

Safety Alert

Orion

SA2408 - Incorrect Service Main relocation

11/07/2024

A hard wood low voltage (LV) service pole had to be replaced due to significant rot at the base. In discussion with the property owner the new pole was relocated due to existing trees and with the intention to future underground the final service span to the dwelling. The remedial work for the new pole resulted in the new LV overhead line location inadvertently reducing the overhead LV line clearance to the roof of the dwelling. This has caused a breach with the requirements of NZECP 34. (Minimum Approach Distances). NOTE: This relocation also has potentially no easement, where previously it was covered under existing rights.

Learning:

When we're working to meet the needs of our customers, planning must also ensure that all safety standards are adhered to. This prevents work from creating a risk to our customers or their property.

What we'd like you to do:

- Send this Safety Alert out to your people.
- Communicate to your teams the importance of managing the risk of customer expectation versus safe outcomes.
- Always consider during the planning stage, the impacts that even slight changes may have on dwellings or other structures in close proximity to where the new line route will take.

What we're doing:

- Sharing with industry for awareness and learning.
- Proactively working our service provider/s and the property owner to remove the LV line breach / configuration.
- Communicating with our service providers, to consider the learnings from this incident and assist Orion in lifting the bar to remove recurrence of such events.



For more information contact Orion at info@oriongroup.co.nz or call 0800 363 9898