

Date Issued: 09 July 2018

Incident Number: 873463

Incident Title: ICAM 54
Live cable strike Pak'nSave

Event Details:

On 13 March at 1530 hours a pillar box was to be installed and connected into a spare de-energised 400V link cable. This was part of a job to supply power to a new car charger at Pak'nSave Frankton. Three of the cables feeding out of the transformer were exposed and one was identified as the de-energised cable. The cable was spiked and cut through on one side (at this stage there was no indication the cable was live). The field workers started to cut the other side of the cable when there was a flash. Immediately after this occurred all work stopped and system control were notified. The investigation identified that several critical controls during the cable identification steps were not adequate to safely identify the correct de-energised cable.

Why ICAM:

This incident had the potential to cause serious injury or harm. Determining the root cause of these failures allows PowerNet to put adequate controls in place to ensure our workmates go home unharmed.



ICAM 54 Outcomes:

- Develop a standardised procedure for cable identification.
- A fit for purpose cable spiking tool is to be purchased for the Frankton depot.
- A standardised and fit for purpose cable identification device is to be purchased for all depots that frequently identify underground cables.
- Provide training on electrical theory relating to neutral identification and testing methods.
- Provide training on cable locating principles and procedures.

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