

Safety Bulletin No. 08/2016

LIFTING OF WOOD POLES – STAY WIRES

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Applicable to	All Electricity North West and Contractor personnel involved in lifting operations

A near miss has occurred when a wood pole that was being lowered to the ground using a lorry mounted loader fell onto the vehicle. A safety exclusion zone was being correctly maintained as the pole was being lowered which prevented any injury.

The cause of the pole falling was a loose stay wire that was still attached to the pole catching and releasing the spring loaded safety catch on the grab hook. As the pole was then being moved the chain holding the pole came out of the grab hook resulting in the pole falling.

Lose stay wire attached to pole



Grab hook with spring loaded safety gate



To prevent any recurrence of this incident and possible injury the following recommendation are made:

- When lifting and moving poles using grab hooks any stay wires should be removed or secured to the pole so they are not hanging loose.



Safety

