



Be a Good Neighbor to Power Lines

WHEN YOU THINK about your neighborhood, you probably don't think about its power lines. It's easy to overlook their presence, but overhead lines can pose serious electrical hazards if forgotten.

Trees can be a power line's worst enemy. Strong winds and storms can blow trees over or break branches, pulling lines down from poles or supporting towers. It's possible for the line to remain energized and electrify trees and other nearby objects—especially when wet.

Arcing and flashovers between power lines and trees are also dangerous. A voltage surge on a power line from a nearby lightning strike can cause a tree to become electrified as well. 4705190701

During warm weather or when power lines are carrying heavy electrical loads, they can heat up and stretch, making the lines longer. Thus, power lines can sag, bringing them even closer to trees.

The electric current caused by arcing and flashovers between power lines and trees can easily injure or even kill an individual caught nearby. Here are some tips for giving overhead power lines the respect and distance they require:

Always make sure to look for power lines nearby before you begin to cut down any tree or trim branches. Never trim or cut down trees near lines. If a tree falls into a power line, do not attempt to move it. Contact HILCO Electric Cooperative immediately.

Look up before raising a ladder or pole to make sure it will not come within 15 feet of power lines. Use only wooden or fiberglass ladders outdoors. Metal ladders conduct electricity more readily.

Treat all power lines as energized. Never climb or attempt to handle a tree that has a limb caught in a power line. You may not see any visible evidence that the tree is electrified or dangerous.

Make sure to maintain required clearances between equipment and power lines. Keep equipment and yourself at least 20 feet away from power lines at all times. ■

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL FINANCING ORDER

At the time of submission for printing, HILCO Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors anticipated the consideration and potential adoption of a Financing Order pursuant to Senate Bill 1580, codified at Texas Utilities Code §§ 41.151-41.163, at its August 25, 2022, meeting.

If adopted, the Financing Order authorizes HILCO Electric Cooperative, Inc. to utilize securitization financing to recover extraordinary costs and expenses incurred due to Winter Storm Uri. The financing is expected to close by the end of 2022.

The financing will allow HILCO Electric Cooperative, Inc. to spread these extraordinary costs and expenses over an extended period of time and will allow HILCO Electric Cooperative, Inc. to keep your monthly bills lower than they would be absent securitization. The securitized charges will be irrevocable, will be adjusted from month-to-month to pay the bonds, and will be included in member monthly bills starting in or about January 2023.

A copy of such Financing Order may be found at: https://static.spacecrafted.com/b993f461c-2024818b0c102c57b4d48fc/r/e7087727f97c4e6f94ccf9f412ef70e/1/NOTICE_OF_POTENTIAL_FINANCING_ORDER.pdf

If consideration of the Financing Order was postponed, information regarding that postponement can be found at the following link: https://static.spacecrafted.com/b993f461c-2024818b0c102c57b4d48fc/r/cba666cf133947f1943940ed23a5abe1/1/Notice_of_Postponement_Information.pdf