

# Working together on health and safety

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Senior Technical Officer

&

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Technical Officer

16<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**WORKSAFE**

Mahi Haumarū Aotearoa

***Energy Safety***

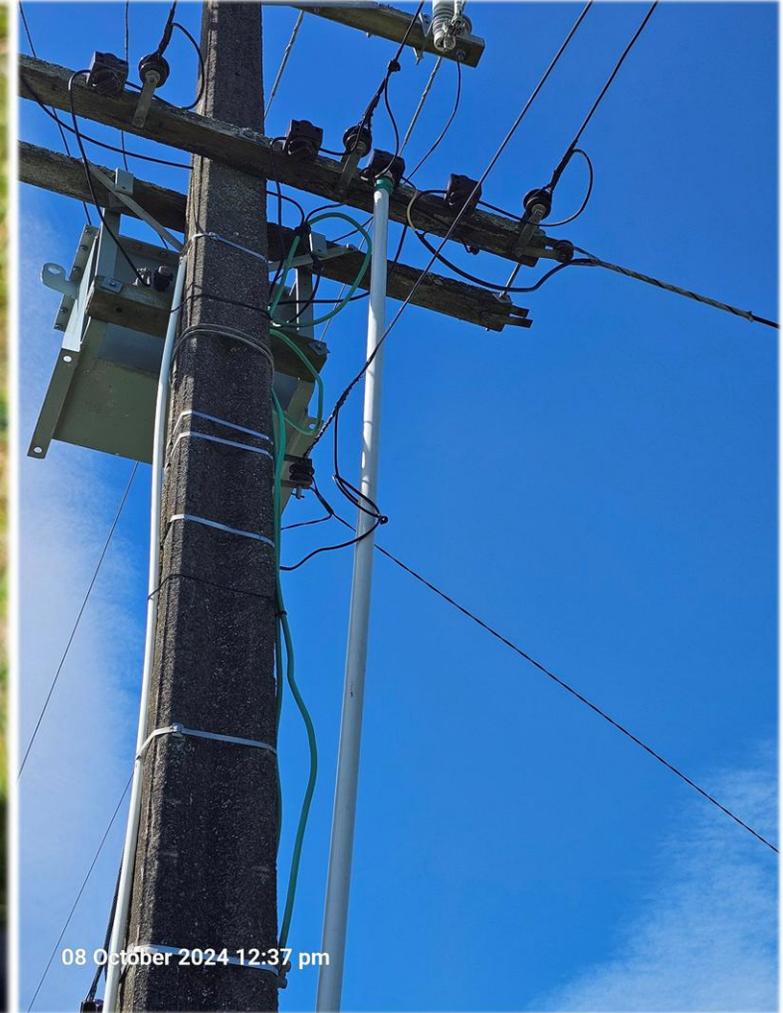
## Who we are

**WorkSafe – Energy Safety is an operating unit of High Hazards, Energy and Public Safety group of WorkSafe New Zealand. Energy Safety is the regulatory authority for the safe supply and use of gas and electricity in New Zealand through the administration of the Gas Act 1992 and the Electricity Act 1992**



