

Stay safe when working around power lines

When farming it is sometimes necessary to be working in close proximity to power lines, if equipment comes in contact with a power line it is imperative to know what to do to keep yourself safe.

Maritime Electric advises that if a piece of farm equipment comes in contact with a line, if possible, back the equipment away from the line breaking contact. If the equipment cannot be safely separated from the line, call 911 and stay put until help arrives. DO NOT JUMP from the equipment unless your safety is at stake i.e. Equipment is on fire or fire has started close to the scene.

If the conditions are too dangerous to stay in the vehicle (fire) and the operator has to leave the equipment, they should attempt to jump from the vehicle (both feet together), ensuring they aren't making contact with the ground and the vehicle at the same time. Once on the ground they should hop or shuffle with feet together for at least 50 feet from the energy source.

For further information on electrical hazards and preventative measures please visit the following links:

http://www.maritimeelectric.com/safety/saf_electricity_the_invisible_killer.aspx

http://www.maritimeelectric.com/safety/saf_hazards_and_emergencies.aspx#Hazards

[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/aet13917](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/aet13917)

<http://www.farmsafety.ca/public/manuals/manual-fs-hydroelines.pdf>