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Issue 01

RECENT INDUSTRY FATALITIES

OVERVIEW

In the last seven days, there have been two incidents within UK DNOs where electricity workers have tragically lost their lives.

Both incidents are under investigation by the Health Safety Executive. Following an update via the Energy Networks Association, we understand that contact with electricity was the cause of death in both incidents.

UK Power Networks have expressed our support and offered any possible assistance to the DNOs involved at this difficult time.

Scan the QR code with your smart phone or toughpad camera to view a message from Basil following these recent events.

Hyperlink to Basil's video

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Always thoroughly assess risks on site and communicate these to all of the working party.
- Always follow the Distribution Safety Rules and never break them.
- Follow our policies and procedures; they are there to ensure safe working.
- Safety is non-negotiable. Remember DSR 1.7 and the grounds to object.
- Always wear your PPE. It is the last line of defence, but could prevent serious or fatal injury.
- Please go home safely, every day. Your families and loved ones count on you.

DETAIL

On the 13th of August 2020, an employee from SP Energy Networks was involved in an incident while carrying out Low Voltage jointing. Whilst emergency first aid was administered, and the emergency services attended swiftly, the individual died at the scene at just 32 years of age.

On the 19th of August 2020, an employee of NIE Networks was working in an EHV substation when they were involved in a fatal incident whilst at height when seeking to apply portable primary earths. The individual was just 33 years of age.

There has also been a third fatality in Ireland involving a DNO's parent company, where a contractor died as a result of crush injuries.

As more information and learning from both incidents is made available, we will ensure this is shared across the business. Where there are lessons for UK Power Networks we will act with urgency to apply these across our company.

It is the responsibility of line management to ensure all appropriate employees are issued with this document and to check their understanding of its content. This document will be subject to compliance audits within 14 days from the date of issue.

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