

To whom it may concern:

73 yrs old retired from the CL& P in 1958 after 35 years of service. I spent many hours in storm restoration. I would like to share with you some of my experiences. From 1958 to 2011 many years have gone by, I have been out for 18 years now. My first observation has been, have we replaced permanent help for retirees? If so how many are we using of our retirement crews to the best of our abilities? There are no two storms the same, there are tropical storms, hurricanes, wind, rain, snow, ice storms that are all treated differently. The first issue to consider is continuity our safety rules and make sure that people is in tact with switching and tagging procedures. Important tailboard discussions on who is going where would qualify personnel. There is a long list of safety rules to follow. I have been educated with safety and switching and tagging taking clearance to our lines, work with convex and four divisions in the entire state. I have worked in sub stations and on transformers, circuit breakers, vacuum transformers at Millstone, CT Yankee and local substations with electrical line and cable crews. Also I have experience in switch gear and all qualified personnel and people who work in the area, making sure they are familiar with where they are going. This is a priority list. First all the storms are being monitored during the storm command decisions have to be made by ISO Millstone, dominion and other areas with generating capacity. Generators and transformers may be taken out by protective relay in all high tension lines. Sometimes decisions may be made to protect generators and transformers by qualified control operators and sub station electrician to shift load around. Maintenance and lack of experience help is becoming an issue. Safety issues, maintenance issues, lack of experienced help, and training new crews tells me that we should consider putting on experience retirees on board and make sure we have exhausted all the experienced line crews, electrical crews, cable crews, and gas crews in the state . In other words we should seek out all experienced crews throughout CT before we consider bringing in outside crews from other states.

Signed Nick Coscia 35 years lead electrician of Northeast Utilities.

Safety is #1

Local 420 and 457 IBEW retired member

coscianick@yahoo.com