



Hawera Substation 60 ton press hose burst

WHAT HAPPENED?

While pressing a Cicada dead-end termination for the new HWA Bay 100/110 bus as part of the HWA 110kV Bus Rationalization Project, the 60-ton press blew its hydraulic hose causing a minor oil spill on the switchyard metal.

No one was injured as a result of the burst hose, due to the rule that hands are to remain clear during operation of the pump.



IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN

- Minor spill on switchyard metal clean-up and supervisor notified of incident.
- Hose removed from site and taken to Energy Hydraulics in New Plymouth for replacement.

ROOT CAUSE

Suspected hose fatigue. The press is serviced every two years, which includes a visual inspection of the hose. The failure occurred under the crimp section of the hose where it is covered by a sleeve.

The age of the hose was unknown at the time of the incident, but post incident investigation identified the hose to be more than 10 years old.

After consultation with hose supplier, hydraulic hoses have a maximum of 10-year life expectancy dependent on condition and volume of use.

LEARNINGS

- Recommended life expectancy of hydraulic hoses is around 10 years depending on its use.
- ABB to place expiry date onto hose. This date will indicate the date in which the hose must be destroyed, unless determined prior through visual inspection deems hose unfit for service.