



## Kopu Switching Incident

During switching for the Kopu disconnecter project there was a miscommunication between PowerCo, NGOC, and Northpower when relaying status of the equipment.

PowerCo advised NGOC that feeder 1102 had been offloaded. The information relayed to Northpower indicated that PowerCo had isolated the feeder, giving the Northpower maintenance switcher access to the equipment.

Industry procedures include a requirement for the maintenance switcher to prove the circuit is isolated using a Voltage Detection Device (VDD) before further action. Once tested, it was found that the feeder was not isolated and the maintenance switcher then contacted NGOC and advised that the equipment was energised, suspending work.



***This highlights the importance of accurate communications and following industry procedures when earthing equipment.***

### Immediate Actions

- Switching stopped to confirm state of equipment
- NGOC confirmed state of equipment with Powerco and switching did not resume until PowerCo had confirmed the equipment was isolated

### Follow up Actions

- Full ICAM investigation to be completed by independent party.
- Once ICAM complete, follow up alert to be circulated.

**For more information, please contact:**

Name	Dougal Forlong
Position	Grid Operation Manager
Mobile	021 221 6090
Email	Dougal.Forlong@transpower.co.nz
Maximo ref	124278
Incident date	10-01-2020