

September 2013

To BC Hydro Contractors

RE: Life Saving Rules

Since 1971, twenty-nine BC Hydro employees have died on the job, and we don't want to lose anyone else. In most of these cases, a significant contributory factor to the fatality was the fact that someone did not follow a simple safety rule. Clearly there is room for improvement.

In 2010, BC Hydro formed a Safety Taskforce to understand why these incidents continued to happen. The Taskforce spoke to employees and contractors, researched other companies and built recommendations to stop these incidents – the Life Saving Rules being one of them.

The Life Saving Rules team analyzed our serious near misses and incidents over a two and a half year period and learned that 46% of the near misses and incidents were due to electrical hazards, 20% were from working at heights and 16% involved motorized vehicles.

The Life Saving Rules are meant to remind us of these hazards. The Rules are not new. We are simply putting extra focus on 9 common high-risk activities that have the highest potential for serious injury or death at BC Hydro. The Life Saving Rules have been incorporated into BC Hydro's Safety Practice Regulations (SPRs) manual, which is a primary reference for those working with BC Hydro.

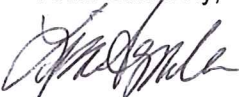
Complying with the Life Saving Rules is as vital for the employees of contractors and sub-contractors working for BC Hydro, as it is for BC Hydro employees. As a contractor to BC Hydro, you are responsible for ensuring that you and your staff understand the Life Saving Rules and that those rules are complied with at all times. If a Life Saving Rule or other safety rule is broken, your staff is required to report the incident promptly, as this provides us all with opportunities to learn how safety can be improved.

To summarize, I need you and your company to join us in our commitment to improving safety for all workers on BC Hydro work sites. Specifically BC Hydro requires your active commitment in improving safety by:

- Explaining the Life Saving Rules to your company's employees as well as any sub-contractors who work for you on BC Hydro jobs;
- Ensuring that your employees and sub-contractors who work on BC Hydro jobs understand the need to comply with Life Saving Rules, to stop work if you can't comply, and to report any violations.

The Life-Saving Rules will help protect everyone from harm, and I look forward to your support in making our working environment a safer place.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Seppala
Chief Safety, Health & Environment Officer