

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT ADVICE



Ergon Energy Corporation Limited

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Postal Address: 109 Lake Street
Cairns Queensland 4870

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INCIDENT DATE: 16 July 2002

INCIDENT DETAILS

An Ergon Energy employee received fatal injuries whilst trying to unhitch a trailable EWP from a 6 tonne truck on the side of the road approximately 30 kilometres north of Warwick.

EXTENT OF INJURY/DAMAGE

Fatal head injuries.

INVESTIGATION FINDINGS

Employee was on his way to commence work at Allora Substation when he was contacted to return to Clifton Substation to assist with high voltage switching, which was in progress. To make a U turn the employee drove off the right hand side of the road. The road shoulder has a gradual incline with an approximate drop of half a metre. The trailer made contact with the shoulder of the road as he drove off the road and the employee reported that he was "stuck". Preliminary findings indicate that the employee then proceeded to unhitch the trailer. During the unhitching process the trailer moved forward. The boom of the trailable EWP struck the employee inflicting fatal injuries.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Ergon Energy has formed a Panel to investigate the incident.
In the interim the Panel would like to reinforce with all employees the need to assess the risks to ensure the stability of any trailer when hitching or unhitching.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Bruce Grimley Group Manager WH&S 07 4050 2818