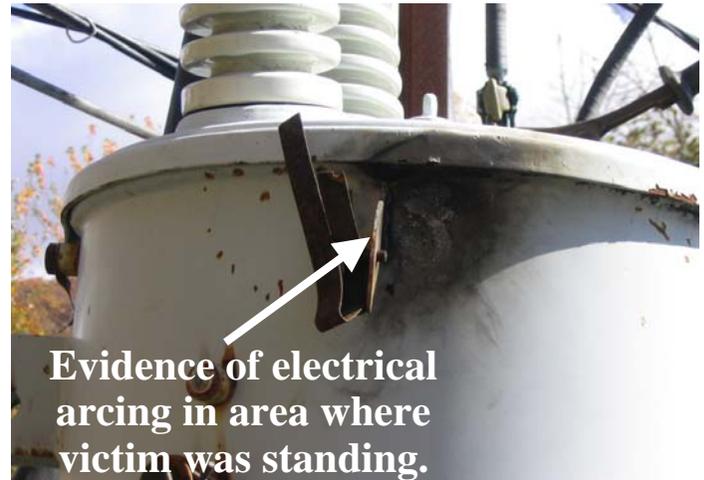
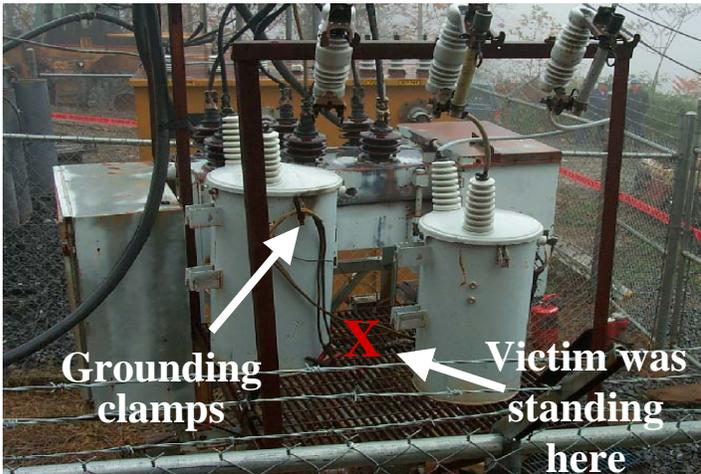


## H A Z A R D      A L E R T      I V E      T O M O R R O W

### HIGH VOLTAGE FATALITY



On Saturday, October 23, 2004, at 4:40 p.m., a Chief Electrician, age 56, with approximately 35 years total electrical experience and four months experience at this mine, received serious electrical burn injuries in a high voltage accident that occurred at the surface area of an underground coal mine. The victim, while wearing leather gloves, had completed connecting newly installed transformers and was making preparations to ground an energized 12,470 volt phase-to-phase conductor at the substation while apparently thinking that he had the circuit deenergized. The victim was transported by MED-VAC to Wellmont Bristol Regional Center and transferred to the Vanderbilt Burn Center. The victim received second and third degree burns to approximately 35% of his body. The victim died on October 29, 2004, at approximately 2:00 p.m., as a result of medical complications associated with serious burn injuries.

### SAFETY KEY POINTS

1. No electrical work shall be performed on low, medium, or high voltage distribution circuits or equipment, except by a certified person or by a person trained to perform electrical work and to maintain electrical equipment under the direct supervision of a certified person.
2. All high-voltage circuits shall be grounded before repair work is performed. The certified electrical repairman shall effectively ground the high voltage circuit prior to performing any work on the deenergized circuit.
3. Protective high voltage gloves should be worn when grounding high voltage circuits. **Always assume all high voltage circuits are energized until grounded.**
4. Be familiar with high voltage units, check and double check high voltage systems before pulling disconnects or before applying grounding devices.
5. Ensure the correct disconnecting device(s) is locked out and suitably tagged by the person(s) who performs electrical or mechanical work on such circuits or equipment connected to the circuits..

### **Please Post "2004"**

For additional information or assistance, contact the  
Division of Mines, Big Stone Gap (276) 523-8227  
or Keen Mountain Office (276) 498-4533

ACCIDENT  
REDUCTION PROGRAM

