

ASP Safety Alert Electrical Safety & Compliance

Alert Number: SA11_19

10 September 2019

Subject: Installation of Tiger Tails (Tarapoli Pipes) and Insulating mats (Line Covers)

Key Messages

The installation of Tarapoli Pipes (Tiger Tails) and Insulating mats (Temporary Line Covers) as a control for worksite safety management is not a contestable service.

Ausgrid has recently been notified of Tiger Tails and Temporary Line Covers being installed by ASP's for third parties.

Following investigations, it has been confirmed that some ASP's are conducting this work and as such Ausgrid would like to remind ASP's of the below information.

The installation of tiger tails and temporary line covers on Ausgrid's network is not a contestable service and must not be undertaken by Authorised Service Providers (ASP's), unless associated with the management of the safety of appropriately authorised workers performing contestable connection works or contestable asset relocations. The *ASP Scheme Rules (2017)* do not identify the installation of tiger tails or safety equipment as a contestable service that can be provided by ASPs.

The *WorkCover Code of Practice 2006 – Work Near Overhead Power Lines* identifies “tiger tails may be used to provide useful visual indication to cranes, mobile plant operators or other persons working in the area of live overhead power lines, however they do not protect people from the risk of electrocution or electric shock” & “...**Network Operator (Ausgrid)** to fit insulating matting and tiger tails at the point of attachment and over the overhead service lines before the work commences.”.

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has determined that the provision of tiger tails and temporary line covers is a regulated activity in NSW, and has established an alternative control service (ACS) charge associated with this activity. Ausgrid will install tiger tails and or temporary line covers at the request of a customer, and will charge a regulated Ancillary Network Service fee (ANS fee) associated with this request.

The fee for the service is provided in Ausgrid's *Connection Policy – Connection Charges* document, and can be found below along with the rates for rental.

Parties requiring such services, which may include the installation of tiger tails and or insulating matting, should contact Ausgrid on **13 13 65** or email construction.works@ausgrid.com.au.

The installation of tiger tails and or temporary line covers involves greater assessment of network condition and structure loading. After installation, tiger tails need to be inspected regularly, and may need to be adjusted to maintain the safety of the site and network. Tiger tails also have a limited life, and will need to be periodically replaced if they are to be left in place for extended period of time.

Further to this where ASP's have installed tiger tails and temporary line covers for third parties Ausgrid will offer an amnesty to ASP's that come forward within one (1) month of the date of this Safety Alert. After the one (1)

month any ASP that installs or removes tiger tails or temporary line covers for third parties will face a suspension of their Authorisation of up to and including 3 months.

Please note, Ausgrid has commenced an audit program to identify any unauthorised installations of tiger tails or temporary line covers.

For further information, please see Ausgrid's website.

<https://www.ausgrid.com.au/Common/Safety/Working-safe/Workingnearpowerlines/Tiger-Tails.aspx>

**Ausgrid
Project Officers**