



# the **Life Saving Rules**

**BC hydro** 

FOR GENERATIONS

## **Life Saving Rules Awareness Session for Contractors**

Updated 19 September 2013

# Life Saving Rules – Where are the Life Saving Rules from?

## The Safety Task Force

- Was established after the tragic fatality of an electrician August 2010.
- Studied how BC Hydro's safety program operated.
- Compared it to companies with better safety records.
- Provided 19 recommendations including the Life Saving Rules.



# Life Saving Rules – Where are the Life Saving Rules from?

## The Life Saving Rules Team

- Was a cross functional team with members from across BC Hydro.
- Spoke to 400 front-line workers.
- Analyzed level 1 incidents and near misses spanning a 2 ½ year period.
- Researched other companies' successful safety implementations.
- Developed the Life Saving Rules and Reference Information.



# Life Saving Rules – Are the Life Saving Rules New?

## BC Hydro's **Life Saving Rules**

... **are not new**

... refreshes and replaces the Cardinal Safety Rules

... are part of the Safety Practices Regulations (SPR) and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Standards

... are grounded in WorkSafeBC regulations and other legislation



## Life Saving Rules – What are the Life Saving Rules?



1. Maintain your Limits of Approach

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2. Ensure there is a Safety Protection Guarantee or Lockout in place and check that it is appropriate for your work

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3. Test for hazardous energy

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4. Ensure that Worker Protection Grounding/Bonding is applied

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5. Protect yourself from falling when working at height

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6. Maintain a safe atmosphere in a confined space and ensure you can be rescued

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7. Prevent harmful exposure to known carcinogens, toxins and bio-hazards

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8. Don't work while under the influence of alcohol or drugs

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9. Adjust your driving to the weather and road conditions

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# Life Saving Rules – What is the LSR Reference Document?

The 9 **Life Saving Rules** are further explained in the Reference Document which describes the:

1. **Intent** of the rule.
2. **Scope** of the rule's application.
3. **Special conditions** under which rule might not apply.
4. **Important considerations** in keeping safe.
5. References to regulations, standards and **other key information**.

The LSR Reference Document can be found:

On the [Life Saving Rules](#) page of the [Safety Extranet](#) (password-protected). Use this [alternative web page](#) if extranet access is not available.





# Life Saving Rules – Sample Rule in Reference Document

## Intent

- Why
- Rationale for wording

## Scope of Application

- This rule applies

## Special Conditions



- Identifies where this rule does not apply or where special conditions must be followed

## Important Considerations

- Identifies other important information to help keep worker safe

## Key References

- High level references to point worker in the correct direction for more information

BChydro 		
<i>Life Saving Rules</i>		
<b>Rule 1: Maintain Your Limits of Approach</b>		
<b>Intent</b>		
<b>Why:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prevent contact with or flash over from exposed energized conductors or equipment.</li> <li>• A number of the serious incidents and fatalities have been related to violations of Limits of Approach (LOA).</li> </ul>		
<b>Rationale for wording:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliberate use of the word "your" is to indicate that the Limits of Approach are based on your qualification and valid authorization; you need to know the Limits of Approach you are authorized to work up to.</li> </ul>		
<b>Scope of Application</b>		
This rule applies : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To work around all exposed energized electrical equipment and conductors above 751 Volts.</li> </ul>		
<b>Special Conditions</b>		
Special conditions apply if you are using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rubber Glove Work procedures.</li> <li>• Bare Hand Work procedures.</li> <li>• Approved and tested live line tools and cover up.</li> <li>• An approved work method signed off by the Chief Safety, Health and Environment Officer.</li> </ul>		
<b>Important Considerations</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treat high voltage conductors and electrical equipment as energized unless a Safety Protection Guarantee (SPG) or Lockout is in effect and Worker Protection Grounding/Bonding and/or Blocking has been applied.</li> <li>• The required distances you must maintain change for different voltages, worker qualifications and when using un-insulated equipment.</li> <li>• The Limits of Approach are not a physical barrier and can be easily broken.</li> <li>• Limits of Approach distances that you must maintain include extension of reach caused by: conductive tools, materials, equipment, or unplanned movements.</li> <li>• Assess your Limits of Approach for every job and re-assess if the job changes.</li> </ul>		
<b>Key References</b>		
Type and #	Location	Comments
SPR 400	<a href="#">Safety Practice Regulations</a>	Safety Practice Regulations – Working near, or on, energized conductors and equipment
OSH Std. 201	<a href="#">200 Safety Engineering</a>	Worker Qualifications for Limits of Approach Authorization

# Life Saving Rules – What is expected of me?

I am expected to:

1. **Know** and remember the rules.
2. **Recognize** potential hazards & act appropriately.
3. **Comply** with the rules to keep myself and others safe.
4. **STOP WORK** if I can't comply with the rules.





