

ASP Safety Alert Network Compliance & Authorisations

Alert Number: SA16_19

15 November 2019

High Voltage cables left on private property following network re-configuration

Key Messages

Ensure the correct location of Electrical assets are installed within easements and outside of property boundaries in accordance with Ausgrid's Technical Guide T0005 Field Recording, Network Standard NS130 Specification for laying Underground Cables up to and including 11kV and Policy for ASP/1 Premises connection.

Background

Ausgrid have recently observed multiple incidents where third parties have contacted and damaged energised 11kV cables whilst installing screw pile building foundations along the property boundary.

A contributing factor to one of these incidents, was the decommissioning of existing assets at the location. The ASP failed to appropriately remove the energised 11kV cables from the customers private property and relocate to its correct alignment within the adjacent road reserve as specified in the certified design.

Fortunately, no person was injured as a result of the impact with the High Voltage cable, however, 900 customers lost supply for approximately 5 hours while repairs were made by Ausgrid.

The following Ausgrid documents outline what must be followed when installing underground cables within Ausgrid Network area:

Network Standard NS130 – Specifications for laying Underground cables up to and including 11kV

Section 6.9 - The designer shall ensure that the cable route is fully located within Ausgrid's allocation at standard cover.

Section 7.5 - The location of the easement shall be pegged by a Registered Surveyor prior to commencement of excavation work. If the pegs or marks made by the Surveyor have been disturbed or removed, excavation shall not commence until the pegs or marks have been re-established.

Section 15.1 - Cables must be installed in the correct allocation, and with the specified separation from other cables and the sides of the trench.

Appendix D for further information regarding footpath allocation details.



Policy for ASP/1 Premises connections

Section 7.4 - Immediately before work starts, a registered surveyor must survey and peg all easements and a site and lot boundary at the customer's cost. The pegs must suitably define all curves and bends

Actions Required

ASPs to confirm boundary locations prior to and at the completion of any works to ensure assets have been installed in correct locations as detailed on the certified design.

ASPs to communicate to all employees, contractor's supervisors and project managers the importance of completing works to the certified design as per Ausgrid's requirements outlined in Network Standards, guidelines and policies.

Ausgrid

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