 <p><b>J-AAR EXCAVATING</b> HEALTH, SAFETY &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM</p>	<b>Section: Safe Job Practices and Procedure – Overhead Electrical Hazards</b>					
	Initial HIRA score		15		Residual HIRA score	10
	Critical Task?	Yes	Location(s)	Jobsites,	REVISION # 1	
	Description		Working around overhead power lines		# OF PAGES:	4

## SAFE WORK PRACTICES

### General


- Ensure legislated minimum distances are maintained:
  - o 750 or more volts, but no more than 150,000 volts = 3 meters
  - o More than 150,000 volts, but no more than 250,000 volts = 4.5 meters
  - o More than 250,000 volts = 6 meters
- Voltages for overhead wires are determined by the utility
- If voltage is unknown, treat it as 250,000 and keep 6 meters away
- Assume all lines are live unless they have been locked/tagged out by utility owner
- Complete the J-AAR Electrical Hazard Plan whenever working in proximity to overhead lines
- Overhead hazards should be marked with appropriate signage

### In the Event of Contact with Overhead Lines

- Stay in the equipment
- Warn others to keep away
- Call your supervisor – they will need to inform the utility
- If you must evacuate the equipment due to fire or a greater hazard, jump as far away from the cab as possible. Do not make contact with the equipment and the ground at the same time. If possible, land on both feet.
- Shuffle away keeping both feet on the ground, do not take big steps

### Spotter

- Use a spotter when working in the proximity of overhead lines
- Establish an effective form of communication prior to beginning work
- Spotters should be competent workers. Complete the J-AAR Electrical Hazard Form prior to commencing work

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**JOB HAZARD RISK ASSESSMENT**

Initial HIRA Score	Hazards	Controls	Residual HIRA Score
20	Lack of Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All equipment operators must be competent workers</li> <li>All signalers must be competent workers</li> </ul>	10
15	Lack of Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site-specific hazards should be communicated to workers by J-AAR supervision/the contractor at the time of site-specific orientation, and when a work task is assigned</li> <li>If you are unsure about anything, ask your supervisor for clarification</li> </ul>	10
10	Poor planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overhead hazards should be marked with appropriate signage</li> <li>Use spotters</li> <li>Complete the Electrical Hazard Plan</li> </ul>	5

**SAFE WORK PROCEDURES**

**Planning**

1. Complete the J-AAR Electrical Hazard plan. Work around overhead lines is considered a critical task
2. The spotter and operator should establish a means of communication prior to beginning work
3. Determine the voltage of the lines if possible. If not keep a 6m distance

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**During the task**

1. The operator and signaler should remain in communication throughout the task.

**Completion**

1. Store/park all equipment, tools, and PPE safely as per the manufacturer's instructions
2. Housekeeping as required