



## HIAB arm makes contact with 11kV overhead line

An unfortunate fatality has recently occurred where a third party HIAB lorry driver has inadvertently manoeuvred a HIAB grab arm into a live 11kV overhead power line.



A Panel of Enquiry is currently further investigating the full circumstances of this incident, and their findings will highlight any further learning points in the near future. The investigation has already highlighted that several years ago, during a line inspection of an adjacent section of network, spoil had been identified immediately below a live line. The landowner had been made aware verbally of the dangers of such practices and the spoil at that point was cleared.

### Learning Points

1. All staff working in the vicinity of live overhead lines should be especially vigilant, especially if they are operating plant or machinery that could inadvertently come into contact with that line.
2. Incidents of inappropriate working practices or storage of materials or equipment below or adjacent to overhead lines should be reported immediately, and written guidance should be issued to the landowner by the appropriate party.
3. If a situation is identified that poses an immediate risk to life, you should take all reasonable steps to reduce the level of risk, report the situation to the relevant Control Person and remain on site until assistance arrives to take the appropriate action to make the situation safe.

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