

ASP Safety Alert Electrical Safety & Authorisations

Alert Number: SA05_19 version 2

18 June 2019

Subject: Live work Pause for Safety – Level 1 & Level 2 ASPs

Dear ASP/1 and ASP/2s,

Following a recent safety incident where one of our line workers received a fatal electric shock conducting live low voltage overhead works, Ausgrid has introduced a pause on live work (**Pause**). This Pause extends to our employees, contractors and Level 1 ASPs conducting work on the Ausgrid network.

Update: Level 2 service work (including work associated with Level 1 projects)

Ausgrid recognises the urgency surrounding the connection of new customers associated with ASP projects. Following the initial work completed as part of the Live Work Pause project, Ausgrid has determined a number of additional interim controls that when implemented, will allow Level 2 service work to recommence.

Further additional controls may be published as the Live Work project continues. These additional mandatory controls include the following:

- An Electrically Qualified Observer for all connections;
- A documented safety discussion with the Supervisor on site prior to commencing work; and
- For overhead works, the workers body position must remain below bare overhead conductors at all times.

Notes:

1. The Supervisor must be a person responsible for the workgroup conducting the work familiar with the requirements of the task.
2. In the planning phase of works, the Supervisor and person/s conducting the work are to attend the site and identify any works that require phasing or neutral identification to facilitate the safe reenergisation of supply. These projects are to have the process for testing (including phasing and neutral identification) and safe reenergisation of supply documented and agreed to with the Supervisor prior to the works commencing.
3. Testing requirements including phasing and neutral identification require verification by another Electrically Qualified person and a record of the verification.
4. The record of verification is to be captured in the pre-start hazard assessment for the project. This must be completed prior to the works commencing, and again prior to re-energisation.

Where the additional controls above can be met, then the Level 2 service work can recommence.

ASP Safety System Requirements

In addition, Ausgrid reminds ASPs of the requirements of their authorisation, in particular the following:

- ASP safety systems must comply with all the relevant parts of Ausgrid's safety management system, including the electrical safety rules;
- ASPs must adequately induct authorised workers into their company's safety management system for undertaking work on or near the network;
- ASP employees and subcontractors must have access to and/or obtained copies of the relevant systems/electrical safety rules of Ausgrid;
- ASPs must provide their employees and subcontractors with all necessary safety equipment and personal protective equipment and ensure that at all times, every employee and subcontractor uses that equipment as required; and
- ASPs must ensure authorised workers hold an appropriate competency in the appropriate use and application of the safety controls required to be in place for the live work to be performed.

Ausgrid requests that all Level 1 and Level 2 ASPs:

- review the requirements listed above to ensure compliance; and
- discuss the requirements with your authorised workers at your team meetings.

Note: SA05_19 version 2 supersedes SA05_19 version 1 published on 29 May 2019.

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