

HSE Alert Form



Alert Number: 2015.10

eSafe No	INC-1121082	Location	Meisseners Road, Biloela	Date	25 February 2015
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Description of Hazard/Incident (What happened?)

Burn to hand during operation of consumer's Main Switch

Extent of Impact (Details of injury, environmental harm, equipment damage, etc.)

First aid treatment to right hand of worker following flash burn.

Key Facts (What are the key facts?)

No final conclusions have been drawn as to the cause/s of this incident. In the interests of safeguarding our employees, we request everyone to read this information to reinforce our safety focus on controls and to improve our safety awareness.

- An Ergon Energy fault response crew was tasked to investigate a low voltage supply issue for a customer.
- Crew arrived on site and completed a Daily/Task Risk Management Plan. The customer advised that an electrical contractor had tested the electrical installation and advised that two phases out of three were de-energised at the consumer's main switch. A crew member turned off the main switch to de-energise and isolate the electrical installation. He removed the two identified blown pole fuses located at the pole top for the low voltage aerial service supplying the electrical installation, then replaced two 80amp HRC fuses.
- After replacement of low voltage fuses, the other crew member, while wearing his low voltage Class 00 gloves, removed the cover from the consumer's main switch (3 phase Clipsal P12080 Main Switch) to allow for testing of the three phase supply to take place via the use of a low voltage multimeter.
- On completion of testing it was confirmed that three phase supply was available at the supply side of the consumer's main switch. The cover of the consumer's main switch was then replaced and secured.
- The consumer's main switch showed no visual signs to indicate that the main switch was not fit for purpose.
- The crew member confirmed to the customer that he was ready to restore supply to the customer's electrical installation. At this time he had removed his Class 00 gloves. He then turned the consumer's main switch to the On position. At this time he heard an arcing sound and felt heat on his right hand, and quickly pulled it away. He went directly to a water tap close by and placed his right hand under running water while the customer rang for an ambulance.
- The other crew member removed all three low voltage fuses to the installation to make safe. His workmate was then taken to the Biloela Hospital for first aid treatment for burns to his right hand. He was released later that day, and was able to return the next day on suitable duties.

Actions (Information on corrective actions implemented that may prevent harm and or assist others in preventing a similar occurrence)

Managers and Supervisors are to remind crews that as part of the Daily/Task Risk Management Plan, they consider hazards associated with equipment eg, customer main switch - taking into account the age, condition and location, when re-energising after a loss of supply.

If the integrity of the switchboard is in doubt, staff member to escalate to ECO/ACO to investigate prior to re-energisation.

Contact for further Information

Name: Brian Dingle	Position: Customer Delivery Manager Fitzroy
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IMPORTANT NOTES:

This advice is provided in confidence for distribution to ENA members for information only. This advice has not been modified by ENA.

The issuing company must refer to the "Guidelines for the notification and distribution of ENA Significant Incident Advice" before issuing this Significant Incident Advice.

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