

# URD Contractor Newsletter

Energex Limited  
January to April 2019



positive energy

# Introduction

Hi all and welcome to the 3rd edition of the URD Newsletter.

It's great to hear that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas break.

We've had an interesting start to the new year with 2 High Risk Non-Conformances.

I hope for your safety and the public's safety this does not continue.



# What's working well

## Positive Safety Behavior

- It's good to see I have given 2 Positive Safety Behaviors. This is for going above and beyond in safety. One of these PSB recipients has now received 2 PSBs over the last 3 years. Well done.

## Communication During Switching

- I have audited some switching sheets in process. Some of the communication has been good and some needs improvement. Good communication is crucial in switching.

## Face Shields

- It is good to see people wearing face shields when making and breaking load.



# Positive Safety Behaviour Audit Findings

## Work Practice

- After testing L/V mains and identifying the neutral a zip tie was placed on the neutral main. This is the first time I have witnessed this and I was highly impressed by this work practice.

## Site Set Up

- A great effort was put into construction site set up. Good barriers and excellent signage.



# High Risk Audit Findings

## Traffic Management

- No Traffic Management Plan or Traffic Control on site
- Employees had no knowledge of contractor's Traffic Management Plan process

## Incorrect PPE

- Employee wearing short sleeved business shirt while performing LVSO role

## Customer Safety

- Customer's switch board left unattended with live parts exposed. Opened meter panel and removed escutcheon panel to perform phase rotation. Conducted phase rotation.
- Closed meter panel and meter box door and failed to reinstate escutcheon panel therefore, customer/public would have access to exposed live parts without the use of a tool.



# Medium Risk Audit Findings

## PPE

- All class 00 gloves on site out of date not in use

## Tools

- All test equipment out of date on vehicle ( meters, tongs etc )

## First Aid

- First aid kit, all items out of date



# Low Risk Audit Findings

## Eye Wear and Accessories

- **Multiple audits** Contractors wearing non AS1337 eye wear
- **Multiple audits** Sub contractor wearing non 1337 eyewear
- **Multiple audits** T/C not wearing safety eyewear that conforms to AS1337
- **Multiple audits** Sub contractor wearing jewelry
- **Multiple audits** Contractor wearing jewelry
- **Multiple audits** T/C wearing multiple items of jewelry

## PPE

- **Multiple audits** Multiple contractors with sleeves rolled up to elbows
- Hardhat not worn by contractor
- No brim or neck flap
- T/C wearing a soft hat
- Hearing protection not worn by Vacuum truck operator

## Site Set Up

- **Multiple audits** Insufficient construction site setup



# Future focus

## Vehicle

- check sheets and test dates

## Jewelry.

- As the principal contractor it is your legal responsibility to ensure that all contractors including T/C under your control are compliant.

## Quality

- Never leave exposed live parts accessible to the public





# A word from Andrew Craig

## Contracts Quality & Compliance Manager

Currently we are managing the reauthorization of all contractor SAHV qualifications.

Please ensure forms 8572 and the Contractor audits are completed and returned well before June 2019. Please keep the focus on good communication during switching.

Also Mick's reminder highlighting that Head Contractors need to ensure they manage the safety of their subbies is extremely timely.



# A Word From Robbie Palombo

## Subdivision Coordinator

Dear Service Providers

I wish to talk about Separately Earthed Transformer sites. We have had a few situations of late where developments were constructed where the development was designed and constructed as CMEN, however when the earth was tested the reading was greater than 1 ohm.

Examples of these developments are as follows:

- The existing area which was developed many years earlier and not part of any recent subdivision
- The existing area was part of a staged development
- The existing area was part of a staged development, with the intention that moving forward the development will achieve the minimum standards for CMEN

Three transformers being installed, with one having no LV circuits connected – presumably an attempt to comply with the CMEN policy. We have had two of these scenarios submitted in the last three weeks. We identified these when reviewing the designs rejected them. In both cases the number of earths totaled less than 50.

I have had conversations with a number of Design Consultants and Service Providers and it seems to be that they have focused on the requirement for three transformers being a minimum for establishing a CMEN system.

There has been non consideration to the number of isolated earths. Further to this, in a few instances, the number of lots that are being created have been so few, that even with customer earth stakes, there was never going to be 100 earth stakes – as you can appreciate Energex uses the value of 100 earth stakes as a guideline. There are instances where you may achieve a maximum of 1 ohm with three transformers and less than 100 earth stakes. The likely hood of achieving 1 ohm with three PMT's and 40 earth stakes is unlikely.



# A Word From Robbie Palombo

## Roles and Responsibilities

### Designers

- It is the designers' responsibility to assess the earthing to be proposed

### Service Providers

- It is the Service providers responsibility to conduct the necessary earth tests prior to Energising plant.
- It is the Service Providers responsibility to ensure the earthing system being constructed is the correct type for the two systems we have (Separately earthed or CMEN)
- It is the Service Providers responsibility to contact the designer where the readings exceed the maximum value for the earthing system being constructed

### My Team

- My team will NOT be approving readings greater than the maximum values as shown in our standards. Please do not ask.
- The question should not be asked in the first place. If somehow it is approved, it will be rejected by myself or our Engineering Standards team and you will need to ensure compliance with our standards. This will involve both the Design Consultant and Service Provider. A non-conformance will be issued. It will most likely not be withdrawn.

I will be issuing an Operational Alert in the coming days with more details and this information will form part of the content of the Operational Alert.



# A Word from Pat McAuliffe

## Manager Operational Contracts

- Our exposure to the high risk activities and working environment continues to remind us the challenges we face each and every day.
- Please be vigilant to follow documented Safe Work Method Statements and well established Work Practices to ensure the safety and wellbeing of yourselves, your work colleagues and the broader public.
- We continue to learn from recent electrical (working live and switching incidents) along with a range of gravitational incidents (including a fall from height) and are actively focused on learning groups and investigations across EQL to ensure improvement opportunities are harnessed.
- Surveillance auditing will focus on health checks against policy and process and various Safety Management Systems audits will be conducted across a range of suppliers in coming months with a focus on continuous improvement.
- Operational Contracts audit officers will also receive an opportunity to refresh their skills with an EQL audit module that has been in development for some months.





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