



YorkshireWater

# SAFETY ALERT

**Subject: SIGNIFICANT NEAR MISS – MOBILE GENERATOR.**

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December a significant near miss occurred where a mobile generator has back fed onto the mains at a point where Northern Electric Distribution Ltd (NEDL) lines-men were about to commence planned work on an 11KV line. It was only the robust internal safety procedures within NEDL which prevented the linesmen making contact with a live 11,000V bare conductor.

The YW electrical installation had been designed to prevent back-feeds occurring via a standard Castell Key interlock system. The Castell Key interlock system failed to prevent the generator backfeeding onto the NEDL distribution system.



A full investigation is underway to establish the root causes and any other contributory factors, however from immediate effect the following procedure shall be followed to avoid any potential re-occurrence of this type of incident:-

**Whenever a Mobile Generator is to be connected to YWs Electrical System (even when connected via a plug and socket) then:-**

- **A YW Electrical Craftsmen who is familiar with the site distribution system shall be called to site to supervise/carry out the mobile generator connection.**
- **WBP (our Generator supplier) shall, before commencing work, provide a Risk Assessment and Method Statement. This documentation shall:-**
  - Identify/create a Single Line Drawing of the Mains and Generator Connection arrangement.
  - Identify the Main Incomer from the electricity company and its point of isolation.
  - Identify the point of connection of the Generator and the Generators Point of Isolation
  - Establish and Document the sequence of events to allow the site to be safely supplied off the mobile generator and then back to mains supply without paralleling the generator up with the Electricity Company's electrical system.
- **Before work can commence, the Risks Assessment and Method Statement shall be checked and approved by the YW Electrician who will consult with operations as necessary.**

**If there is any doubt about the Method Statement, Risk Assessment, Condition of the Equipment (including interlocking & safety systems) or Capability/Suitability of the Equipment to be Supplied from a Mobile Generator then work shall stop immediately and your Supervisor Consulted.**

Issue No: <b>2011-12</b>		Issue Date: 22/12/11	
Target Audience: <b>Engineering Reliability, Operations and ADU.</b>			
Immediate Briefing to Target Audience:	<b>Yes</b>	Display on Local Safety Noticeboards:	<b>Yes</b>
A signature is required for this brief:	<b>No</b>		
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