Achieving improvements
Public safety is a major focus for ENA and its members. We aim to reduce deaths and injuries to as few as possible. We will achieve this by providing awareness, education campaigns and working with a range of stakeholders.

In the past 10 years, 131 people were killed and 3,374 injured through accidents or by deliberate interference with electricity supply: an average of 13 fatalities and 337 injuries a year. Danger of Death!

Emergency services should not enter electricity substations without authorisation.

Emergency services arrive after people have been killed or injured. Read the section above to understand why.

Our Commitment to Public Safety

Safer networks
ENA has a public safety committee to drive improvements and reduce the number of incidents, in particular deaths and injuries, through providing awareness and contact with the electricity transmission and distribution network.

Working closely with the HSE, ENA has analysed public safety incidents and near misses over the last decade. Our Commitment to Public Safety sets out our intent to work with stakeholders, raising awareness of dangers.

Gas safety issues are also being addressed and will be progressed over coming months. You can download a copy of Our Commitment to Public Safety at www.energynetworks.org/shd

Threat and vandalism
Stealing from orinterfering with electricity substation equipment can lead to a fatal electric shock if an intruder comes into contact with the transmission network.

Fire and explosives
Damage to gas and electricity transmission and distribution networks can lead to secondary explosions, which could cause further deaths and injuries.

Gas dangers

Emergency contacts for gas
Gas leaks Call 0800 111 999 and tell the operator you are – this service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Gas main dug up or breached Contractors should call the emergency help line number on 0800 111 999

Emergency contacts for electricity
Electricity emergency Call your local electricity company, your local gas company or under ‘electricity’ in the phone book

Remember...
The emergency services are regularly briefed about undertaking rescues near damaged and electrical equipment.

In an emergency, call 999

Darker areas and markers are open spaces and open roads.

Emergency services
Police, fire and ambulance crews attend incidents involving electric power lines and equipment. Gas and electricity services are advised to call the electricity company urgently with the precise location of the incident. The industry is committed to engaging with the police and ambulance services in order to protect their staff.

Fishing
Any injury, even a small cut or scratch is dangerous to your health and may cause electrocution. There is no safe distance away from any electricity source.

Caravans and camping
People who use camping and caravaning accommodation should be aware of the dangers of overhead power lines.

Examples of incidents reported include:

- Major injuries – anglers walking across fields to a spark car when their fishing rods touch an overhead power line
- 31-year-old man electrocuted on a pole
- Electricity pylon in the field
- A 14-year-old's carbon fibre
improvements in public safety.

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network essentials

1. Take care in the air. Be aware of power lines during take-off and landing.
2. Thieves and vandals are at risk of death or serious injury.
3. Don’t risk the danger of climbing near power lines.
4. Can you dig it? Ask your local gas or electricity company first.
5. Never start a rescue unless the power supply is guaranteed dead.
6. When operating large machinery, look out for power lines.
7. Tall objects can hit overhead lines. Make sure you keep well clear.
8. Fishing? Watch out for overhead lines or you’re angling for an accident.
10. Look up and look out when flying a kite – overhead lines can kill.