

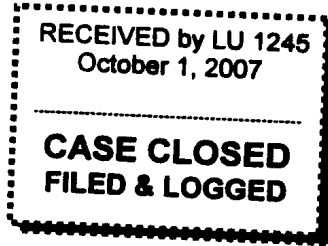
7.1: The DML given to a Davis GC Working Foreman C for failure to conduct a proper tailboard and failure to follow proper testing and grounding procedures was issued for just cause.



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
2850 SHADELANDS DRIVE, SUITE 100
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94598
(925) 974-4282

MARGARET A. SHORT, CHAIRMAN
DECISION
LETTER DECISION
PRE-REVIEW REFERRAL

REVIEW COMMITTEE



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO
LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W.
P.O. BOX 2547
VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95696
(707) 452-2700
BOB CHOATE, SECRETARY

Pre-Review Committee No. 17124
General Construction – Tower - Davis

Roy Runnings
Company Member
Local Investigating Committee

Kelda Davies
Union Member
Local Investigating Committee

Subject of the Grievance

This concerns a Decision Making Leave given a Working Foreman C for failure to conduct a proper tailboard and failure to follow proper testing and grounding procedures.

Facts of the Case

On September 25, 2006 the grievant's crew was to perform modifications to four lattice steel structures as part of a larger reconductoring project. The Hiring Hall Inspector was holding the clearance and so informed the grievant. However their communication was insufficient as the grievant was not aware of the specific clearance limits or sectionalizing points and assumed the entire line was de-energized. The grievant was in the wrong area when he first buzz tested, finding it energized, he went to the other side of the tower. It too was energized.

Further, the grievant did not conduct a tailboard, nor did he complete the tailboard grounding form as is required. When the crew attempted to put grounds on the circuit, a flash occurred causing the line to relay. They assumed that they were on the wrong circuit and attempted to ground the other side of the tower, where they got a huge explosion and tripped the circuit. The crew failed to recognize the line to be energized. In fact they were not at the tower that was to be worked on. A momentary outage to 18,000 customers and a sustained outage to Oracle, a large commercial customer, occurred.

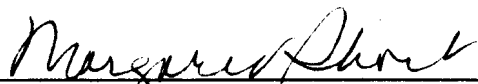
At the time of the DML, the grievant had an active Written Reminder in the Conduct category.

Discussion

The grievant admitted he did not walk down the job to be sure of the clearance points and determine if he was at the right location, he did not fill out the Tailboard Grounding Form, and he failed to confirm again if he was at the right location after the first flash occurred. He relied on the Hiring Hall Inspector, the holder of the clearance, telling him that it was OK to test and ground. The grievant knew that the Hiring Hall Inspector was not familiar with the area. There is agreement that the grievant did not follow proper work procedures, and ignored warning signs that contributed to the grounding incident.

Decision

The DML in this case was for just cause. This case is closed without adjustment.



Margaret A. Short, Chairman
Review Committee

9/29/07

Date



Bob Choate, Secretary
Review Committee

9/29/07

Date