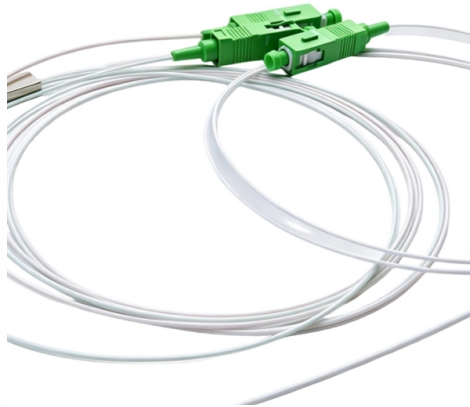


Communication tower wires were cut



AI Overview

Cutting or tampering with communication tower wires can disrupt critical services, endanger public safety, and result in significant financial and legal consequences. Causes of Wire Cutting Communication tower wires are often targeted for copper theft, as copper has high resale value. Thieves may climb towers to remove transmission lines or cut guy wires to access materials quickly, sometimes causing the tower to collapse. Other causes include vandalism, sabotage, or accidental damage during maintenance or construction. Consequences of Wire Cutting Service Disruption: Cutting wires can disable radio communications for emergency services, transportation departments, and local government operations. For example, in Los Angeles, a tower in Elysian Park was damaged by copper thieves, leaving Department of Transportation officers unable to use radios or emergency buttons for two days. Safety Hazards: Severed guy wires can destabilize towers, leading to collapses that endanger workers and nearby communities. Historical incidents in Oklahoma and Tennessee show that cutting guy wires caused entire towers to fall, sometimes resulting in fatalities. Economic Impact: Repairing damaged towers, replacing equipment, and restoring services can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Cascading Effects: Fiber cuts and sabotage can paralyze critical operations, affecting hospitals, airports, and public safety systems, potentially impacting millions of people. Notable Examples Los Angeles, California (December 2025): Two suspects attempted to strip a communications tower of copper, disrupting local government radio communications for two days. Repairs were completed within three days, and suspects were charged with grand theft. Hugo, Oklahoma (January 2024): Thieves toppled a 500-foot broadcast tower by cutting a guy wire to remove coaxial lines, causing \$500,000 in damages and arrests within two days. Tennessee (2008): Copper theft from a 360-foot tower led to the cutting of guy wires and the collapse of the st...

Article Content

Burning Cell Towers, Out of Baseless Fear They Spread the Virus

A conspiracy theory linking the spread of the coronavirus to 5G wireless technology has spurred more than 100 incidents this month, British officials said.

Power Distribution 101

Cable & telephone wires These communications lines are the lowest and thickest wires on a utility pole. Ground wire The ground wire is a thin copper strand that runs the entire length of the pole and into

Politics

Bloomberg delivers business and markets news, data, analysis, and video to the world, featuring stories from Businessweek and Bloomberg News on everything pertaining to politics

Can I cut an old phone line safely? : r/HomelImprovement

73 votes, 77 comments. true I have an old phone line in a room I am painting. I'm not sure if there's power going to it or not. Is there any kind of safety issue if I simply cut it out of the wall? If not, how

Civic body cuts mobile tower wires in Panchkula

Sanjay Bumbroo Panchkula, March 8 Wires of mobile towers of various companies in the VVIP Sector 6 here were disconnected last night for

How to Remove a Retired Cell Phone Tower From Your Property

How to Remove a Retired Cell Phone Tower From Your Property With the rapid evolution of telecommunications technology, many property owners find themselves with outdated cell phone

List of catastrophic collapses of broadcast masts and towers

This is a list of catastrophic collapses of broadcast masts and towers. Masts and towers can collapse as a result of natural disasters, such as storms and fires; from engineering defects; and from accidents,

ComEd restores service to over 25K customers after power outage -

Service was restored to more than 25,000 ComEd customers who were without electricity for a period of Friday after a communication tower fell on a power line, the electric utility said.