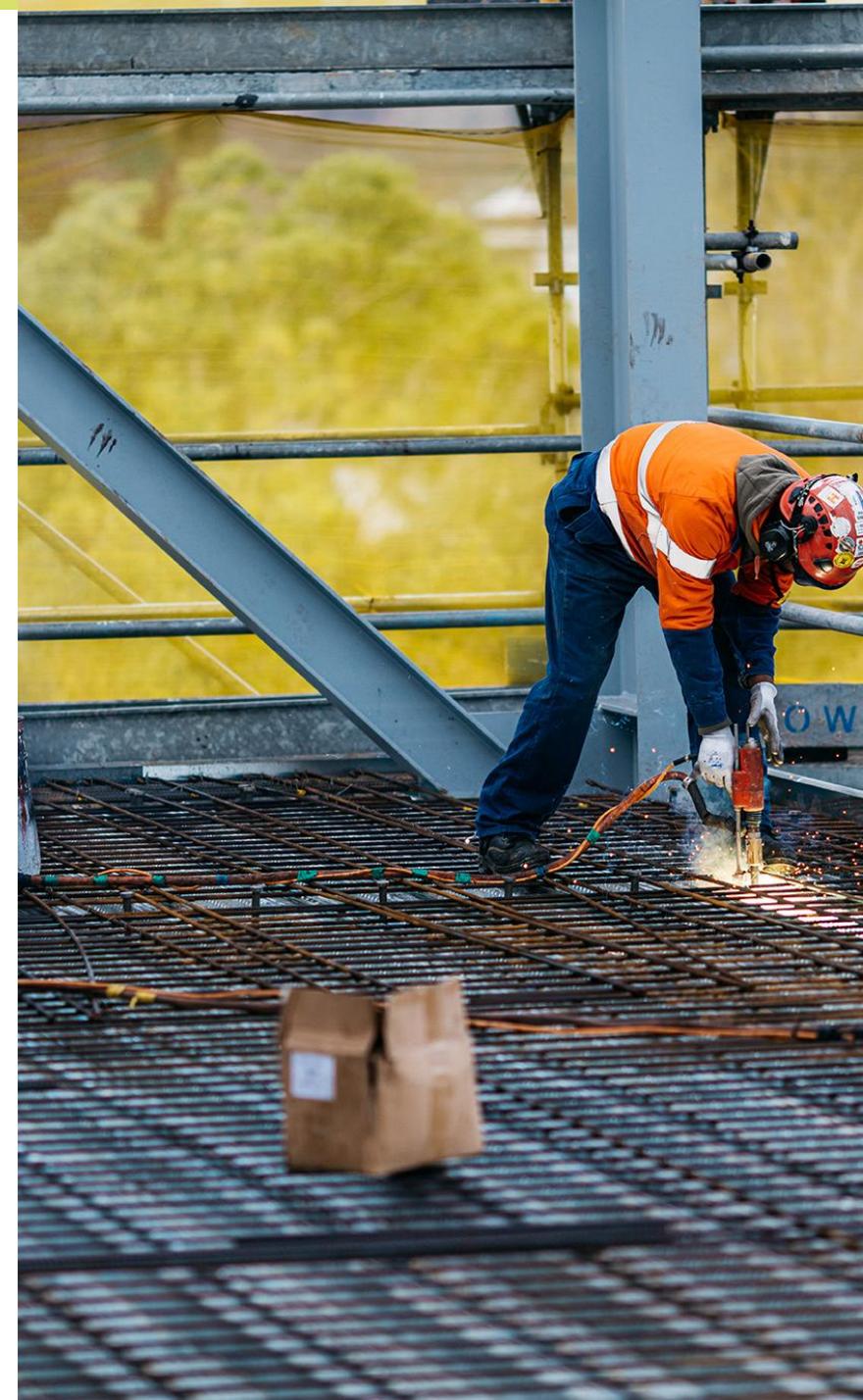
# Question time

Who has never  
heard of  
WorkSafe –  
Energy Safety?



# What we do

WorkSafe - Energy Safety carries out such enquiries, tests, audits or investigations as may be necessary to determine compliance with legislation.



# Overview of Energy Safety functions



- **Audits**

- Product audits
- Network audits
- Certification audits
- Installation audits

- **Investigations**

- Accidents
  - Fatal & serious harm
  - Damage to any place
- Unsafe events
- Non-compliance

- Regulatory Inquiries
- Approvals/Exemptions
- Gazette Notices and Prohibitions
- Safety Alerts/Articles
- Stakeholder Engagements
- Standards Work
- Opinions and clarification of regulations
- Compliance action – Infringements and Prosecutions
- International work

# Where we fit in

- Energy Safety Technical Officers have delegated functions and powers under the Gas and Electricity Acts
- WorkSafe Health and Safety Inspectors are warranted under the Health and Safety at Work Act (HSWA)



# Standards Update



Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE)

- There is a minister's paper online that you can access.



# Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Amendment regulations 2024



- The Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003 has been updated to incorporate the 2024 amendment.



# Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Amendment regulations 2024

The amendments include, but are not limited to the following:

## Extended Notice Zone:

The "notice zone" around power lines, where trees must be trimmed to prevent encroachment, has been extended by one meter.

## Clear-to-the-Sky Growth Limit Zone:

The GLZ is now "clear-to-the-sky" for high voltage lines with spans less than or equal to 150m and for lines with spans more than 150m, meaning there is no upper vertical limit to the zone.

