

Date of Incident: 21 September 2020

## NEAR MISS – POTENTIAL SECURITY BREACH

### What Happened?

Wiri Substation: A maintenance contractor left the vehicle gate in the security fence and, the vehicle gate into the ODS structure open while undertaking grounds maintenance in a restricted area of the substation. Both gates were not being supervised posing a security hazard for unauthorised access into a restricted area. The gates were left open/unattended while spraying weeds from a pre-prepared spray tank for an undisclosed period of time.

### Root Cause

Although the contractor was aware and understood his responsibilities on site, the contractor wanted to complete the maintenance task as easily and as quickly as possible. The contractor was alerted when approached and quickly closed and locked the gates.



### Learnings

Substations are to be secured against unauthorised entry always. The public must be kept safe from work taking place and worksite hazards when the site is unattended.

Gates into restricted areas such as switchyards, other HV enclosures and buildings shall be kept locked unless the entrance gate or door is continuously monitored under close supervision.

Note: Controlled area gates left open for any reason shall be supervised to prevent public access.

All staff working on substations are to be reminded of the responsibilities and requirements from Transpower's controlled document, Station Security Procedures - TP.SS 07.40.

### For more information, please contact:

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