

All Utility Support Services (AUSS) Safety Policy

Introduction

All Utility Support Services (AUSS) is committed to providing emergency support to electric utilities during major storm events, with a primary focus on safety, communication, and teamwork. Our operations involve engaging local on-call citizens as Wire Guards and deploying experienced Damage Assessment teams to ensure public safety and assist utilities in assessing and prioritizing repairs. This Safety Policy outlines the protocols, procedures, and expectations for all AUSS personnel to maintain a safe working environment and deliver high-quality emergency support services.

Safety Commitment

AUSS is dedicated to ensuring the safety of all personnel, the public, and the utilities we serve. We adhere to the following safety principles:

1. **Training and Equipment:** All personnel will receive comprehensive training and be provided with the necessary equipment in order to perform their duties safely and effectively.
2. **Work Environment:** AUSS promotes a safe and respectful work environment. Any form of drug or alcohol use is strictly prohibited.
3. **Compliance:** All personnel must comply with local, state, and federal safety regulations and guidelines.

Wire Guard Safety Procedures

Wire Guards play a critical role in protecting the public from downed power lines during storm events. The following procedures must be followed to ensure safety:

4. **Vehicle and Barrier Setup:** The use of your vehicle and provided barricades to restrict public access to downed power lines until utility repairs are completed.
5. **Visibility and Communication:** Ensure high visibility by wearing appropriate clothing and using warning signs and a flashing beacon. Maintain constant communication with the AUSS Coordinator and utility personnel.
6. **Shift Management:** Wire Guards should expect to work 12-16 hour shifts for assignments typically lasting 2-4 days. Adequate rest between shifts is essential to

maintain alertness and performance. No Wire Guard shall work two back-to-back shifts.

7. **Personal Conduct:** Wire Guards must be at least 18 years old, possess a valid driver's license, have a reliable vehicle, and wear presentable work clothing with work boots. The use of drugs or alcohol is strictly prohibited.
8. **Emergency Situations:** In case of an emergency, immediately contact an AUSS Coordinator and follow their instructions. Prioritize public safety and avoid taking unnecessary risks.

Damage Assessment Team Safety Procedures

Damage Assessors assist utilities in evaluating and prioritizing storm damage repairs. The following safety procedures apply:

9. **Hazard Identification:** Conduct thorough inspections to identify hazards such as downed lines, structural damage, and other risks. Use appropriate safety gear and tools during assessments.
10. **Coordination and Reporting:** Coordinate with utility personnel to report findings accurately and promptly. Maintain clear communication to ensure efficient and safe repair prioritization.
11. **Safety Gear:** Wear all required personal protective equipment (PPE) and follow established safety protocols during assessments.

General Safety Guidelines

12. **Incident Reporting:** Report all incidents, near misses, and any unsafe conditions to an AUSS Coordinator immediately.
13. **Health and Wellness:** Ensure adequate hydration, nutrition, and rest in order to maintain physical and mental well-being during assignments.
14. **Continuous Improvement:** Participate in ongoing training sessions and safety drills to enhance skills and knowledge. Provide feedback to improve safety practices and procedures.

Conclusion

At All Utility Support Services (AUSS), safety is our top priority. By adhering to this Safety Policy, we aim to protect our personnel, the public, and the utilities we support. Through rigorous training, proper equipment, and a culture of safety, communication, and

teamwork, AUSS is committed to delivering exceptional emergency support services during major storm events.