

Newsflash - 2016 15**02 December 2016**

Every employee and contractor, working for Northern Powergrid, should go home at the end of each shift uninjured and in good health after a productive days work

Fatality due to Line of Fire Incident

An incident occurred on Friday 18th November 2016 at a substation in Buckinghamshire involving a member of another electricity company.

The individual was seriously injured while attempting to move a heavy load using a lorry crane. He was transferred via air ambulance to hospital but, we are saddened to report that he later died as a result of his injuries. Our thoughts are with his family and colleagues.

The incident is under investigation; however, initial learning indicates that it is relevant to issue a reminder about the controls applicable to all lifting operations.

Managers responsible for operatives who undertake these loading and unloading activities using mechanical plant need to ensure their teams work to the appropriate controls for lifting operations, lifting equipment and mobile plant operations. All lifts shall be planned, assessed and a safe system of work shall be established and followed for every lifting operation.



Reminder for staff involved in lifting operations

- Only trained and competent persons shall use lifting equipment.
- Before the lift is undertaken pre-use checks of the crane control system shall be undertaken to ensure it operates correctly.
- The work area shall be controlled – exclusion zone and safe zones are to be established and briefed out as part of safe system of work to protect personnel.
- No one, including the operator, shall be permitted to enter the exclusion zone during the lifting operation.
- Lifting operations shall be suspended / stop if anyone enters the exclusion zone.
- Ensure controls are in safe, locked position and cannot be operated before allowing any entry into the exclusion zone.
- Where remote control operating consoles are provided, they are intended to assist the visibility of the loading/unloading process whilst keeping operators out of the line of fire – under no circumstances should the operator attempt to enter the exclusion zone whilst in control of the crane.
- Control of the load must be carried out by use of ropes or other equipment that keep the operatives out of the exclusion zone and therefore out of line of fire.

Look out for yourself and your work colleagues and think - What-if!