

Emergency Services

Top Tips

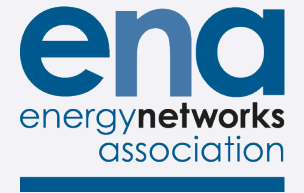
- Do not touch or get close to overhead power lines. Always assume they are live unless the local energy network operator has told you they are dead.
- Keep 5 metres away from fallen or damaged overhead power lines.
- Keep all people, your equipment and water clear from apparatus on the electricity network until advised otherwise by the local energy network operator.
- Make sure you know who to contact and how in the event of an emergency.
- Do not start a rescue before safety has been confirmed.
- In any event involving electricity network assets, ensure the local energy network operator is contacted immediately.



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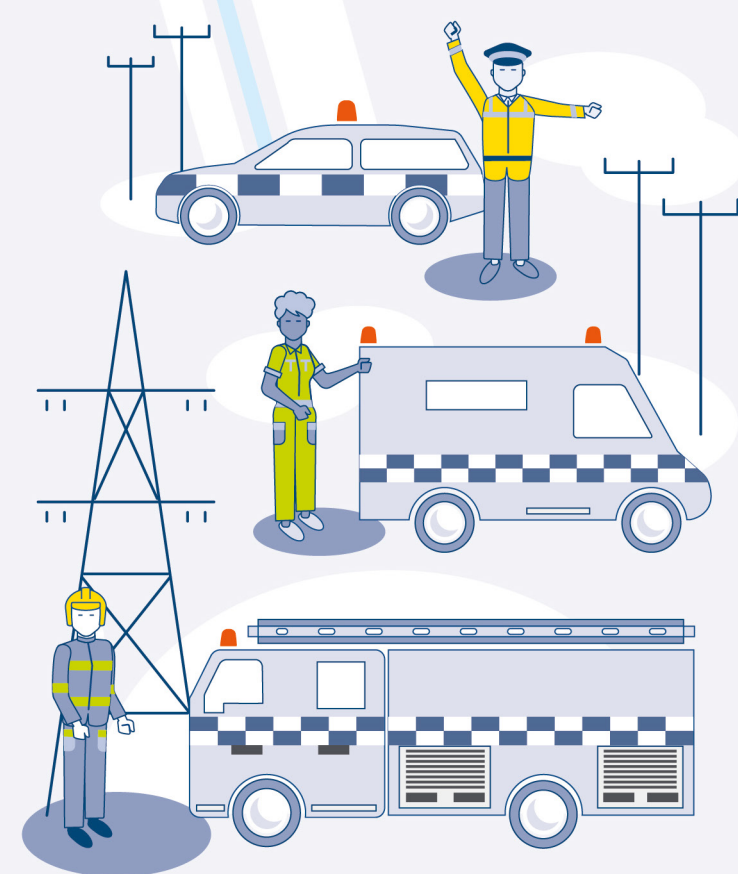
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Emergency Services

Safety advice for the Emergency Services.



Emergency Services

This leaflet has been produced to help inform the Emergency Services on what they must do if they are called to deal with an incident which involves equipment on the electricity network such as overhead power lines, underground cables, link boxes and substations.

In every emergency situation that you as an emergency service provider attend, overhead power lines, underground cables, link boxes or substations (electricity network assets) may be involved, or be in close proximity.

Even low (domestic) voltage can be fatal, and electricity can jump large gaps. So it is vital that you work safely in the vicinity of electrical apparatus and substations. This leaflet provides a basic guide to keeping safe from equipment on the electricity network when you attend incidents. The information must be used in conjunction with your in-house procedures.