## New Cut-Back Zone:

A new "cut-back zone" extends one meter outside the GLZ. Trees must be trimmed to avoid encroachment into this zone.

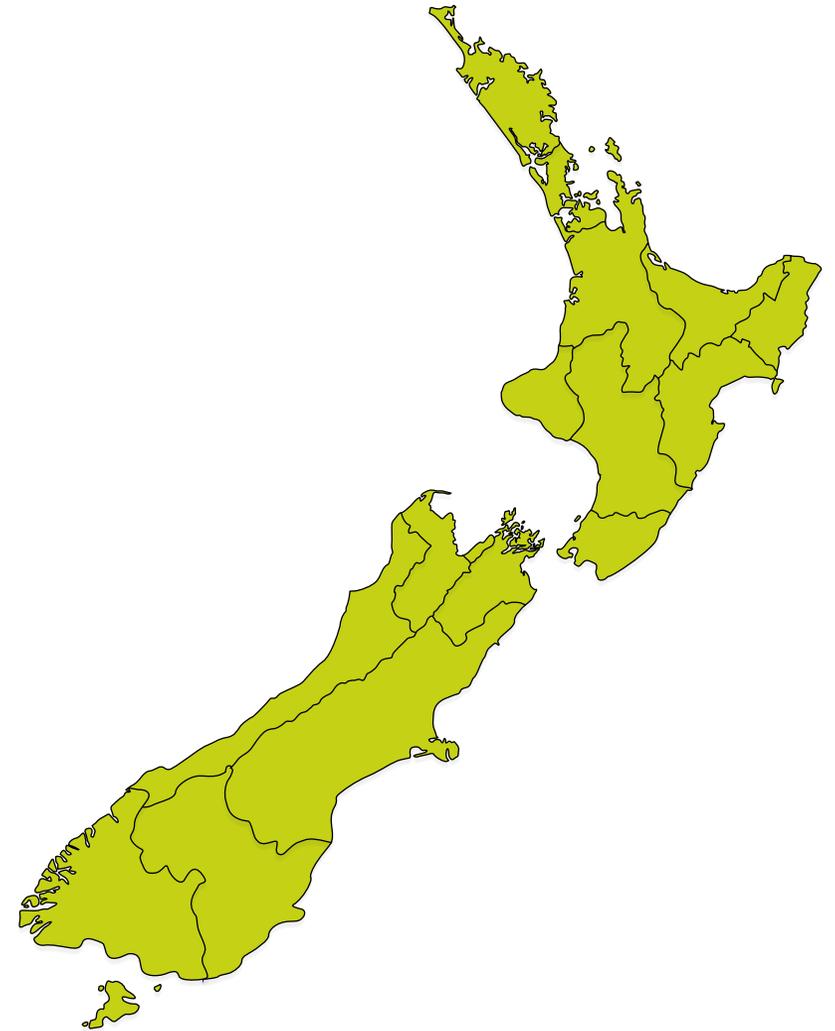


# Notifying WorkSafe

Information on notifying WorkSafe is located on [www.worksafe.govt.nz](http://www.worksafe.govt.nz)

It can find it under the ‘Notifications’ tab

It will say ‘What events need to be notified?’ simply click on it and you will be guided to the correct page.



# Notifying Energy Safety

Information on notifying WorkSafe - Energy Safety is located on [www.worksafe.govt.nz](http://www.worksafe.govt.nz)

