



HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE OPENING INCIDENT

OVERVIEW

On the 26th of March 2025, a High Voltage (HV) cable was opened in error. The cable flashed over, leading to the operative receiving minor burns.

Without prejudice to the Very Serious Incident investigation, being led by Mark Adolphus, this alert is to serve as a reminder of the processes to be followed and the importance of wearing PPE correctly.

DETAIL

During a routine service connection job, a UKPN Jointer opened a Live High Voltage Cable. This resulted in a flashover and subsequent burns, although these were, thankfully, minor.

A VSI is being led by Mark Adolphus to understand the root cause and learning points. However, we do know that the PPE being used has significantly reduced the potential outcome.

The three key points that all cable jointers need to be aware of are:

- Always follow DSR 01 018. It is a tried and tested procedure that will reduce the chances of opening a live HV Cable.
- Stop and seek advice if the work is not clear, the procedure cannot be followed, or you have any doubts escalate to your Line Manager.
- Always wear your PPE and make sure it is correctly fastened. If all else fails, it could be the difference between discomfort or disfigurement...or worse.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- **Follow the guidance in DSR 01 018.** It is there to help reduce the chances of opening a Live High Voltage cable.
- **If something does not feel right, stop and seek advice.** Remember to Think, Feel and Act accordingly.
- **Always wear the correct PPE.** It is the last line of defence, and has proven once again that it can dramatically reduce the likelihood of serious injuries.



Primary communication via Line Manager complete by (X)	X	2 calendar days	5 calendar days	10 calendar days
Additional communication (X)	X	Stand down briefing	1 st 15	Team Brief slide

Line management must ensure appropriate employees understand the content of this document within the timescale shown.
This document is subject to compliance audits after the communication deadline.