PROTECTING THE NATION'S CRITICAL COMMUNICATIONS

Indiana: In 2025, the definition of critical infrastructure was amended to expressly include communications facilities such as cell towers, wires, and equipment.

Damaged communications tower in Los Angeles brings down parking ...

A key communications tower in Los Angeles, California, was damaged in late December 2025, bringing down radio communications for several local government departments.

Guide to Guyed Towers and Masts

A guyed tower or mast is a tall structure that is supported by a system of guy wires or cables. It is commonly used in telecommunications, broadcasting, and other industries to support

Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design,

Given the height, structural engineering needs (i.e., guy wires), and obstruction lighting requirements, communication towers may cause direct and indirect bird mortality through:

Vandals Cut Guy Wires to Bring Down Tower For Scrap Resell

VIDEO According to the Washington County Sheriff's Office, three men were arrested and accused of breaking into an inactive 150-foot tower last Wednesday. The trio allegedly cut the guy

Thieves steal copper from internet lines in Gwinnett County, causing ...

The police report filed by AT& T states copper and fiber wire were removed from utility poles along Sycamore Road on Monday afternoon. AT& T says the copper was taken and the fiber

Tower Damage Disrupts LA Local Government Communications

California Governor Gavin Newsom signed a bill aiming to crack down on theft in October 2025, Inside Towers reported. An AT& T copper vault had been struck earlier in the year, cutting off

Taking Down an Antenna Tower

Now, cut the guy wires on the same side as the lowering ropes and leave the guy wire attached on the side toward which the tower will fall. Begin letting out the come-alongs and let the tower begin to lean

Thieves targeting copper cables disrupt 911 service, internet, and ...

A silent crisis is stripping America's critical infrastructure bare, not with a bang, but with the snip of wire cutters. As copper prices surge past \$6 per pound, a staggering wave of thefts is

How Flashing Lights on Cell Towers Can Save Birds' Lives

Many mortality events occur after storms push migrating birds to lower elevations, where they encounter the tallest communication towers (those from 900 to nearly 2,000 feet). One theory is

Guy wires cut, causing radio tower used by Oregon firefighters to topple

COOS BAY, Ore. - Someone cut the guy wires holding up a 150-foot tall repeater tower, causing the tower to fall, the Coos County Sheriff's Office said. The vandalism caused in excess of

Emergency communication tower destroyed; Sheriff's Office seeks ...

COOS COUNTY — The emergency communication tower necessary for loggers, fire personnel and ham radio operators was cut down over the weekend, causing more than \$60,000 in

Towerkill

Towerkill Guy wires pose a fatal threat to birds, which often circle the tower lights at night. Towerkill is a phenomenon in which birds are killed by collisions with antenna towers. In poor visibility conditions,

Radio Tower Collapses After Guy Wires Are Cut

Radio Tower Collapses After Guy Wires Are Cut Elvin Şiwan and 5 others 2.9K Views
6 1 1 Last viewed on: Mar 30, 2025 Pages Other Community Electricians Are

The Growing Crisis of Copper Theft - USTelecom

Copper theft is on the rise, leading criminals to cut vital communication lines across the United States. Currently, some states have strict laws, enhanced penalties and enforcement

Suspected copper wire thieves disable parking enforcement radios

In May, wire thieves were suspected of cutting phone line service to seniors in South Los Angeles. The following month, they caused widespread internet service outages that affected swaths of...

Copper prices are rising. Thieves are taking notice

Hundreds of pounds of copper wire was cut and hauled out through the manhole, knocking out phone service for hundreds of AT& T customers.

Penal Code § 591: Utility Line Damage Charges in CA

Description If you intentionally or maliciously cut any telephone, cable TV, or fiber optic line, you may be charged with Damaging Phone, Electrical, or Utility Lines. Potential violations include any

"Fired" Private Telecom Employee Cuts Tower Wires In Punjab, Mobile ...

Ferozepur: Palpable tension prevailed in Zira of Punjab after a former private telecom operator employee allegedly cut the main cables of a mobile communication tower, leaving dozens of

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