

# TXUAUSTRALIA SAFETYGRAM

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## ESAA No: 22/2003

<b>DATE:</b> 02/05/04	<b>TXUAUSTRALIA SAFETYGRAM</b>
<b>DATE OF INCIDENT:</b> 28/03/03	<b>REPORTED BY:</b> John Johnston

### Details of Incident:

The HV bushing bails on underground cable termination elbows on some of the older type terminations may be damaged causing the elbows to be unsecured. This may cause the elbows to pull away from the bushings. This may be a problem when performing works near the elbows, i.e. operating, terminating new elbows at an existing sub.

This problem was noticed on a new project. The jointers were required to terminate a new cable to an existing switch type tee cabinet. The jointers noticed that the white phase on one set of existing terminations and the red phase on the other set of terminations had no bails on them. On further investigation, another bail was also found to be faulty. The control room was notified and repairs were carried out.

### Extent of injury/damage:

Nil injury or damage to assets. If the elbow had been knocked off the potential would have been a flash over, this could have caused injury and damage to assets

### Contributing Factors

Age and type of bails. (see attached photo's). Possible electrolyses on bails.

### Action taken:

The failure of existing assets can have a sudden and unexpected outcome should their integrity be impaired by damage, corrosion or need of maintenance. It is sound practice and should be part of site inspection and Hazard Assessment to inspect to assess and be sure there are no obvious traps awaiting the unaware.

### Additional comments:

Before working on or near older type elbows visually check the condition of the bails. Shut down the cable and replace bails with new type bails as required.

### Severity of incident: HIGH

**FATAL:** Potential to have caused death

**HIGH:** Potential to have caused serious injury, permanent disability, ill health or serious damage to plant and equipment.

**MEDIUM:** Potential to have caused temporary disability or minor damage to plant and equipment.

**LOW:** Potential to have required minor First Aid.

**FURTHER INFORMATION-CONTACT:** Michael Shone, 03 96794077, Mob: 0417320582, michael.shone@txu.com.au