



Zero Fatalities
Zero Lost Time
Zero Road/Speed Incidents
Zero Environmental Incidents
Zero Tolerance of Unsafe Behaviours & Practices



PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 31

Date: 24 July 2020

Focus Group: Individuals, PCBUs and Officers

Topic: Work Around Live Power Lines

Issued by: Nic Steens

Background and Incident: A harvesting contractor felled a tree that has ultimately resulted in a live power line strike (more specific details to come).

Injury Details: Nil to personal at the site, some damage to the power lines.

Risk Awareness: Work around live power lines exposes workers to a critical risk namely – contact with electricity that may result in loss of bodily function and worse, electrocution. We also note that a “...serious risk arising from immediate or imminent exposure to electric shock (from anything that could cause a lethal shock) may also be a [notifiable incident](#) and subject to prosecution – see this most [recent case](#).”

Safe Behaviours: [S. 48 of the HSW Act 2015](#) shows that it is an offence to fail “...to comply with [the] duty that exposes [an] individual to risk of death or serious injury or serious illness.” This is additional motivation to ensure we as individuals, PCBUs and Officers are following our [Safe Op Guidelines](#) including these four critical sections:

- (s6) The ‘All PCBUs site meeting’ – essential to ensure risks are properly managed.
- (s7) Developing and finalising the ‘Electrical Hazard Management Plan’ (EHMP).
- (s8) Completing the ‘pre-start activities’ – ensuring the workers and site are ready.
- (s9) The Branch and Job Manager completing the final double-check on controls.

For Site Manager use (print this document and then complete):

This safety alert is relevant to my site? Yes or No (circle one). If yes, complete the following actions:

1. This safety alert has been discussed with employees and operators
2. I have placed this safety alert on the site notice board or in the safety file

Site Manager: _____
(signature)

Date: / /