TRANSPOWER

SAFETY ALERT!

28 January 2020

Transmission Line Access Permit - Recipient Transfer completed incorrectly

WHAT HAPPENED?

TBS Farnsworth Ltd trading as SRG Global received an Access Permit for the TKR_WIL_2 circuit outage on the 23rd September 2019.

The Recipient had to leave the area midway through the outage and returned the permit to the Issuer for re-issue to a backup Recipient.

Through internal mis-communication the backup Recipient understood that the Access Permit was transferred to him and continued with the scheduled work.

On completion of the work on the 27th September 2019, the backup Recipient contacted the Access Permit Issuer to hand back the TKR_WIL_2 Access Permit and was informed that the Access Permit had been cancelled on the 25th September 2019 by the SRG Global Access Permit Recipient who had originally received the Access Permit.

The re-issue of the permit had not taken place nor had the permit been transferred.

IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN

- Confirmed with all staff that they had been advised of cancellation of Access Permit and to treat line as energized.
- Work areas inspected to ensure all staff and equipment were clear.
- All scheduled outage works put on hold following internal investigation and review.

ROOT CAUSE

SRG Global Access Permit procedure did not have sufficient provision for Transfer or Modification requirements.

LEARNINGS

- Frequency of change - SRG Global Access Permit Recipients are scheduled for the duration of the circuit outages and are rarely changed during an outage. This has happened once before and the permit transfer was then completed with assistance from the incumbent maintenance service provider of that area. The SRG procedures did not have sufficient provision for change management in regards to Recipient changes during outages.
- Communication - The Issuer should be given a courtesy call every morning and every evening to advise them of work status.

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