

SAFETY GRAM

Safety Gram number Citipower/Powercor

30-05

Date Issued esaa – 5/10/2005

esaa Number – 11/2005

Energy Supply Association of Australia Limited

GPO BOX 1823

Melbourne VIC 3001

P: 03 9670 0188

F: 03 9670 1069

emma.henley@esaa.com.au

Aim

To increase safety awareness affecting safe working practices and to provide Incident/Accident information sharing between centres.

Time: 1203
Date: 17th August 2005
Location: New Gisborne

Brief description of incident

Whilst undertaking HV Live Line Work during the construction of a new pole type S/S, deliberate momentary contact was made between the live centre phase O/H conductor and the LL flex that was attached to the centre phase HV fuse unit during the process of establishing the length of flex required. The HV transformer leads were not attached at this stage of the construction.

The three fuse units on the dressing down arm had been installed prior (pole pre-dressed).

Fuses were loaded and closed into the units.

Whilst the momentary contact was made an earth wire (to be used for a HV earth that was coiled on the pole) made contact with the fire choke on the bottom of the fuse unit. It is believed that this cable was clear from the units and was moved with a gust of wind.

When the earth cable contacted the fuse unit the EDO fuse operated with feeder protection also operating causing the feeder CB to trip.



Contributing factors to incident

It was not identified that the loose earth coil proposed a potential risk.
If the EDO fuses had been removed the potential for the incident would not have occurred.

Local action taken

Incident investigated and the work crew discussed the incident.

Additional comments

Crews should be aware of potential hazards that may become apparent throughout the duration of the job.

Any energising of assets should be undertaken in such a way as to minimise the amount of equipment that is to be made alive. eg "only energising to the top of the fuse units"

The incident reinforces why no other work shall be undertaken on a structure while Live Line activities are being undertaken.

Further action

To be discussed with all live line field crews

Potential severity

The earth cable that was energised was coiled and lying on the ground at the time of the fuse operation. This could have resulted in a more serious incident if someone was standing in close proximity to the coil of earth cable at ground level.

Discussion and notification

- Please discuss at Work Group Meeting
- Copy to all notice boards on yellow paper
- Please forward to contractors as relevant

Reported by: Robert Oldfield	Phone: 0409 963 142	Date: 30/09/2005
-------------------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------