

## UNITED ENERGY SAFETYGRAM



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### ESAA No: 19/2003

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<b>DATE OF INCIDENT:</b>	04/02/03	<b>UE NUMBER:</b>	2003-002

#### Brief description of accident/incident (include voltage):

A United Energy work party were undertaking a planned job to replace a two pole substation to a single pole substation.

Whilst undertaking low voltage isolations in preparation to remove a bay of conductor a United Energy construction lineworker was distracted by another crew member from his task and failed to open a set of low voltage fuses. Another member of the work party then failed to test the conductors prior to cutting them. The conductors were not controlled, resulting in a live conductor being dropped onto the Optus catenary cable causing them to clash.

The employees were wearing all required PPE equipment and LV mats were in place for live low voltage work.

#### Injuries/Damage:

The clashing resulted in an Optus technician (working from an EPV at the next pole) to receive slight burns to his shoulder and stomach from the falling molten aluminium.

Optus Assets Catenary cable damaged

#### Local action taken:

- The work party ceased work and made the site safe.
- The incident was reported to the OCEI.
- United Energy commenced an investigation into the incident

#### Additional comments:

United Energy reminds all employees and contractors of the following requirements: -

- To isolate and prove de-energised by testing Low Voltage conductors before cutting them. As per Section 8-15 of the VESI Lineworker's Handbook and Green Book clauses 10.1, 10.1.3,
- To control conductors and avoid shock loads when lowering them. As per Section 6-52 of the VESI Lineworker's Handbook and
- To document all hazards and controls on job safety assessments As per Green Book clauses 10.3.2, 12.1.

**Potential Severity:** High

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Robert Foord Field Practices and Compliance 03 9265 7816