Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section **Operations**	**Referral No.** **O-05**	**Subject:** **Response to downed power lines**	**Date Issued** 11/02	**Date Revised** **2/08**

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for safe response to the report of downed power lines and to define the response plan to the report of downed power lines.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - Ensure that personnel respond properly.
  - Ensure that personnel wear the proper personal protective equipment.
  - Provide direction based on the Incident Management System.
- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of following the direction of Incident Command.
  - All personnel have the responsibility of wearing proper safety equipment and to operate in a safe manner.

Guidelines:

- **Safety is always our first priority**
- When dispatched to a report of downed power lines, all personnel will respond to the fire station unless the scene is closer in proximity to the responder's location
- A report of downed power lines requires a "Limited Response" of the following equipment:
  - Tanker 1303
  - Truck 1309
  - One Medic Unit
- Upon arrival, transmit a brief size-up of the scene (Brief Initial Report), establish command, and place the apparatus in a safe location. (Refer to Incident Command guideline)
- The Incident Commander shall direct other arriving apparatus to safe positions to block access to the downed lines
- All personnel shall stay away from downed lines and **treat ALL downed lines as if they are energized**
- Dispatch shall contact the power company and if safe, obtain a "pole number" of a pole near the effected area and report that number to dispatch
- Maintain a safe area with a minimum clearance of 50 feet, in all directions, from downed lines.
  - ACERT/REACT may be requested to the scene for assistance with traffic/crowd control