PennState Physical Plant

Program Highlights

ENERGIZED ELECTRICAL SAFETY PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this program is to protect employees from electrical shock and arc flash hazards while performing their work. This program applies to all OPP employees who are required to work on electrical equipment greater than 50 volts

TRAINING

Qualified Employees shall be trained in the requirements of NFPA 70E including the hazards of electricity prior to be authorized to work on or near live electrical parts 50 volts or more. Training shall include the following:

- Arc Flash hazards, Electrical Shock hazards, Arc Blast hazards
- Amount of incident energy present and the hazard risk category
- Approach distances to the electrical parts
- Proper use of voltage testing equipment
- Appropriate level of arc flash PPE and tools required
- How to assist a victim in contact with electricity
- CPR and the use of AED

Non-Qualified Employees shall be trained in and be familiar with electrical safety practices that are necessary for their safety.

INSPECTIONS

- Authorized employees shall be evaluated by the supervisor to ensure they understand the hazards and protective measures required to perform electrical work. This evaluation shall be done on an annual basis using the annual evaluation tool Electrical Work Evaluation Checklist
- Voltage rated gloves and other tools and equipment shall be inspected every 12 months.

KEY ELEMENTS

- Energized electrical work is prohibited without an approved energized electrical work permit
    - Troubleshooting and testing live electrical parts is permitted with the appropriate protective gear and work processes.

Committed to Safety Excellence

- PPE selection shall be based on the hazard risk category and is required within the arc flash boundary
- Test instruments shall be rated, tested and verified
- Actual work shall only be performed in the de-energized state.
- Electrical panels and cabinets shall be labeled with the hazard risk category, the limited approach boundaries and shall indicate the level of PPE required.
- Barriers shall be used to keep non-qualified persons outside arc flash boundary.

RESOURCES

Energized Electrical Safety Program