



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 33-25

Date: August 7, 2025

UNEXPECTED MAGNET RELEASE RESULTS IN DROPPED OBJECT

Very recently on a Solar Project, a D10 Piledriver Crew was picking up a steel pile to be driven into the ground. The Piledriver Unit uses a magnet to lift the pile from the ground, then the crew attaches a choker cable to hold it in place while it is being driven.



In this particular incident, the pile was lifted and while suspended by the magnet, the metal I-beam pile fell unexpectedly when the magnet detached suddenly. This dropped object is being classified as a serious incident because personnel were in the immediate vicinity.

Immediate learnings from this incident are:

- The pile was lifted approximately 2 feet from the ground, when the recommended height to be able to place the choker is 6-8 inches.
- Workers need to pay special attention to Line of Fire when objects are lifted.

There were no injuries in this case, but the potential for a serious incident is prevalent with the amount activity at all three solar sites.

Workers are reminded to have a plan for avoiding Line of Fire and protecting themselves from Pinch Points.

Proper use of the GIS LIFE Processes can help to create a Fail-Safe Work Environment.



SAFETY ALERT