

# DAILY SAFETY MESSAGE

Tuesday December 11, 2018

## Shotgun Style Hot Stick Sheared at Joint

(NATF-OER-417)



### Description:

A contractor was working on an ATC project and the transmission line crew Foreman was set to remove the final set of grounds from the de-energized 345 kV line. The Foreman raised himself into position to remove the first ground clamp with a 12-foot folding shotgun style hot stick. After removing the ground clamp and while in the process of lowering it to the basket of the lift platform, the hot stick broke at the joint after slamming on the basket from the weight of the approximately 35-foot ground. The failure occurred at the hinge, which was made of a cast metal (aluminum). *The folding shotgun hot stick from Hastings, part # 13415, was brand new and just out of the "box/wrapper."*

### Lessons Learned:

1. As the first ground clamp was removed, the weight of the 35-foot ground caused the cast aluminum brace to shear at the joint of the shotgun hot stick.



### Actions Taken:

1. The contractor immediately discontinued use of this folding shotgun style hot stick by removing all pieces of equipment from service.
2. The contractor reviewed all collapsible shot gun hot sticks and was able to identify an unused hot stick still in its shipping bag that was broken in the same spot as the hot stick involved in the event.
3. All collapsible sticks were removed from company inventory.
4. In addition, a safety bulletin was issued by the contractor.

### Extent of Condition:

This condition could apply to the use of all shotgun hot sticks of similar make and model.

[TPS Employees](#) need to inventory their stock of **HOT STICKS** to ensure we do not have in use any of these models and if you do please remove from service, immediately notify your Supervisor and local Safety Consultant.