

Shared Learning

Access to critical information

Critical information

What happened?

Contractor was asked by the local network company to download data from Generation companys' protection relays following a network trip event. While access to the wider site is shared 'in general' between network company and Generator there are a number of restricted access areas and equipment where access is limited to authorised persons only. Such persons may contract to multiple clients where measures to ensure safety and security expectations are regulated by the respective Generator or Network company.

Communication alone should not be relied on to prevent persons accessing restricted equipment – additional measures are required.

Hydro Generation Site

What did we learn?

Warning of restricted access can be achieved by:

Physical Access:

Restrict through site lock systems, maintaining accurate records of key holders and auditing on a regular basis.

Communication:

Ensure understanding of where demarcation points are and equipment access protocols.

Passwords:

Establish password only access on equipment comms ports.

Warning notices:

Warning labels at equipment comms ports (eg 'Approved access only') or use of a comms port blockout protector and label.

**PRIOR
APPROVAL
REQUIRED**

