



# *Safety Advice 52-2013(Dec) (NZ)*

## *Transmission – Electric Shock*

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Safety Advice 52-2013 conveys the First Alert courtesy of Transfield Services which concerns electric shock in the course of tree clearing in the vicinity of HV conductors. The Alert refers to Rule 3.703 reduced minimum approach distances. Details of how the tree came close enough for electrical contact will no doubt emerge through investigation, and any available information for future prevention of similar incidents will be published through a supplementary Advice.

The First Alert draws attention to SM-EI 3.703 reduced minimum approach distances. As an extension of this, it is beneficial be reminded of the specific application to tree maintenance work through Note 1 of this rule, which refers to the trees code Part 2 currently in force. Section 5 of this Code requires 'close work' procedures to be used for clearing any parts of trees encroaching the 'close working zone' defined by the 'Radius A' minimum approach distances tabled under figure 1 of the Code.

The full alert follows this advice.

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# First Alert



## Incident Title:

Lost Time Injury: 220kV Electric Shock

## Date of Incident:

Tuesday 17 December, 2013

## Incident Description and Details:

A Transfield Services Vegetation employee received an electric shock while he was working to clear a Pohutokawa tree from the BPE-HAY-A line.

The injured employee was taken to hospital by ambulance, has been treated for third degree burns to his right hand and left foot (the entry and exit points). He remains in hospital under observation.

**An investigation is underway.**



**When working around live conductors always refer to SM-EI's.**

**Rule 3.703 states the reduced minimum approach distances for certain employees near exposed live conductors.**

## Contact Person(s):

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