

WASHINGTON STATE 2-MAN RULE

WAC 296-45-325

(WORKING ON OR NEAR EXPOSED ENERGIZED PARTS)


Subsection 1

General. Only qualified employees may work on or with exposed energized lines or parts of equipment. Only qualified employees may work in areas containing unguarded, uninsulated energized lines or parts of equipment operating at 50 volts or more. Electric lines and equipment shall be considered and treated as energized unless the provisions of [WAC 296-45-175](#) through [296-45-17565](#) or [296-45-335](#) have been followed.

Subsection 2

Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, at least two qualified employees shall be present while the following types of work are being performed.

A.	Installation, removal, or repair of lines that are energized at more than 600 volts.
B.	Installation, removal, or repair of de-energized lines if an employee is exposed to contact with other parts energized at more than 600 volts.
C.	Installation, removal, or repair of equipment, such as transformers, capacitors, and regulators, if an employee is exposed to contact with parts energized at more than 600 volts.
D.	Work involving the use of mechanical equipment, other than insulated aerial lifts, near parts energized at more than 600 volts; and
E.	Other work that exposes an employee to electrical hazards greater than or equal to those posed by operations that are specifically listed in subsection (2) (a) through (d) of this section.

 **Note 1:** One employee will serve principally as a standby person who must be so located that they may physically reach the other employee in the event of an accident either with their hand or with a hot stick twelve feet or less in length. The standby will be so positioned as to be able to observe the other employee, their bodily movements, and verbally warn of any impending dangers. In no case when working in pairs will employees work simultaneously on energized wires or parts of different phases or polarity.

Note 2: When installing or removing a hot line clamp connection on a multiphase system, it is permissible for the second employee to stand by at the lower controls of the aerial lift provided the connection or disconnection does not interrupt or pick up load. The hot line clamp and connecting jumper must be constructed so it cannot make contact with any other energized parts. The work must not be performed above lines or apparatus energized at more than 600 V.

Note 3: In cases of necessity the standby person may temporarily assist the other employee provided that they both work on wires or parts of the same phase or polarity. Both employees shall so position themselves so that the presence of the second person does not increase the hazard.