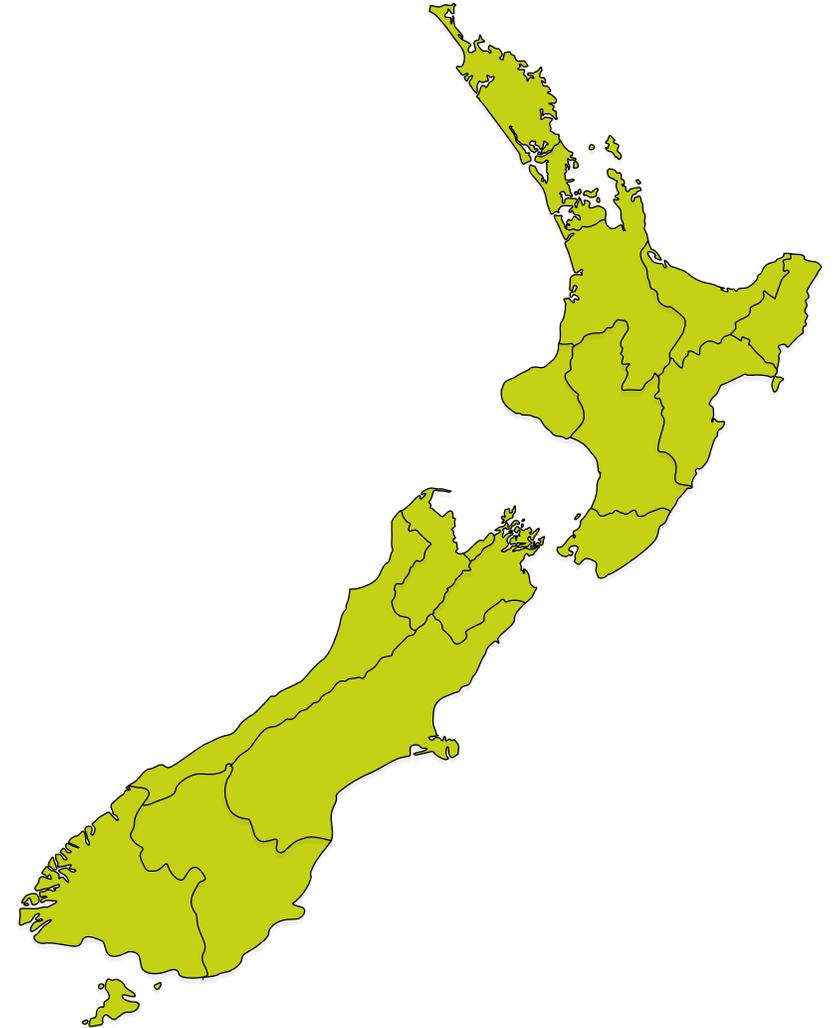
It can find it under the 'Notifications' tab

There are 2 different choices for notifying Energy Safety.

One will say 'Electricity or gas event notification'

The other will say 'Installation fault notice'

Click on it and you will be guided to the correct page.



# Working near utilities and services



On the WorkSafe website you will be able to find useful information that may assist your business. Topics covered:

Part C - Managing safety risks for road and roadside workers

## 22.0 Working near utilities and services

Steps should be taken to identify and avoid striking above and below ground services and utilities.

### On this page:

- [22.1 Introduction to managing the risks of working near utilities and services](#)
- [22.2 What could go wrong when working near utilities or services?](#)
- [22.3 Control measures for working near underground utilities and services](#)
- [22.4 Control measures for working near overhead electric lines](#)
- [22.5 What to do if you strike a utility or service](#)
- [22.6 More information on working near utilities and services](#)

# Guidance removed from WorkSafe website – May 2025



Information on guidance being removed can be found on [www.worksafe.govt.nz](http://www.worksafe.govt.nz).

When on the home page, follow this pathway:

About us › Information requests › Information releases ›  
Guidance removed from WorkSafe website – May 2025.



# Question time

Who knows the risks best?



# Energy Safety – Safety Alert



## Transposition cases on the rise

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**Energy Safety**

July 2022

### Serious incidents resulting from the use of live polarity testing

This safety alert is for all electrical workers required by law to undertake a polarity test prior to doing a connection.