# Life Saving Rules – What do I have to do?

Signed by: BC Hydro, IBEW & COPE

Applies to: BC Hydro Employees & Contractors

**I will** follow the **Life Saving Rules** and

1. Stop work if a job cannot be completed without breaking a rule.
2. Obtain an approved work procedure before proceeding.
3. Intervene when I see someone breaking a rule & accept intervention if I break a rule.

**BC Hydro will** develop timely & effective solutions to system conditions.

## LIFE SAVING RULES

OVERARCHING VALUE: HAVE THE COURAGE TO INTERVENE IF YOU SEE AN UNSAFE ACT OR CONDITION OR YOU OBSERVE SOMEONE UNFIT FOR WORK.

BC Hydro's Safety Taskforce developed a future state vision which includes the expectation that "People understand and respect our BC Hydro rules and procedures and recognize that they have a voice in influencing these." The Life Saving Rules support that vision and are the result of a collaborative effort amongst BC Hydro, COPE and the IBEW. While it is our expectation that workers follow all safety rules, the Life Saving Rules focus on the high risk work activities that carry the greatest threat of serious injury or death.

The Life Saving Rules replace the existing Cardinal Safety Rules. The Life Saving Rules apply to both BC Hydro employees and contractor employees.

As leaders of our respective organizations, we are committed to upholding the Life Saving Rules and eliminating fatalities and serious injuries within BC Hydro. Our shared expectations are that:

- Everyone will follow the Life Saving Rules.
- If you can't complete a job without breaking one of the Rules, you must stop work, advise your work leader or manager of the situation and obtain an approved work procedure before proceeding.
- BC Hydro will develop timely and effective solutions to system conditions that prevent compliance with the Life Saving Rules.
- Everyone accepts intervention.

We believe that we all play a role in making the Rules a success and our shared commitment sets us on the path to a safer workplace.



 ① Maintain your Limits of Approach	 ② Ensure there is a Safety Protection Supervisor or Lock out in place and check that it is appropriate for your work	 ③ TEST for hazardous energy
 ④ Ensure that Worker Protection Grounding/ Bonding is applied	 ⑤ Protect yourself from falling when working at height	 ⑥ Maintain a safe atmosphere in a confined space and ensure you can be rescued
 ⑦ Prevent harmful exposure to known carcinogens, toxins and biohazards	 ⑧ Don't work while under the influence of alcohol or drugs	 ⑨ Adjust your driving to the weather and road conditions

  
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## Life Saving Rules – What if I stop work?

### **If I stop work, I will:**

1. Report the issue to my Manager who will then work with the BC Hydro Representative to determine a solution for performing work safely.
2. Be aware that some permanent solutions may take time to put into place and therefore an interim approach may be developed to address the immediate need.



## Life Saving Rules – What if I break a rule?

### **If I break a rule, I will:**

1. Report the incident to my Manager or BC Hydro Representative
2. *Participate in an Investigation in order to:*
  - *Gain an opportunity to learn and respond*
  - *Improve workplace safety and our system*

It is important that we all learn from that event.

**NOTE:** *BC Hydro reserves the right to revoke access to BC Hydro sites in the event of Life Saving Rule violations.*

## ***BC Hydro’s Contractors will:***

- Brief all existing employees who perform work for BC Hydro ASAP (with priority for high hazard workers)
- Include the **Life Saving Rules** in new employee orientation
- Maintain records of employees and subcontractors who have received the **Life Saving Rules** awareness session and submit a copy to their BC Hydro Representative as requested
- Ensure that employees follow the **Life Saving Rules**
- Ensure that subcontractors know about and follow the **Life Saving Rules**
- Report and investigate **Life Saving Rule** violations
- Work with BC Hydro to act upon the results of any investigations

# Life Saving Rules – Where can I get more information?

## Further information and support resources can be found:

- On the [Life Saving Rules](#) page of the Safety Extranet (password-protected)  
[https://extranet.bchydro.com/sites/safety/SitePages/life\\_saving\\_rules.aspx](https://extranet.bchydro.com/sites/safety/SitePages/life_saving_rules.aspx)
- Use this [alternative web page](#) if extranet access is not available  
<http://www.bchydro.com/about/suppliers/doing-business-with-bchydro/contractor-safety.html#lifesavingrules>

## INFORMATION PACKAGE CONTENTS:

**Briefing Materials:** Instructions; Life Saving Rules Video; Presentation Slide Pack

**Additional Information:** Letter from BC Hydro Chief Safety, Health & Environment Officer; Life Saving Rules Commitment; Life Saving Rules Reference Document; FAQs

## SUPPORT RESOURCES:

Graphics for Life Saving Rules poster & fence/ wall signage

FOLLOW THE LIFE SAVING RULES

