

**Oregon Joint Use Association
Standards Committee**
Meeting Minutes—November 10, 2022
Via Zoom

Chair Peter Kalnins called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Present:

Peter Kalnins, Chair
Alex Chaney, OPUC
Chris Barley, Oregon Aerial
Jaime Breckenridge, EWEB
Marlene Martin, Astound
Justin Reynolds, Comcast
Chad Altherr, PGE
Zachary Kalnins, Central Lincoln PUD

Not Present:

Jesse Keyes, Gary Lee & Assoc.
Mike Allen, Comcast

Staff:

Genoa Ingram
Mandy Grauerholz

Approval of Minutes The Committee reviewed the minutes of the September 21, 2022, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Jaime Breckenridge and seconded by Marlene Martin to approve the September 21, 2022, meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Progress Review: Standards Best Practices Manual Chris Barley noted that he would be off work for at least three weeks due to health issues. Chair Kalnins and Committee members offered their support.

- **Chapter 9: Wireless Chapter** Chair Kalnins reported that he had carefully reviewed Chapter 9 and reported that it appeared to be very well written and included the history, technology, and terminology. While it will need further input, Chair stated that it was an excellent work product. He also noted that updates were needed on pages 93, 95, 100. He asked Committee members to review the chapter prior to the next meeting.
- **Chapter 10: Wildfire Mitigation Chapter:** Chair Kalnins noted that fire mitigation is an entirely new area for utilities and encouraged Committee members to educate themselves on all of the materials available relating to fire retardant and other issues. He welcomed comments from the Committee on the Chapter, specifically how to pull the information together into a narrative, similar to the other chapters.
- It was noted that Mike Allen, Chris Barley and Justin Reynolds had met regarding Chapter 1. Chris reported that the plan had been to update photos on anchors and guyings but at least one more meeting is needed to review those photos. Justin offered to assist Chris by meeting with Mike. He asked Chris to forward the photos.
- Chris reported that he also color photos of hardware for Chapter 2.
- Jaime offered that some of the photos for Chapter 2 might also be applicable to Chapter 8, relating to equipment.

- Robison noted that Chris Barley and Mike Allen had asked to be assigned to chapter 10. Mike reported that he, Chris, and Justin Reynolds of Comcast had met to work on the chapter. No new documents have been uploaded recently but Chris has compiled information and Mike has taken some photographs.

Chair Kalnins recalled that there had been a document provided by former Chair Jerry Donovan of PGE titled “Ductile Iron Poles – An Alternative to Wood Poles” and asked if that document had been added to the Google drive. Staff responded that it was unknown if that document was proprietary to PGE, but permission will be sought from Terry Blanc. Committee members reported that they were not using ductile poles or the fire mesh at this time, although PGE is.

Progress Review: Grandfathering Matrix Chair Kalnins noted that the Matrix has been updated on the website. He encouraged members to identify any other needed updates.

NESC 239G Chair Kalnins asked if there was any further information on the rule NESC 239G, relating to communication wires. Staff recalled that Alex Chaney had indicated that there were gray areas related to the rule and had requested feedback from companies that might help the PUC provide clarification.

Alex explained that the rule relates to communication wires located in the supply space, transitioning down to the communication space. The rule specifies guarding requirements above and below. The question is, if a company is operating fiber in the supply space and then transitions into communication, how is that accomplished while meeting the requirements of six feet of guarding? The PUC is seeking industry consensus, particularly from power companies. Chad reported that he had received comments from his inspectors and would forward those to the Committee. (NOTE: Comments forwarded by Chad are included in EXHIBIT A of these minutes.).

Zachary Kalnins committed to provide comments via email.

2023 Meeting Dates

The Committee again confirmed the meeting dates for 2023, noting a change to January:

January 26	July 13
March 9	September 14
May 11	November 9

Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

EXHIBIT A

From: Chad Altherr <Chad.Aldherr@pgn.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:52 AM

To: Genoa Ingram <Genoa@courtstreetconsulting.org>

Subject: Challenge: NESC Rule(s) - Guarding/Clearance for Fiber Optic Cable Transitions from Supply Space to Comm Space

Hello. Here is the information that I was able to gather from my team experts. Cheers!

Jerry's Challenge

Thinking about the scenario where PGE (or any Power Company) has their all-dielectric fiber optic cable running up in the supply space (say above the neutral), but then needs to transition on the pole into or even below the communications space; as described in NESC 224A3c. What NESC rule(s) would apply with respect to the required guarding/clearance for this subject fiber cable?

1. Would guarding (say U-Guard or Conduit) of said fiber cable need to be 40-inches above the highest comm attachment down to 6-feet below the lowest comm attachment? As we might interpret from **239G1?**
2. Could the fiber cable be treated like the neutral; 230F1b (referencing 230E1), and require no more than 30-inches?
3. NESC 224A, 230F, 239G, or some combination?

