

SIGNIFICANT ELECTRICAL SAFETY INCIDENT ADVICE



esaa **02/2005**

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT ALERT

DATE: 26/04/2005	NUMBER OF PAGES: 1 (INCLUDING THIS SHEET)
DATE OF ACCIDENT/INCIDENT: N/A DATE OF INITIAL TRANSMISSION: 26/04/2005	esaa NUMBER: 02/2005 esaa DATE OF TRANSMISSION: 28/04/05

Brief description of accident/incident (include voltage):

During March, an incident occurred where a natural round pole failed in service and the pole in question had been recently inspected and deemed fit for service, although after the failure the pole was noted to have very little good wood and the rot included white pocket rot

Extent of injury/damage

N/A

Local action taken:

An audit was undertaken of the poles inspected in the same area and at similar times to the pole that failed. The audit revealed that

- The original inspections did not include excavating to 350mm all round the pole as required by the pole inspection procedure
- White pocket rot was not identified and deemed to be good wood
- There was a poor understanding of the impact of checks in the pole and how this relates to pole diameter

Additional comments:

The consequences of not carrying out pole inspections correctly can be very serious. In this case we were lucky that no one was injured or any property damaged. Not having the poles inspected correctly could easily have resulted in a death or severe injury to anyone climbing this pole or standing next to it when it failed.

FURTHER INFORMATION - CONTACT:

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