



Over the years, mine employees, truckers and contractor personnel have been killed as a result of coming into contact with energized electrical conductors. A recent MSHA alert reported that two miners were killed, in separate incidents, while cutting grass/brush around guy wires that had become energized. The Virginia Division of Mineral Mining safety regulations establish certain safeguards intended to prevent accidents involving contact with overhead power lines and/or the guy wires that support the poles. These include:



Piling material over and around guy wires should be avoided.

DMM Safety Alert: Power Lines and Guy Wires



Guy wires with insulators near cross-arms and 8-ft. of PVC piping guarding at ground anchor.

- Always maintain at least ten feet of clearance between your equipment and overhead power lines unless they are de-energized (4VAC25-40-2500).
- Overhead power lines and components must be installed and maintained in accordance with the National Electric Code (4VAC25-40-2400).
- Guy wires must have properly rated insulators and guarding to protect miners in case the wires become energized.