



Safety Advice 06-2013 (April)(NZ)

Incident Date

On Tuesday the 9th of April an experienced linesman made contact with a live 11kv conductor.

Incident Outline

Work in progress at the time was that the lines team were re-conductoring a section of 11kv line. The task for the day was split into 2 sections for replacement. The team had completed the 1st section in the morning and returned the line to service. Following lunch the team was mobilised to complete the 2nd section of re-conductoring. The team split into smaller work groups and positioned themselves at a number of worksites to prepare equipment on the ground. One of the team members drove past these worksites to the isolation point to switch the line out. On arrival at the isolation point he realised he did not have his network keys and returned to one of the other vehicles to collect them. He returned past the work groups to collect his keys. Immediately following the return passage of the vehicle one of the crew members climbed a ladder and made contact with a live conductor.

No permit had been issued, no testing took place and no earths were applied to the line.

There were no other overhead lines in the area other than the line being worked on.

Emergency services were called and the incident was reported.

There have been no issues identified with the current processes; on this occasion these were not followed.

Our staff member was released after observation and is recovering well. He is expected to make a full recovery.

This incident is currently under investigation and any further information will be made available as a supplementary EEA Safety Advice in due course.

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