Emergency contacts – who to contact

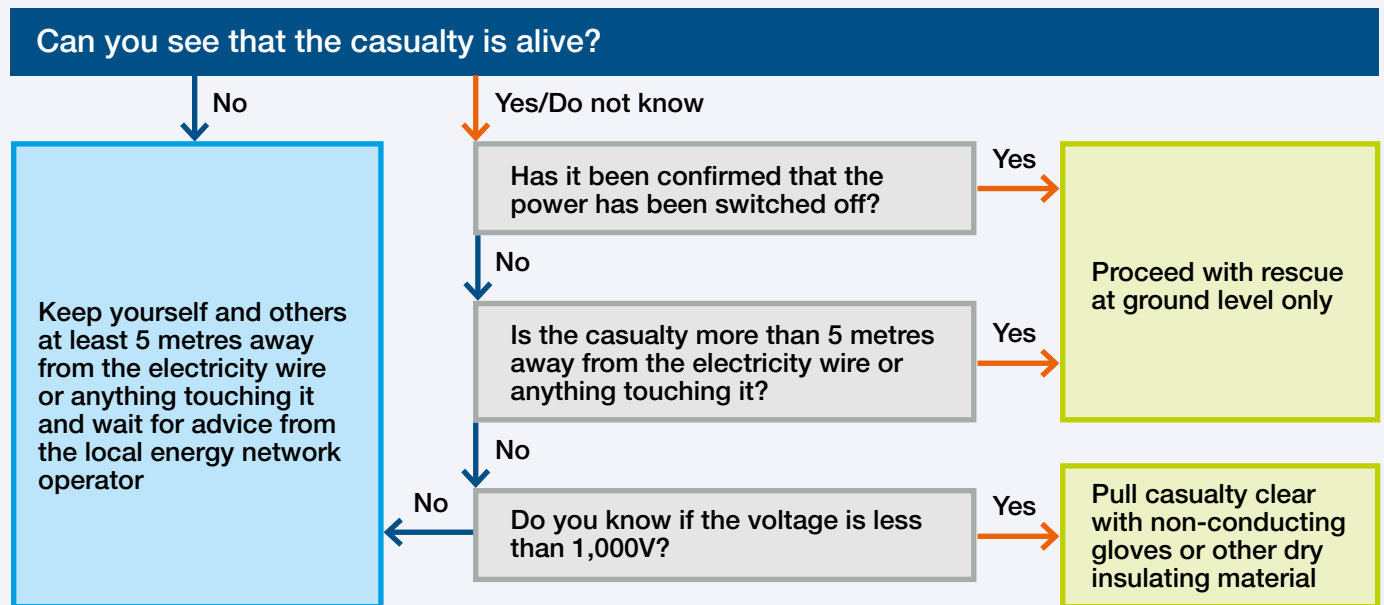
As a service provider to the public, ENA encourages all emergency service providers (Fire, Police and Ambulance Services) to engage with their local energy network operator in advance to ensure the following:

- A communication channel between the local energy network operator and emergency service provider is in place to periodically discuss the dangers associated with electricity network assets in the public domain and what to do in the event of an emergency (fires, fatalities, electrocutions etc.).

This channel will help confirm that suitable and effective arrangements are in place between both parties to regularly communicate on at least an annual basis, the overall network boundaries at a regional level or equivalent. This will help maintain awareness of the appropriate local energy network operator to be contacted in the event of an emergency involving electricity network assets and how to contact them in the case of an emergency.

Risk assessment flow chart

Before attempting to rescue a person injured by, or in the vicinity of electrical apparatus, follow the risk assessment flow chart below.



Emergency situations

Examples associated with electricity networks include:

- Road traffic accidents involving collision with electricity poles.
- Tipping or loading vehicles in contact with overhead power lines.
- Construction and agricultural vehicles or cranes in contact with overhead power lines.
- Contact with overhead power lines whilst fishing, camping or scaffolding.
- Attempted suicides at substations, poles or steel towers.
- Flooding of substations.
- Fire involving electrical apparatus or substations.
- Injuries arising from contact with underground cables.

Phone your local energy network operator via the preferred communications channel as soon as you are aware of an incident involving electricity network assets or make contact via other agreed routes. If you are unsure, call 105.

Staying safe

Any overhead power lines, underground cables, link boxes or substations may be live and could kill you. Do not touch them, or any object or person that is in contact with them. Even if you are sure the power is off, remember it can be switched back on at any time without warning.

Always wait until the local energy network operator has confirmed the equipment is dead before taking action. Remember, the power can be switched back on at any time without warning.

If a person's vehicle or machinery comes in contact with live overhead power lines please advise them to:

- Stay in the vehicle until it is confirmed the equipment is dead.
- If they need to get out, advise them to jump clear and not touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time, use leaping strides with only one foot on the ground to get at least 5 metres clear.
- Stay clear and do not return to the vehicle as wires may re-energise without warning.