



Safety Advice 07-2004 (NZ)

LINE MECHANIC ACCIDENT (FATALITY)

A contractor was carrying out the replacement of two power poles carrying double circuit 11kV conductors. The worksite site isolation required six jumpers to be cut, however, only five were cut allowing the sixth jumper to remain live. When the line mechanic accessed the conductors on the second pole from the front bucket of a digger, he contacted the live conductor.

It appears that at the time of contact, tests had not been carried out to ensure the line was isolated, and earths had not been applied.

The circumstances of the accident are still under investigation and further details will be circulated as soon as they become available.