

Working together on health and safety

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WORKSAFE
Mahi Haumaru 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.



What we do

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
- Unsafe events
- Non-compliance

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

Notifying WorkSafe

Under which section of the Electricity Act 1992 must certain electricity-related accidents be notified to WorkSafe?

Under **section 16** of the Electricity Act **1992**, certain electricity-related accidents **must be notified to WorkSafe** forthwith once the **appropriate person becomes aware of the accident**, including accidents involving electricity that result in serious harm or significant damage that makes a place, or part of a place, unusable.



Preservation of the scene of an accident



And if the scene is interfered with, what must be done as soon as practicable?

Under which section of the Electricity Act 1992, the scene of such an accident must not be interfered with without permission from WorkSafe, or if WorkSafe is not present, a constable or fire brigade member, except where necessary to prevent further injury or damage, or to restore the safe supply of electricity.



Notification Portals



Non-workplace electricity or gas accidents:
Notify WorkSafe through the [Notify WorkSafe](#) web page or through the [Notify WorkSafe](#) app. If you have any questions to help you to provide all the information we need, Notify WorkSafe or call 0800 030 040.

Installation faults:

Energy workers must report installations that present an immediate, existing danger to life or property. First inform the owner or occupier and make the situation safe where possible.

Unsafe electrical or gas products/appliances:
Report safety concerns through the [Product/Appliance Complaint form](#). Consumers should first raise product or service issues with the retailer or service provider where appropriate.

Notifications

Non-workplace gas and electrical accidents may be reported here. If you wish notify a workplace accident that has resulted in serious harm to any person or significant property damage, then WorkSafe New Zealand should be contacted as soon as possible at 0800 030 040 or through our [Notify WorkSafe](#) web page.

If you are an energy worker and you believe you have identified an installation where there is an immediate, existing danger, (that is where the actual danger to life or property, if not averted, would result in harm to people or property in the immediate future) then you have a duty to report it here.

If you are a consumer, problems with electrical or gas products or services should first be resolved with the retailer or service provider using the provisions of the Consumer Guarantees Act. The [Consumer Protection](#) group of MBIE can provide advice on this. If there is a gas or electrical safety issue you can report it here.

Notification of a Non-Workplace Event

Report an accident.

Begin →

Installation fault notice form

Report an unsafe installation.

Begin →

Product appliance complaint form

Report an unsafe product.

Begin →

Guidance



WorkSafe website → A to Z topics and industries → Energy Safety

[Safe electric vehicle charging](#)

[Electrical safety for tiny house and imported buildings](#)

[Working near low voltage overhead lines](#)

[Safe use of lithium-ion batteries and battery products](#)



High-risk database



A centralised registry for high-risk gasfitting and prescribed electrical work (PEW).

Key details of the database:

Public Access: Anyone can freely search the Electricity and Gas High-Risk Database

Worker Obligations: Certifying gasfitters and electrical inspectors must enter records into the database within 20 working days of an inspection.

Accessing the Portal: Authorised workers can manage their certifications and lodge documents by signing into the portal.



Statutory declarations

Which regulation in the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 deals specifically with the statutory declaration by a Safety Management System Operator?

Regulation 53 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010,

What is the requirement?

Safety management system operator **must make and provide WorkSafe with a statutory declaration** confirming that their safety management system has a current audit certificate.

When must this be done?

This must be done **at least once every five years**, with the first declaration due **within six months after the first audit**.



Switch on your smarts - Energy Safety Campaign



Claude the Cat is the lead character in WorkSafe Energy Safety's 'Switch on your smarts' public awareness campaign, encouraging New Zealanders to **“take a sec to check”** they are using electricity and gas safely at home.

The campaign uses a memorable safety mascot to promote simple checks that prevent fires, shocks, gas incidents, and unsafe DIY work.



Current trends



- Loose and broken neutrals throughout various networks.
- Distributed generation (DG) approvals being signed off, however the PV array installation is non-compliant and potentially electrically unsafe.



Questions and Answers



Ngā mihi nui

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

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