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**SAFETY TALKS!** For Construction

# Respect Power Lines

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**

## Power lines hurt or kill thousands annually

- Electricity seeks quickest route to ground
- You might be the quickest route
- Through either direct or indirect contact

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**

## **Indirect contact occurs when your tool or ladder**

- **Touches a power line**
- **Shocks, burns and electrocution may occur**
- **Through either direct or indirect contact**

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**

## On your jobsite:

- Identify location, height and voltage of power lines
- Identify job activities and dangers
- Maintain safe distances from power lines
- Keep scaffolding and machinery away

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**

## Estimate distances from power lines

- Don't use stick or tape measurements
- These can lead to indirect contact
- If measurement uncertain, add more distance

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**

**If safe distance not possible,  
ask utility company to:**

- **Have lines de-energized, or**
- **Have lines guarded, or**
- **Have lines temporarily re-routed**

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**



**Watch heavy equipment near power lines**

**Operators risk indirect contact**

**Know your load's height**

**ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS**

## Assume fallen or sagging wires are live

- Keep your distance and call utility company
- If equipment or person contacts lines,
- Don't touch them
- You could become a conductor
- Call the utility company and emergency personnel
- Keep others away and isolate the hazard

ELECTRICAL  
HAZARDS

**Observe power line safety off the job**

**Keep children away from power lines**

**Follow the same precautions you follow at work**

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**Overhead power lines are dangerous**

**Treat them with respect**

**Don't put your life on the line**

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# ELECTRICAL HAZARDS