

POTENTIAL CLASS 1 - CONTACT WITH 600V DC OVERHEAD SUPPLY

Glen Waverley Auxiliary Feeder Project, Victoria

At approximately 1:00pm on Saturday 28 July 2018, a Laing O'Rourke Linesmen was working from a Hi-rail EWP on an overhead gantry structure adjacent to the Kooyong Station level crossing. Works were being constructed during a full track occupation. An Electrical Access Permit had been issued for works in the area. Whilst installing a bracket on the gantry structure the worker received an electric shock from a live 600V DC Tram supply feeding the tram overhead lines at the level crossing, which arced from the structure to a bracket he was installing. The service was not identified as part of the Electrical Access Permit issued for the works and the structure and services attached were understood to be electrically isolated.

The worker received minor burns to the tips of three fingers. He was immediately transported to Hospital for further assessment and treatment, including ECG checks, and was later released. Emergency response protocols were enacted and EnergySafe Victoria, WorkSafe Victoria, MTM and Yarra Trams were notified. An investigation was commenced.



The Kooyong Station level crossing, overhead structure and Hi-rail EWP involved in the incident



The bracket showing the burn marks from the electrical arcing

ACTIONS

The investigation is currently underway in the meantime:

- All projects operating on rail networks are to review and satisfy themselves that their current isolation processes are effective and working in accordance with the controls identified in FSR 06: Energised Plant, Isolations and Lockout.
- Particular attention should be given to the following critical controls -
 - Unless all services are confirmed as tested for dead they are to be treated as live.
 - Isolations for all potential harmful energy sources are identified by competent persons.
 - Isolation procedures are specific to the needs of the worksite, as determined by risk assessment.
 - Isolation integrity includes physical try test (check for dead, for all potentially harmful energy sources).



SAFETY ALERT

- The safe system of work must clearly document the roles and responsibilities of the asset owner and persons undertaking electrical work. This must include a process to verify that a test for dead has been undertaken.
- Methodology must be in place to positively identify all services in the field (incl. visual inspection) & methods of isolation, in consultation with the asset owner/s.

30 July 2018