

Safety Alert

Employee Cut into Live 11kV cable – no injury

Date: 08/05/25

Vault No. 5440

A Connetics employee has cut into a cable that he believed to be a deenergised LV cable. The employee performed the necessary permit recipient safety applied measures to the LV circuit. He tested the ends of the LV cable and proved it to be deenergised. The cable was located at 600mm depth. The actual LV cable was located at 1100mm depth. The cable at 600mm was a live 11kV cable. The cables are very similar in appearance, size and colour.



Reminders / Actions

1. Prior to making any cut make sure the embossing on the outer cable matches what you are expecting to see (or other physical method), and the cable is proved deenergised at the point of the cut via live working methods.
2. Service Plans are not always correct, and cable identification is needed.
3. Cables can be found at different depths due to site specific configurations.
4. If there are multiple services present, contact Network Control and get permission to 'spike' the cable.
5. This event emphasises the importance of wearing the correct PPE as occurred here – dielectric boots, visor, live work gloves & full body cover FR/Cal rated.

An investigation has started, and we will share findings.

Contact:

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