SAFETY ALERT



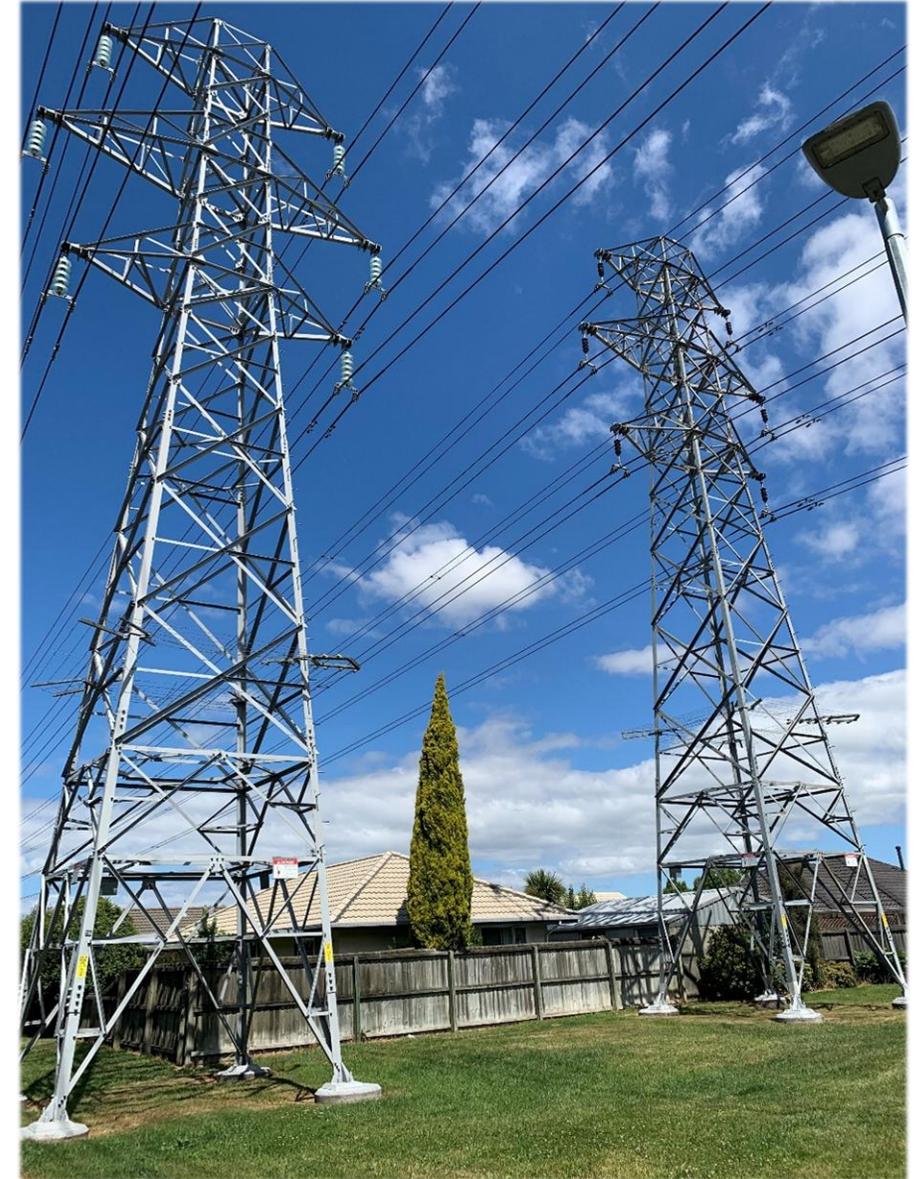
# Incident



## Security of assets

Ensure that the assets they own are secure.

Ensure deterrence's are in place where necessary and are well maintained.



# Interference with a scene



- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 Section - 55 Duty to preserve sites
- Electricity Act 1992 - Section 17 Interference with scene of accident



# Audits

## SMS Requirements

- Section 61A of the Electricity Act 1992
- Including physical audit of network assets section 6 of the Electricity Act 1992
- The Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010
  - Regulation 47-56



### Statutory declaration

Health and Safety at Work (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) 2016: Evidence of Work or Employment Experience Prior to 1 January 2014

FORM

<b>I:</b> (full name)	<b>Signature of declarant:</b>
<b>Of:</b> (home address)	
<b>Occupation:</b>	<b>Declared at:</b> (place)
	On the _____ day of _____ 20____
	<b>Before me:</b> (full name)
	<b>Authority to witness:</b> (eg Justice of the Peace or solicitor of the High Court)

solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. the document attached to this statutory declaration is a record of my employment or work experience; and
2. I have been unable to obtain certification of this record by the relevant supervisor or employer; and
3. the information contained in the record of my employment or work experience is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.

### 53 Statutory declaration by safety management system operator

Every 5 Years

15/09/2016 10:00:00 AM

New Zealand Government

worksafe.govt.nz 0800 030 040 1/1

# Questions and Answers



# Ngā mihi nui

Getting you home healthy and safe.  
That's what we're working for.

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