burns from an arc flash while checking the rotation on a transformer.



Two miners were injured by an arc flash while performing maintenance on a breaker box.

Best Practices

- Establish safe procedures before beginning work and discuss the plan with all miners involved in the task.
- Electricians must know how to de-energize and disconnect electrical systems and equipment.
- Use properly rated electrical meters and personal protective equipment, such as electrically rated gloves, insulated blankets or mats, and polycarbonate barriers.
- Lock out and tag out circuits before working on electrical equipment.
- Identify and control all hazardous energy sources before conducting any task.
 - Open the circuit breaker or load break switch to de-energize the incoming power cables or conductors.
 - Open the visual disconnect to confirm incoming power is off.
 - Lockout/Tagout the visual disconnect.
 - Ground the de-energized conductors.

Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553

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