

SAFETY NOTES

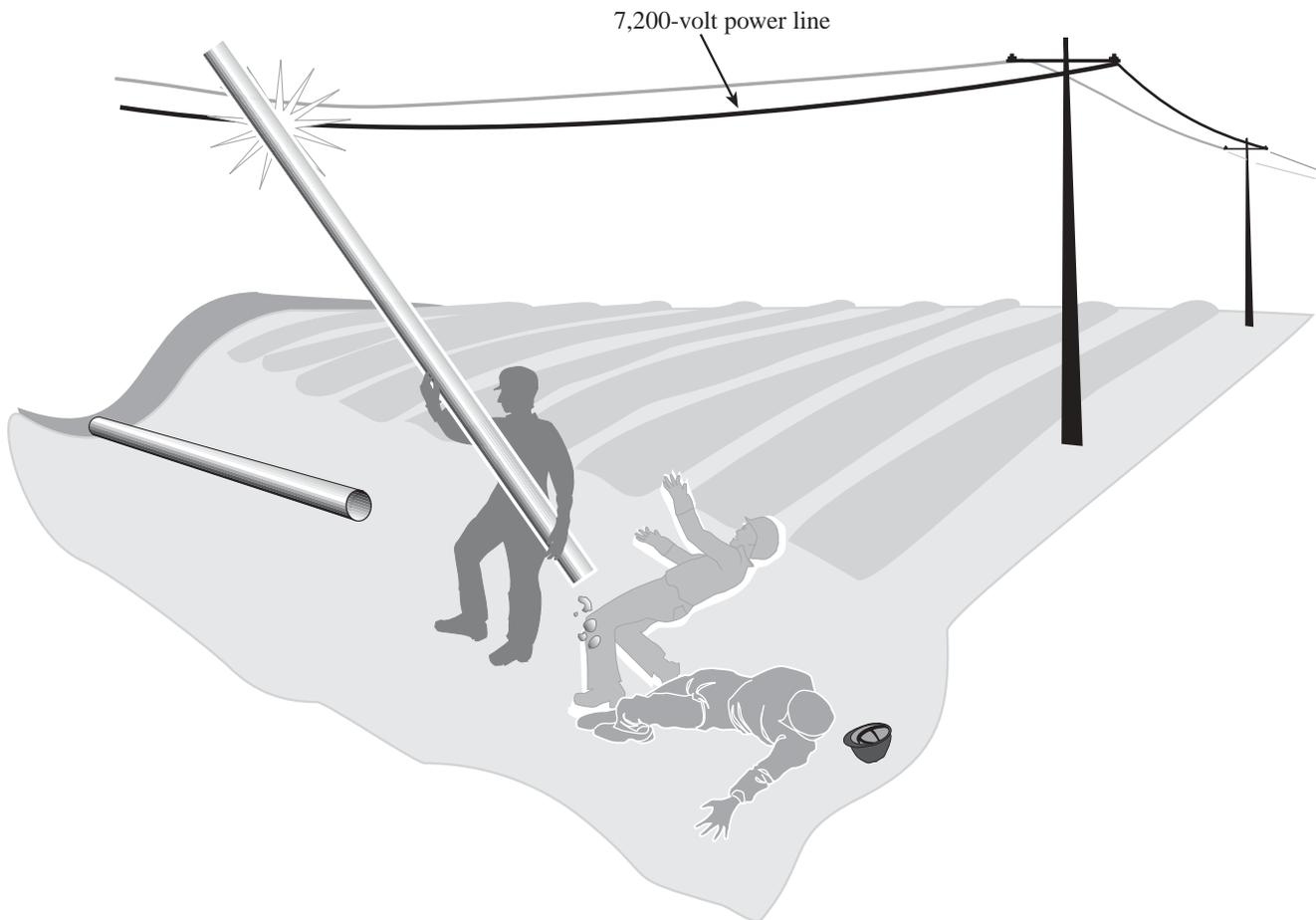
Department of Consumer & Business Services
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division
Salem, OR 97310

Fatality Report

Accident type... .. Electrocution
Industry... .. Agricultural crops
Employee job title... .. Ranch hand

Description of accident

The employee was setting up an irrigation pipeline and was handling aluminum pipe. The employee noticed an object inside the pipe and tipped the pipe up to remove the obstruction. The pipe contacted an overhead 7,200-volt power line, electrocuting the employee.



Investigation findings

Employees of the ranch had not been trained in the hazards of working with metal pipes in proximity to power lines. Further investigation revealed the employer did not have a written hazard communication program, did not have material safety data sheets for chemicals in use, and did not train employees in lockout-tagout procedures for work near or on energized equipment.