Northpower

Lessons Learnt – LL065

Employee hurt due to concrete pole failure while tensioning conductors

This Alert is applicable to:

Fibre		Distribution		Transmission		Wider Business	√

Date of issue: 26/04/2016

Incident	Description
Date incident happened	08/03/2016
Where it happened	Rangiuru Rd, Paengaroa, Bay of Plenty
What happened	An un-supported existing concrete termination pole broke, injuring a Line Mechanic while newly installed conductors were being strained up and tensioned.
Why it happened	The line design did not consider the construction loadings and the risks associated with the extra loadings being applied to one side of the pole were not identified, discussed or controlled.
The important things you should remember about this	Supervisors and staff must "push back" if they are not receiving adequate planning information and methodologies for completing the tasks.
What you must do in future	A risk assessment must be conducted to identify the hazards and agree to and apply methodologies and controls to manage those risks identified accordingly and affectively.
SM-EI Reference	SM-EI - 1.607 (d) Work on Poles, Pole Structures and Associated Equipment. SM-EI - 1.402 General Responsibilities of Supervisors.
Released by	Phil Neal, HSQ&E Advisor, Northpower Central