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Outline the Scene	Incident	Electric Shock from Damaged Power Cable
	Subject	Fencing contractor damaged a power cable and received an electric shock when removing spoil with hands
	Critical Risk Type	CR07-Contact with Electricity
	Incident Date	07/03/2023
	Business Unit	Residential (North)-Whenuapai

What happened



Whilst in the process of drilling post holes with a mechanical auger, a fencing contractor has stopped work after he hit something in the ground. To determine what he hit, the contractor used his hands to move the spoil and in doing so touched an exposed 230v electrical cable. He was promptly transported to a medical centre for assessment, where an electrocardiogram (ECG) was performed. Following the evaluation, it was determined that he was cleared to return to work. To address the hazard, the services of Vector were sought to disconnect the power. The hole was covered, and an exclusion zone was set up.



We believe all injuries are preventable, here are some tips to help us learn



- It is essential to ensure that protocols are regularly reviewed and effectively communicated to both employees and contractors.
- Before commencing any excavation work, it is necessary to obtain an As-Built plan that shows the location of services.
- Prior to any excavation work, it is necessary to obtain a permit to dig.

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- Contractors' Task Analysis must take into account the on-site activities and require workers to be strictly adhere to the stated controls and signed on to them.
- The laying of services must be done at the correct depth, and the details should be recorded in the As-Built plan.

For more information, please contact;

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