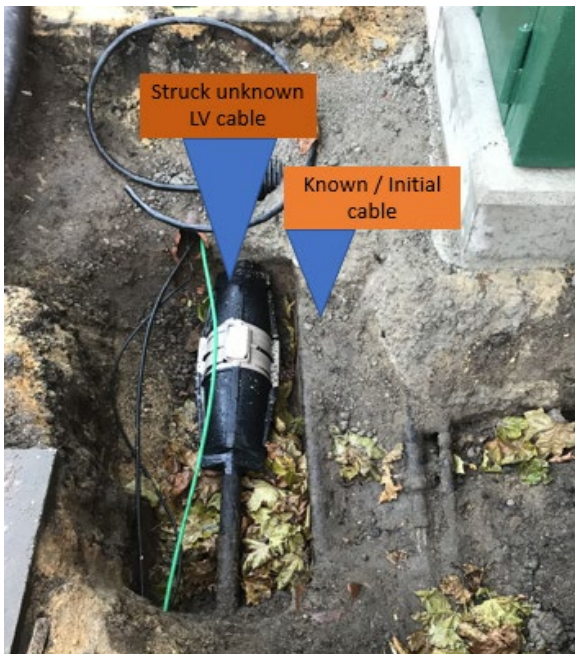


### What Happened?

- On the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 UKPN had arrived on site to connect from one of three existing exposed cables to a newly installed control cabinet for a pumping station at Greyshott Road. UKPN Having identified on a previous visit to site which cable they would use to connect to the cabinet, on the morning of the incident UKPN then decided that they would need to connect to an alternative cable to the one originally chosen but this would require more earth to be removed in the excavation to enable them to make the connection to the cabinet.
- In the process of removing more earth to enable the connection the IP struck an unknown and undetected fourth cable in the location with the breaker, causing the cable to flash and as a result the IP suffered mild burns to his face and arms that required medical attention. The strike also tripped the supply to local residents properties.



### Why did it really happen?

- Lack of management, supervision and planning
- CAT and Genny was not used to re-scan the excavation.
- Permit to dig was not issued for the follow up dig
- Safe digging practices not adhered to the wrong type of tool used given the close proximity of the cables in the excavation.
- The IP was working on his own
- A perceived time pressure due to UKPN being on site to carryout the connection
- The drawings only showed two cables present in the location but they located three and hit the fourth.

### What can I do differently?

- Always ensure that the job is properly planned and the correct procedures and permits are in place before commencement of the work.
- Before excavating ensure that the area is scanned using a Genny and CAT.
- Always carry out safe digging practices where there are known multiple services present hand digging, air lance ground conditions permitting would be other options to be considered.
- Ensure that all the dig teams have had the one day level two or equivalent service avoidance and location training .
- Ensure that when someone is digging that they are never working alone and that team members have had emergency first aid training.
- Stat drawings are only guides be always aware there might be more services present in the excavation.
- Ignore perceived time pressures safety comes first zero compromise at all times