SAFETY BULLETIN B360

Stay Safe

UK Power Networks
Delivering your electricity

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Issue 02

PROXIMITY TO DOWNED OHL CONDUCTORS

Re-issued with new instructions in the 'What You Need To Do' panel.

OVERVIEW

Following the grounding of 3 x 11kV conductors by a fallen tree, the circuit was subsequently re-energised by the Control Engineer whilst the onsite Engineer was near to the downed conductors.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Inform Dispatch and / or Control by phone on arrival on site before approaching any areas with possible grounded conductors present.
- Treat all conductors as live until proven dead and released under a safety document.

DETAIL

Whilst responding to an 11kV overhead line fault a Field Engineer arrived on site to discover that a tree had come down and grounded 3 x HV conductors.

On discovering the grounded conductors, the Field Engineer left a note in the job, via SAP Work Manager, to confirm the conductors were grounded and left a call back with HV control.

Shortly after the call back request was made the network was tried back in as the 30 minutes had lapsed. The line was re energised before tripping out again, at which point the call back from Control was made to the onsite Field Engineer.

When the attempt to re-energise the circuit was made, the Field Engineer was approximately 4 metres away from the conductor.



Control Engineers only check for damage calls that have been logged into an incident from members of the public calling into the contact centre, before trying a circuit back. On this occasion no damage call had been logged. A member of the public did report hearing a bang but did not see any low or grounded conductors.

You must never assume that Control are aware of any low or grounded conductors unless you have verbal confirmation from them that they are aware. Even then our safety rules tell us that conductors are NOT safe to approach and handle until they have been correctly isolated, earthed and released under a safety document.

Primary communication via Line Manager complete by (X)		1 week	**X**	2 weeks		1 month
Additional communication (X)		Learning points		1st 15	**X**	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.						