

### Digging Around Damaged 11kV Cable.

#### What happened?

1. A contractor struck and damaged an 11KV cable whilst directional drilling. One phase of the cable was damaged and as such only one of the DDO fuses operated.
2. The remaining two live phases of the cable had the potential to back feed the damage phase through the HV windings of the attached 11KV/400V transformer.
3. The contractor dug around the damaged cable with a digger and then with a shovel.
4. Had the contractor touched the damaged phase of the cable with the shovel this may have been a significant injury or fatality incident.

### Hydro Asset

#### What did we learn?

1. Stopping the work did not occur after the incident.
2. No awareness of the perceived danger posed by the damaged 11KV cable.

#### What did we do?

1. Highlight to the contractor and staff the importance of Stopping Work and notifying the asset owner immediately when an incident occurs or works procedures significantly change.
2. Highlight to the contractor and staff the significant dangers posed by un isolated, unearthed electrical equipment.

**“Treat all electrical equipment as live until visibly isolated and earthed”.**