As you weigh-in on this, also be thinking about the ramifications of this ruling and potential impact to operators if the greatest amount of clearance is required (say 6-feet below the lowest comm). Consider the current practices and what is in the field today and the fact that many operators are serving as both licensee and pole police (pole owners, power companies, and communication companies).

Try to find the sweet spot between cost and commensurate safety if you can.

Jim

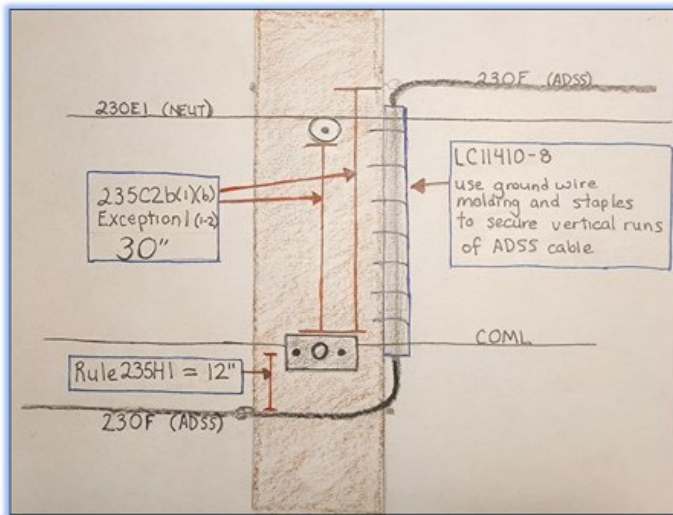
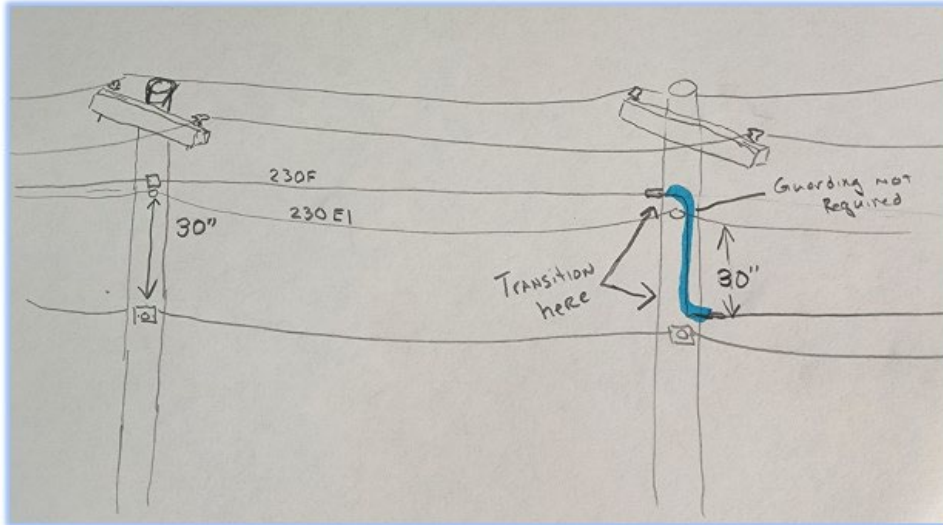
- If I am interpreting exception 1 of 239G1 correctly then guarding is **not** required. However, putting my comm hat back on for a moment, I think it prudent to prevent or try to mitigate the possibility of Joe Lineman putting a gaff through my COFO. In other words, smart construction standards would indicate a COFO attached vertically on a pole to be guarded. It boils down to guarding is recommended, but not required. Be mindful, NESC 239H comes into play. All other communication utilities attached would have to sign off, along with the pole if the transitioning COFO comes within 12" of the other comm facilities.

Matt

- A protective covering needed indicates a conductor that can carry voltage, if ADSS has only glass, it's not a conductive material. I think the transition can be made at the pole if it does not obstruct the climber. Abrasion prevention is mentioned. NESC 220 "Relative Levels" 220B1(d) EXCEPTION: This rule does not apply to any of the following; (a)-(d)
- Table 235-1 does not list insulated COML, I have a note written in my book that this was discussed with Dave Marne at the OJUA Spring training 201 in 2021. PV=12 inches, refer to 012C and Pole Attachment Agreements. (Mutual consent)

Jason

- Rule 230F Fiber optic cables located in supply space are required to have the same clearance as neutrals meeting Rule 230E1 from communication facilities. 30" from COML Rule 230F Fiber optic cables located in communication space, must have the clearance from supply facilities as required for a communication messenger. 230E1 (30 inches from NEUT) 230C (40 inches from SEC)
- 239G- Vertical **supply** conductors or cables attached to the structure shall be guarded with suitable conduit. I would not consider a 230F (ADSS) a supply conductor. With that being said, guarding is not required, but recommended.



Chad Altherr

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