

25 kV ac overhead line equipment



Never assume equipment is isolated
– always test before touch.

Brief

This Document comes into force on 30/06/2019

- ❑ When working on or near 25kV a.c overhead line equipment, the equipment shall be assumed live unless in receipt of a Form C. All Form C holders shall witness a test prior to accepting a Form C and commencing work. The test shall be carried out within the specified isolation limits.
- ❑ For the purposes of this document “touch” is defined as any circumstance which requires a person, or any tools (excluding approved insulated tools), coming within 600mm of 25kV a.c overhead line equipment.
- ❑ When touching the 25kV a.c overhead line equipment, once in receipt of a Form C a further test shall be carried out prior to work commencing for the first time at the site of work. The test shall be performed or witnessed by all members of the working group.
- ❑ For competent overhead line equipment staff touching 25kV a.c. overhead line equipment, once in receipt of a Form C and having carried out an initial test before touch, you shall test the new location if: you have moved beyond discrete features in the Overhead Line Structure (such as Section Insulators, Neutral Sections, Insulated Overlaps), moved onto a different track; or moved on to a different conductor.
If there is any doubt, then the test shall be performed again.
- ❑ Only approved test devices shall be used to perform testing.
- ❑ Testing of the overhead line equipment prior to issuing a Form C shall only be performed by a Nominated Person or an Authorised Person..

This lifesaving rule applies to

- ❑ All components which may be energised at 25 kV a.c. This includes but is not limited to,
 - Catenary system including contact wire
 - Bare feeders
 - Autotransformer Feeder (ATF)
 - Supplementary conductors
 - Exposed cable terminations
 - Booster Transformers
 - Harmonic Dampers
 - H.V distribution cables

Note, a supporting HV distribution permit to work may be required in addition to a Form C for some of the above.

This lifesaving rule does not apply to

- ❑ OLE under construction (i.e. not capable of being energised)

Learning for the future

- ❑ Every report of persons receiving an electric shock shall be formally investigated and where necessary using the fair culture process in establishing the cause.
- ❑ A Close Call shall be raised, and an EP Safety Related Event report produced (NR/L2/ELP/27307) when a conductor is tested live and it is not expected to be live.

