

STOPThink!

Working near overhead lines



What happened?

A 360 excavator was tracking to the works area carrying ditching buckets in the main excavation bucket. Whilst travelling under GS6 overhead line protection of overhead 11kv power lines, caught two goalpost lines bringing them down.

Impacts

- There were no injuries although the potential for serious harm was high - the GS6 protection is a control measure in place to prevent the possibility of contact with or arcing from overhead lines.
- All site traffic was halted as the control was no longer effective having sustained damage.

Immediate action

1. Traffic through area halted / works stopped.
2. Both the excavator operator and the banksman were drug and alcohol tested.
3. Full Investigation commenced.
4. Safe repair of damage and reinstatement of GS6 protection planned and undertaken.
5. Haul road level reduced to increase clearance available before works recommenced.

Octavius staff and our suppliers must review plant movement on site where overhead lines are present:

- Ensure that SSoW includes reference to GS6 guidance document and explains the controls in place locally including safe configuration of plant and use of all available alarm systems.
- Ensure that all GS6 controls are in place, communication of these is understood before works and SSoW complied with.
- Report any damage or issues as soon as they are observed.
- **Please confirm via the [SHEA mailbox](#) that the above review has been completed where appropriate, by no later than 31 July 2024.**

