## Aerial Lifts

1. **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the safe use of vehicle mounted aerial devices used to elevate personnel to jobsites above ground such as extensible boom platforms, aerial ladders, articulating boom platforms and vertical towers.

1. **Safe Work Procedures**

* Only authorized persons shall operate an aerial lift.
* Lift controls shall be tested each day prior to use to determine that brakes and operating controls are in safe working condition.
* All equipment will have a working back-up alarm or a spotter will be used when backing.
* Employees shall always stand firmly on the floor of the basket, and shall not sit or climb on the edge of the basket or use planks, ladders, or other devices for a work position.
* An approved fall restraint system shall be worn when working from an aerial lift. The fall restraint system shall be attached to the boom or basket when working from an aerial lift. Belting off to an adjacent pole, structure, or equipment while working from an aerial lift is not permitted.
* Boom and basket load limits specified by the manufacturer shall not be exceeded.
* The brakes shall be set and outriggers, when used, shall be positioned on pads or a solid surface. Wheel chocks shall be installed before using an aerial lift on an incline.
* An aerial lift truck may not be moved when the boom is elevated in a working position with men in the basket, except for equipment which is specifically designed for this type of operation.
* Articulating boom and extensible boom platforms, primarily designed as personnel carriers, shall have both platform upper and lower controls. Upper controls shall be in or beside the platform within easy reach of the operator. Lower controls shall provide for overriding the upper controls. Controls shall be plainly marked as to their function. Lower level controls shall not be operated unless permission has been obtained from the employee in the lift, except in case of emergency.
* The insulated portion of an aerial lift shall not be altered in any manner that might reduce its insulating value.
* For lines rated 50 kV. or below, minimum clearance between the lines and any part of the equipment or load shall be at least 10 feet.
* Use outrigger pads when necessary to provide firm footing.
* Aerial lifts may be "field modified" for uses other than those intended by the manufacturer provided the modification has been certified in writing by the manufacturer or by any equivalent entity.