

# Another Pile Driver Fatality

## What happened?

A non-WSP engineer involved in the West Gate Tunnel Project suffered severe head injuries after being struck by a snapped piling rig cable and subsequently passed away.

## What do we know?

All WSP staff involved in the project were not near the site when the accident took place.

The following information is based on media reports:

- At the time of the incident, test piles (driven pre-cast piles) were being installed
- The engineer was struck by a lifting cable on a piling rig when the cable became snagged and snapped, striking him around the head and neck
- The engineer was taken to hospital in a critical condition but passed away some days later
- The worksite was shut-down and WorkSafe VIC launched an investigation into the incident.



- All plant and other motorised equipment must:
  - Be operated, maintained and inspected in accordance with regulations and manufacturers requirements
  - Isolated from personnel and other plant where practicable using exclusion zones
  - If deemed unsafe, immediately isolated or removed from service until it can be made safe.

## What do we need to do?

This is the second alert that we have released this year involving a piling rig fatality. Please share this alert with colleagues who may have pile drivers or other hazardous plant in operation at their sites.

A standing reminder that:

- Create exclusion zones that protect workers from the hazards of the equipment
- Ensure machines are not in operation while undertaking inspections in the danger zone.
- Maintain positive communications with operators while adjacent to their work zone.

## Support

Refer to our internal [Plant Procedure](#) or contact our Corporate SHEQ Team via email [ANZ.SHEQ@wsp.com](mailto:ANZ.SHEQ@wsp.com) or phone +61-7-3854-6666.

Employees and their families who may be affected by this event can contact the Employee Assistance Program for free, confidential counselling services:

- Australia - 1300 361 008
- New Zealand - 0800 327 669.