

# Emergency Services

## TOP TIPS

- Do not touch or get close to overhead power lines.
- 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 electricity network operator.
- Contact the electricity network operator immediately on 105.

Call **105** if you have a safety concern related to the electricity network or if you spot damage to overhead power lines, underground cables and substations that could put you, or someone else, in danger.



**DANGER  
OF DEATH**



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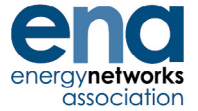


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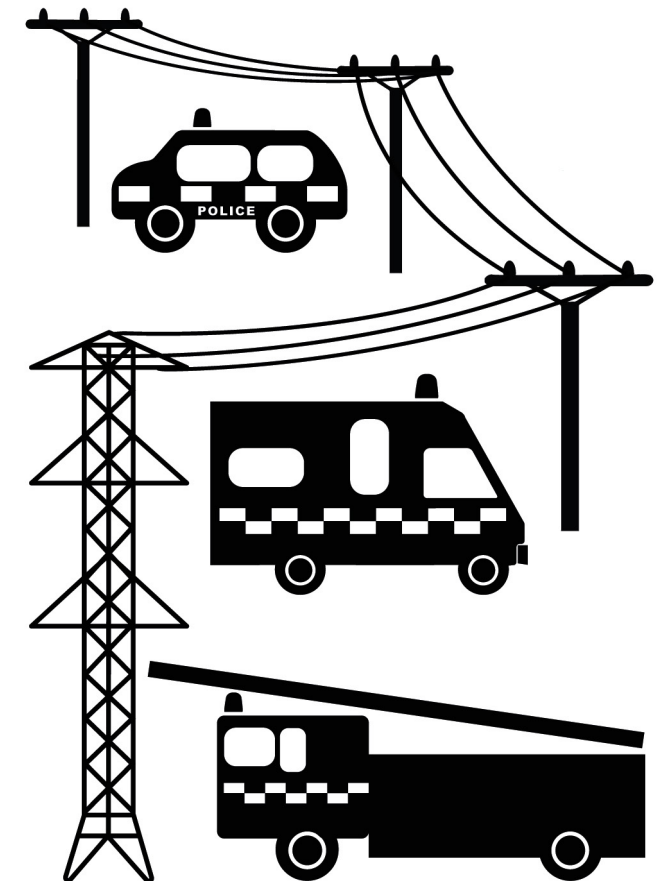
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The Voice of the Networks



## 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 attend overhead power lines, underground cables, link boxes or substations 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.

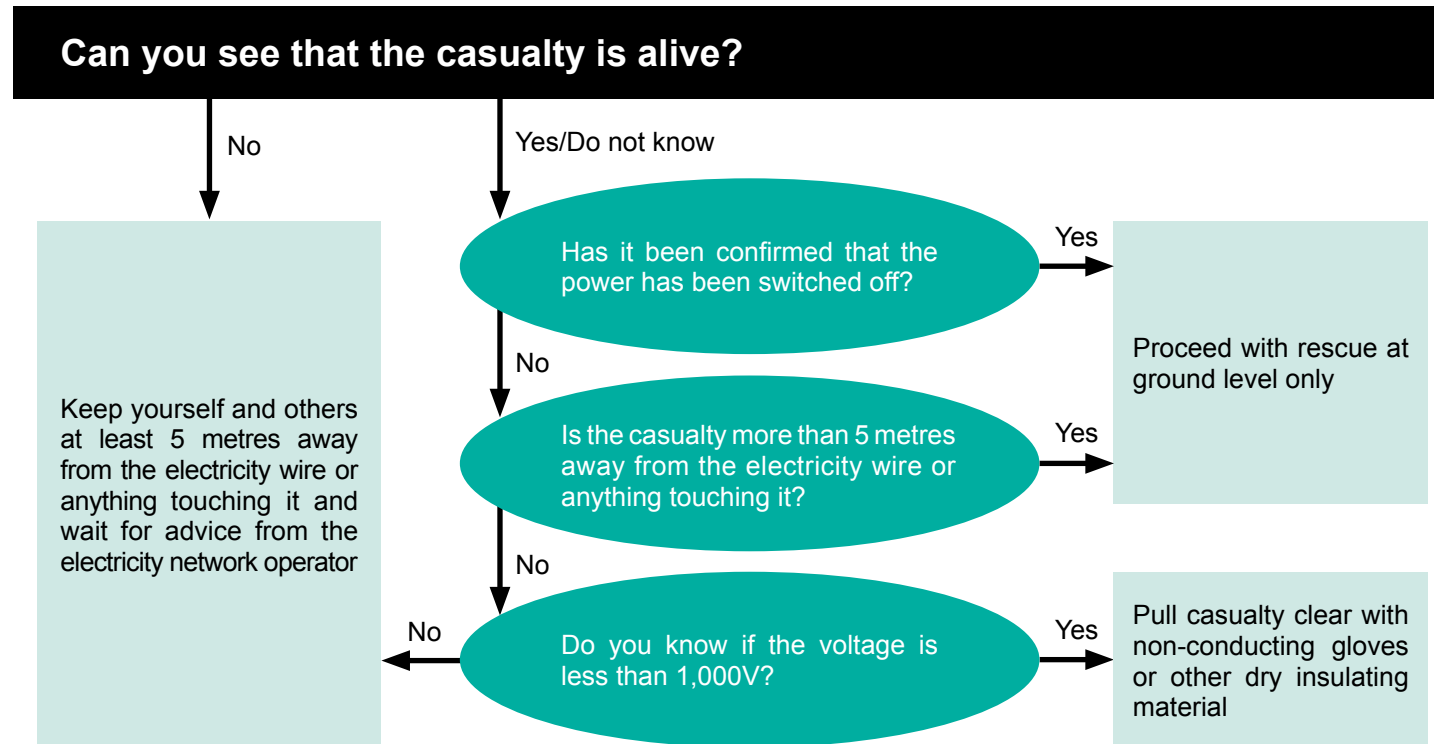
## COULD THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

Examples of emergency situations 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.

## Flow chart

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



## Key messages

- Do not start a rescue before safety has been confirmed.
- Phone your local electricity network operator using the number 105 as soon as you are aware of an incident involving electricity poles, overhead power lines, underground cables or substations.
- Never touch lines, always assume they are live unless the electricity network operator has told you they are dead.

## 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.

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

- Jump clear if it is safe to do so.
- Make leaping strides so that one foot is off the ground at all times until you are at least 5 metres away.