

FATALGRAM

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Date of Accident: August 14, 2001

Construction Industry

A construction worker died by electrocution as a result of making contact with a 14,400 volt power line.

Description of Accident: The victim's body was found lying on a gravel pile that had been placed underneath a power line. The victim had been riding an all terrain vehicle (ATV) that belonged to the construction company, but there was not a clear work-related reason for using the ATV. The victim was over six feet tall and the distance from the top of the gravel pile to the power line was less than six feet. Although there were no witnesses to the actual event, it appeared that the victim had reached the top of the pile and stood up, making contact with the active power line.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Piles of dirt, gravel, or other types of construction materials should never be piled within ten feet of an overhead power line.
- Non-work related activities should not be allowed to go on in or around a construction site.
- Equipment/vehicles should be locked up or otherwise made inoperable during non-work hours.
- An employer should have a written safety program which includes enforcement and discipline procedures to ensure that employees follow the employer's safety requirements. The employer should take steps to discover employee violations and document disciplinary action taken.