



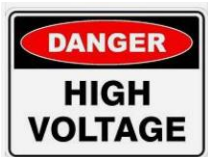
Important Safety Notice - Queensland Rail



Workplace managers and supervisors must communicate this information to affected workers either face to face, via email or telephone within 72 hours of being received. Safety and Environment Communication Delivery Verification Form MD-13-560 to be completed and MyLearning administrator to add verification to workers training history as per Safety and Environment Communications Standard MD-12-56.

Issue date: 16/07/25

Expiry date: 16/01/26 To be removed from the safety and environment notice board.



Complying with electrical safety risk controls when working near overhead lines and equipment during project works

Attention: All Recipients and their leaders, Recipient mentors, project managers and directors

Background

Recent work site audits have identified non-compliances and a regulatory notifiable incident related to the incorrect implementation of risk controls supporting work near overhead lines (during project works). Audits also identify a lack of compliance with some of the requirements specified in MD-20-293 Recipient Learner Guide and Log Book.

Actions to be taken:

- Project managers and directors should communicate this alert to relevant delivery partners and contractors.
- In accordance with MD-20-293 Recipients shall:
 - a) Deliver effective (high voltage) pre-start safety briefings. This is the role of the Recipient and not the worksite supervisor. The pre-start briefing should document the name of the delivering Recipient.
 - b) Have their current version of MD-20-293 (V 1.5) including their logbook maintenance activities. The logbook and a valid Recipient qualification card shall be kept on their person while performing Recipient duties.
 - c) Confirm all electrical safety risk controls listed in approved permits to work (e.g. Form C), Safety Clarification Advice (SCA) or Safety Observer Zone (SOZ) are implemented adequately prior to commencing work.
 - d) Confirm and communicate the safe area of approved work during prestart briefs.
 - e) Recipients shall pause work and seek clarification if there is any uncertainty about the risk controls that must be applied (such as in circumstances where additional hazards area identified on site or site conditions change).
- Principal contractors and site supervisors must support Recipients to undertake their role and:
 - 1) Prior to commencing work, site supervisors should perform daily checks of the Permit to work Form C SCA/SOZ documentation, implementation of controls, and the Recipient's qualifications including cards and logbooks, with a daily record kept with the site pre-start briefing.
 - 2) Support the process to transfer SCAs and Form Cs in a face-to-face meeting on site. The transfer process shall confirm the extent of the safe area of work and relevant risk controls with the relieved and relief Recipient in attendance. When transferring a Permit to work (e.g. Form C) or SCA, the relief Recipient shall read the transfer declaration out loud to the relieved Recipient. The relief Recipient shall immediately advise the

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Nominated Person (NP) or Electric Control Operator (ECO) of the transfer details. The Principal Contractor for project sites must support and facilitate a safe and effective transfer.

- 3) Acknowledge that the Recipient has overriding electrical safety responsibility for activities within the worksite and shall remain on-site and in charge of the electrical safety of the worksite at all times, for the duration of the approved work activity. The Recipient must be able to visually see the worksite at all times and be in a suitable position to stop work if an electrical safety issue arises.
- 4) Acknowledge that site supervisors or other construction personnel are not permitted to override a Recipient's decision. A Recipient's primary duty and responsibility is to manage the electrical safety of a worksite. The Recipient must be satisfied other work will not interfere with their primary duties.



Respect the Power Safety Campaign.

Frequently asked questions:

- What does electrical safety legislation require when work needs to take place near electric lines:

Electrical Safety Regulation - Section 68. Duty of person conducting a business or undertaking

(1) A person conducting a business or undertaking at a workplace must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that no person, plant or thing at the workplace comes within an unsafe distance of an overhead or underground electric line.
Maximum penalty—60 penalty units.

(2) If it is not reasonably practicable to ensure the safe distance of a person, plant or thing from an overhead or underground electric line, the person conducting the business or undertaking at the workplace must ensure that:

- (a) a risk assessment is conducted for the proposed work; and
- (b) control measures implemented are consistent with
 - (i) the risk assessment; and
 - (ii) if an electricity entity is responsible for the electric line—any requirements of the entity.

Maximum penalty—60 penalty units.

- What is the Recipient role specified in Queensland Rail's Electric Traction Systems Standard ([ETSS MD-10-191](#))?

Recipient (Person in Charge of Electrical Safety)

An Authorised Person who has the competence and responsibility to supervise the electrical safety aspects of the work and has been appointed to take charge of a specific Worksite in Electrified Areas.

The Recipient shall be given overriding electrical safety responsibility for activities within the Worksite.

The Recipient shall remain on site and in charge of the worksite at all times for the duration of the Approved work activity.

A Recipient can be issued with a Permit to Work (Form C) or Safety Clarification Advice (SCA). The Recipient is responsible for the content, and compliance with, the requirements of a relevant Safe Work Method Statement.

A Recipient shall directly supervise all works within the High Voltage exclusion zone or likely to encroach the High Voltage exclusion zone.