

# ASP Safety Alert Electrical Safety & Authorisations

Alert Number: SA08\_19

4 July 2019

## Subject: Further information regarding additional controls for Level 2 ASPs

The following information is provided in addition to the updated SA05\_19v2 that was issued on 18 June 2019 to assist ASPs in understanding the impacts to their business and the way that they operate, including timing for transition.

### Background

Following the death of one of our line workers, Ausgrid has been reviewing all live work tasks currently conducted by all workers on our network. As part of the initial review, several additional controls were identified that could further reduce the risks to workers when completing live work. These requirements will ultimately form part of our Electrical Safety Rules associated with requirements for working on our network.

The additional controls released were following initial findings from our risk assessment workshops. A decision was made that Level 2 ASP works could recommence on Level 1 ASP projects with these additional controls implemented. These requirements were also shared more broadly to apply to all Level 2 ASP works moving forward.

Ausgrid recognises the impact this may have on Level 2 ASPs and provides the following responses to questions regarding the situation.

If you have any further questions, please email [livework@ausgrid.com.au](mailto:livework@ausgrid.com.au).

### Questions

#### 1. Can you please confirm what is meant by Electrically Qualified?

Electrically Qualified means an Electrician, Linesman or Cable jointer.

#### 2. Please clarify if an Electrically Qualified Observer is required for all connections, including Disconnect & Reconnect?

Yes, an Electrically Qualified Observer will be required for all connections to the low voltage network. This will be reflected in future versions of the Electrical Safety Rules.

#### 3. Does the Electrically Qualified Observer have to be Accredited and Authorised as an ASP with Ausgrid or just electrically qualified i.e. Licenced Electrician / Electrical Contractor OR Linesman OR Cable Jointer?

For ASPs, the Electrically Qualified Observer will need to be Accredited and Authorised as either an ASP/1 or ASP/2. Where they cannot meet the training requirements for an ASP qualification i.e Class 2C overhead works, they can be Authorised as a Class 2X. Note: The Class 2X will be updated in future to include electrically qualified observer. Please see Question 6 for information on the transitional arrangements.

**4. Can the Level 2 ASP use the Site Electrician as the Electrically Qualified Observer?**

The Electrically Qualified Observer needs to have a clear understanding of the work being performed and the risks associated with that work, including training in ESR and how to perform a rescue in the event of an incident. The Site Electrician/Electrically Qualified Observer will need to be Accredited and Authorised as an ASP. Please see Question 6 for information on the transitional arrangements.

**5. Can the Level 2 ASP use an Apprentice Authorised as Category 2X, trained in Ausgrid ESR's, working on or near, EWP rescue training etc?**

Apprentices are not deemed electrically qualified.

**6. Is there going to be a phase in / transition time for these new rules?**

The additional mandatory controls for Level 2 ASP works as specified in Safety Alert SA05\_19v2 apply immediately. The requirement for Electrically Qualified Observers to be Authorised will apply from 1 September 2019.

**7. How is it going to be enforced outside of a Level 1 project where there is not a Compliance Officer on site?**

ASPs have the responsibility for ensuring the safety of themselves and their workers. This includes following the Electrical Safety Rules and other standards relevant to their task.

**8. Is Ausgrid going to notify all customers of the added expense to complete Level 2 ASP works?**

Ausgrid has communicated with key customer groups regarding the live work Pause and we will continue to provide further updates as they become available.

**9. Is there a specific form that needs to be filled out for the Safety discussion? Or is our prestart/JSA sufficient?**

There is no specific form, your company's standard procedures for documenting daily pre start discussion and Hazard assessment would be appropriate.

**Trevor Armstrong**  
**Chief Operating Officer**