

SAFETY AWARENESS ALERT

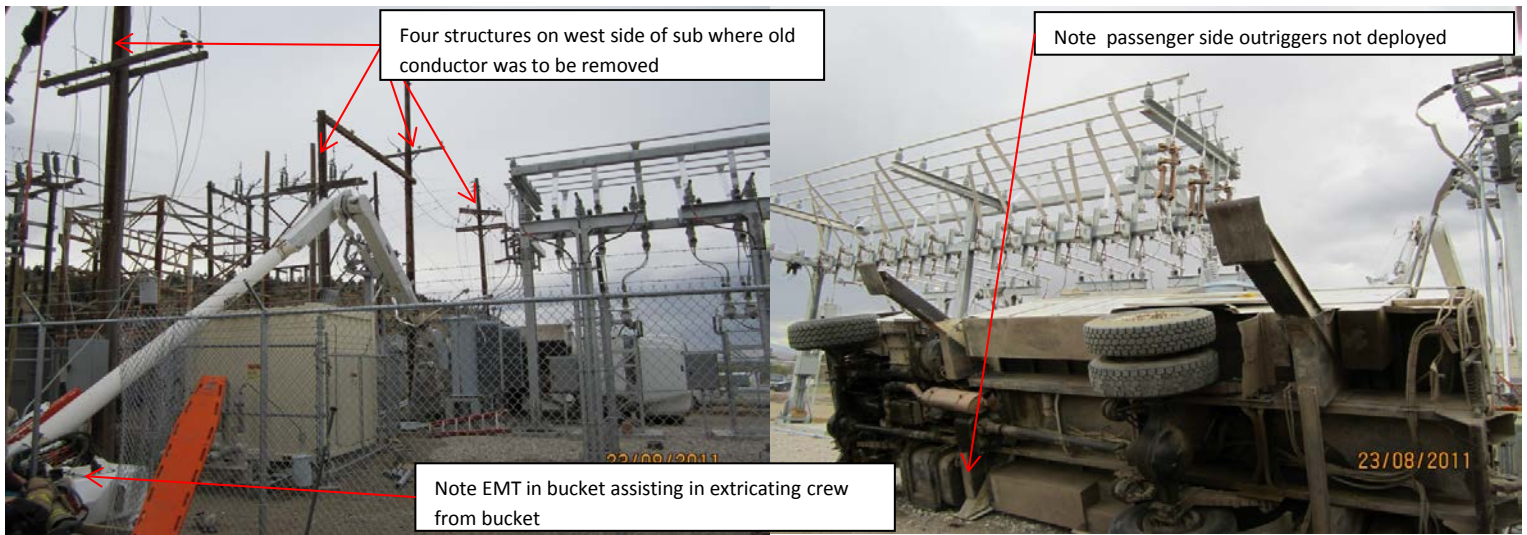
Distribute to crews and discuss at next tailboard meeting

SUMMARY OF INCIDENT and/or INJURY:

A 52' bucket truck tipped over with two crew members in the bucket while performing work over an energized buss assembly in a substation. Incident resulted in moderate injuries to the crew members and significant damage to the substation and widespread power outage

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

Crew was tasked with removing conductor from old pole structures in a substation. The task required them to work over an energized buss assembly. The old conductor they were removing was grounded and deenergized. One crew member was driving the truck and the other backed the driver into position. Once in position, the driver got out of the truck and walked around the front of the truck, climbed into the bed and then into the bucket. The crew member at the rear of the truck put down the driver side outriggers and then walked up and around the front of the truck and climbed into the bed of the truck and then into the bucket. They then proceeded to perform the elevated work. Toward the end of the task, they moved the bucket to the point where the truck was no longer stable and it tipped over onto the energized buss structure and the bucket swung across and landed against a fence trapping the two crew members.



IDENTIFIED CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

1. Failure of both individuals to visually ensure both sets of outriggers were in the down position prior to operation of the boom.
2. Failure of the foreman to designate an observer as required

RECOMMENDATION, POLICY, BEST PRACTICE TO PREVENT IN FUTURE

Foremen are to hold safety tailboards and remind/retrain all crews with the following information: 1. EACH person who rides in or operates an aerial manlift device is responsible to ensure it is safe, stable, secure prior to use. Do not rely on assumption that another person has made the equipment safe and secure. 2. A visual inspection by each person in a bucket prior to use is a mandatory requirement. 3. Foremen are responsible to ensure that equipment is set up properly or to have given clear instruction to the operator 4. Observers are required whenever tasks include work around energized systems - Observers are required to observe, not perform other tasks. 5. Operators cannot rely on outrigger position sensors or lockout switches in order to verify placement and stability of outriggers.