



Trailer not secured in place before it was disconnected resulting in damage to fence



Photos from Left (1) similar water cart trailer, (2) damage to fence (3&4) Incline and Path of travel

On 25 June 2025 at approximately 4:30 pm, a worker was returning a full 1800L water cart trailer to its point of use at site. The orientation of the trailer and tow vehicle was in line with the slope and facing uphill. Before fully securing the trailer, the worker removed the light plug and disconnected the safety chain, followed by unlatching the coupling and jockey wheel. At this stage the trailer coupling was resting on the tow ball but not secured. After partially lowering the jockey wheel, the worker noticed the wheel chocks were not in place and went to retrieve them from the flat deck ute. While unattended, the coupling unexpectedly disengaged from the towbar. As a result, the trailer rolled away uncontrolled (approximately 50m) and collided with a nearby fence, causing damage. There was no risk to people or animals.

Immediate actions

- Incident was immediately reported to Transpower and Landowner.
- Site made safe; the damaged fence was temporarily repaired, and a full repair was completed the following day.
- Incident reported to Maximo (179007) and ICAM Investigation is now underway.
- Reminder issued to team regarding proper trailer securing procedures, including the use of wheel chocks prior to decoupling. This will also be raised at the next toolbox session.

For more information, please contact:

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