

Damian Galbraith
Aviation Accident Investigator
OAS

Date: 10/03/2023

Subject: CEN23FA412, MOR - Power Line Height and Impact Information

Contact: Western Area Power Administration

A representative from the Western Area Power Administration reported that, on September 19, 2023, at 1231 central daylight time, their dispatch center received notice that their power line relayed, auto reclosed and relayed again. They left the line open and dispatched personnel to investigate the power line. The inspection revealed no damage to the power line and the power was returned to service. The investigation of the anomaly revealed that the airplane impacted the lower power line and caused the conductors to gallop and contact each other, which triggered the initial relay. The representative further stated that, the numbers provided are accurate with the caveat that the engineer estimated the added temperature due to loading. The conductor would have been at least at the ambient temperature, if there was no load on the line. The most accurate measurement of the line above the ground would be 26.8 ft at 90° Fahrenheit, which was taken directly where the arrow in the image below is (see figure 1).

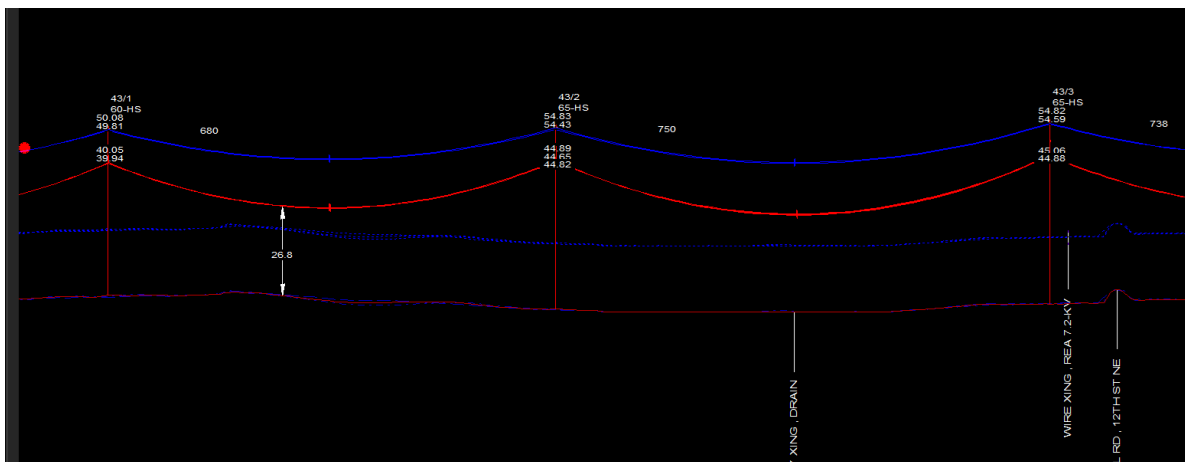


Figure 1: Photo of the measurement of the power line above the ground (Photo provided by Western Area Power Administration)

END