Overhead Line National – Safety Note

nationalgrid

TITLE – FALL ROPE DESIGN FLAW - UPDATE

WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

- Whilst working on a plant status scheme on the 4ZH route – Tower 94
- A linesperson reported that when accessing a ladder via their fall rope they noticed that the pear karabiner had inadvertently threaded through the gate of the scaff hook.
- This could have caused a catastrophic fall from height if the individual had not noticed as all of their weight would have been held on the scaff hook retaining pin.
- The linesperson effected by this situation re rigged the fall rope the correct way and proceeded on with their daily tasks
- A near miss was raised as soon as it was safe to do so – IMS 565679
- No one was injured in this incident.

KEY LEARNING POINTS:

- Never assume working at height PPE has been rigged correctly
- Ensure pre use checks take place prior to using any working at height PPE
- Implement brother's keeper (checking of other team members working at height PPE)





ACTIONS REQUIRED:

- Raise awareness via safety note
- Notify Equipment and procedures engineer so that this flaw can be designed out of future fall ropes
- Watch embedded video which highlights how easy this can happen.
- Issued fall ropes of this design need to be removed from service and disposed of as per working at height PPE guidelines.
- None issued Stock items held at base locations shall be quarantined until further notice.
- Report stock amounts back to Equipment and procedures Engineer.

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