

## Case Study: Low Voltage Cable Strike (Flash Burn Injuries)



**The above image highlights a low voltage cable strike to the ScottishPower electrical network.**

The task was to carry out excavations for a new service to the property. The operative came into contact with the low voltage cable when operating a kango hammer gun. Unfortunately on this occasion the operative had to attend hospital after receiving flash burns to his head, neck and lower arms. The investigation into this incident discovered that no cable records had been consulted prior to the excavations taking place and that the use of a cable locator had also not taken place.

ScottishPower cable records should always be consulted prior to any ground penetration taking place. Cable record enquiries are to be directed to ScottishPower Data Management section.

**Prior to any excavations taking place cable records should always be consulted.**

**Always assume cables are present and live until proved otherwise.**

**All Cable Record enquiries should be addressed to:**

**SP Energy Networks (North)**

Data Management  
(Correspondence)  
55 Fullerton Drive  
Cambuslang  
Glasgow G32 8FD

t: 0141 567 4155 or 0141 567 4455

e: Requestforplansscotland  
@scottishpower.com

**SP Energy Networks (South)**

Data Management  
(Correspondence)  
North Cheshire Trading Estate  
Prenton Way  
Prenton  
Birkenhead CH43 3ET

t: 0151 609 2373

e: Requestforplansmanweb  
@manweb.co.uk

**All Cable Deviation Requests /Service Alterations enquiries should be addressed to:**

**SP Energy Networks (North)**

Customer Connections  
55 Fullerton Drive  
Cambuslang  
Glasgow G32 8FA

t: 0141 614 9997

**SP Energy Networks (South)**

Customer Connections  
PO Box 290  
Lister Drive  
Liverpool L13 7HJ

t: 0151 221 2110

## Emergency contact

In an emergency, or if there is any damage to SP Energy Networks cables or plant, call the appropriate number:

**SP Energy Networks  
North**

*Central & Southern  
Scotland*

**0845 272 7999**

**SP Energy  
Networks  
South**

*Cheshire,  
Merseyside  
& North Wales*

**0845 272 2424**





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## Case Study: Low Voltage live service cable cut with hacksaw



The above image highlights a low voltage cable with a straight joint attached. An operative took a hacksaw and severed the cable which was attached to the ScottishPower network.

The experienced operative wrongly assumed that the cable was out of use, fortunately on this occasion the operative received no injuries. All electricity cables are to be treated as live at all times, until proved otherwise by a ScottishPower engineer.

Prior to any excavations taking place cable records should always be consulted.

Always assume cables are present and live until proved otherwise.

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## Case Study: Low voltage cable damaged with pneumatic gun spade tool



The above image highlights a damaged spade tool on a pneumatic gun which has come into contact with a low voltage cable.

The task for the operatives was to install ducting in the footpath. During the course of the works the operative lost control of the pneumatic gun and struck the LV cable which had previously been exposed, fortunately on this occasion the operative received no injuries. Operatives knew the route and depth of the electricity cable having trial holed the footpath prior to the main excavations taking place. To prevent this type of incident a risk assessment/method statement and a safe system of work should have been established prior to works taking place.

Safe system of work is required to be in place prior to excavations taking place.

Prior to any excavations taking place cable records should always be consulted.

Always assume cables are present and live until proved otherwise.

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