

Safety Gram



ABN 89 064 651 109

ESAA No. 31/2003

Safety Gram No. 11-03

AIM

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

TIME / DATE / LOCATION

- February 2003
- Shepparton

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

A work party required access to a double circuit 66kV sub-transmission line to undertake works. A 'safe to earth test' with the use of a 'Modiewark' tester was undertaken on both circuits prior to attaching an earth and short circuit. The test indicated voltage on one of the circuits.

Following discussion between the 'Recipient in Charge' and the 'System Controller' it was concluded that the voltage indication detected was due to induction from an adjacent 66kV line and a nearby 220kV transmission line.

The work party commenced the 'earthing process' and whilst attempting to 'discharge' the conductor a flashover occurred due to the circuit being alive.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO INCIDENT

The overhead line network in the vicinity of the work area is complex including multiple circuits and changes in circuit configuration.

Conclusion drawn that the voltage indication detected was due to induction

LOCAL ACTION TAKEN

Appropriate Authorities notified.

Full incident investigation undertaken.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

No injury resulted.

FURTHER ACTION

Immediate issue of memo to all Authorised Operators and Control Room personnel and their managers reminding them in detail of Safe to Earth Test procedures where induction is suspected. The Operations Manual included an appropriate procedure.

POTENTIAL SEVERITY (Fatality, Permanent Injury, Minor Injury)

Fatality

- Please discuss at Work Group Meeting.
- Copy to all notice boards printed on yellow paper.

Reported by: Barry Culph	Phone (03) 9683 4586	Date: June 2003
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