



SAFETY ALERT!



Incident Date: 12/10/2017
Maximo Incident No: 101648

Drone flown over Halfway Bush Substation

THE INCIDENT

- A service provider employee on site noticed a drone hovering above the Transpower substation.
- It dropped down outside the substation into an area where the local lines company (Aurora) had project construction work going on. The drone was being operated by a crane driver who was working as a subcontractor to Aurora.

IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN

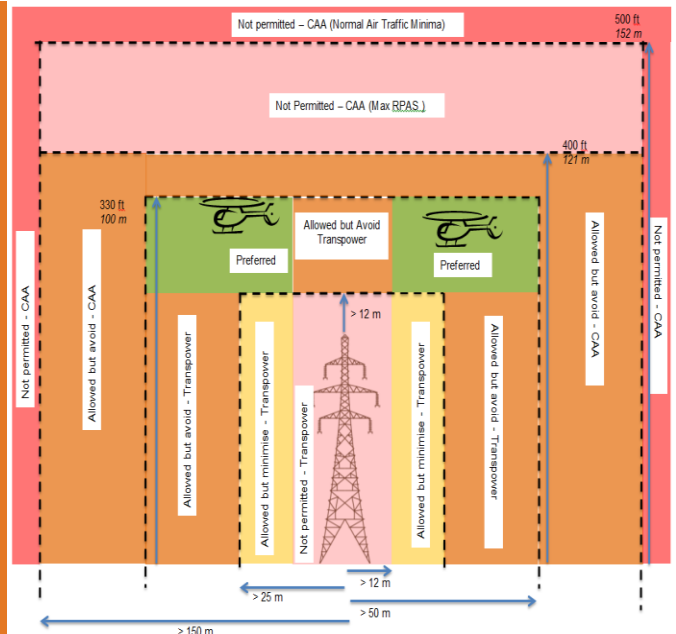
- Talked to the drone operator whom was not aware of the regulations or rules around flying drones near substations.
- Informed Transpower SDM.

ROOT CAUSES

- Operator unaware of Civil Aviation, Transpower or Aurora Rules regarding operating drones around substations.
- Inadequate communication of requirements with subcontractors working around a substation by Aurora.

LEARNINGS - What to do if an unauthorized Drone is observed flying over a live substation

- Clear the switchyard
- Notify NGOC of the issue
- Notify your local service delivery manager and your own manager
- If safe to do so, attempt to locate and identify the operator and gather relevant information (e.g. vehicle registration number)
- Transpower to report incident to CAA



For More Information:

- <https://www.transpower.co.nz/keeping-you-connected/industry/using-rpas-uavs-transpowers-network>
- <https://airshare.uberflip.com/i/861672-flying-with-control-nz-cao-2017>
- <https://www.caa.govt.nz/rpas/>



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