Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On November 17, 2021, a customer truck driver was electrocuted after the tarping mechanism on the trailer contacted a high voltage overhead power line. While exiting the cab of the truck, the victim contacted the energized truck and received a non-fatal electrical shock. When he tried to re-enter the cab of the truck, he was electrocuted.

Best Practices

- Construct roadways to provide adequate width and clearance between mobile equipment and energized high-voltage power lines, as required by the National Electrical Safety Code. Evaluate clearances periodically to account for changing physical and environmental conditions.
- Provide and maintain a safe location for truck drivers to tarp their loads.
- Check for overhead hazards when raising and lowering truck beds and tarps.
- If your vehicle contacts an energized power line:
  - Stay in your vehicle
  - Immediately call for help on a mobile phone or radio
  - If staying in the vehicle is unsafe, jump away from the vehicle without contacting the vehicle and the ground at the same time. Once on the ground, hop away from the power line for at least 40 feet.
- Post readily visible warning signs or signals when overhead hazards exist.

This is the 32nd fatality reported in 2021, and the 15th classified as “Powered Haulage.”

The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data only and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

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

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