



Safety Alert



[Before you start, click here to view the Risk Matrix](#)

Event

Hau Nui - Circuit Breaker Fault

Date of Event

27th May 2022

Site

Time of Event

Location

Hau Nui

Actual Consequence

Near Miss

Maximum Reasonable Outcome (MRO*)

Consequences

Critical

Likelihood

Possible

EXTREME

15

Brief Description

Work was being carried out to investigate/repair a fault in the power cabinets of a wind turbine. After isolation of all circuits and main circuit breakers that supply the power cabinets, and confirming visually that circuit breakers were in 'off' position, testing identified that a cabinet was found to be live with 230/400v across the main terminals. Work was immediately stopped and cause was investigated.

Workers traced the fault to the main circuit breaker in the control cabinet and testing across the breaker showed the contacts were still closed even though indicating off with the main switch in the isolated position.

Isolated transformer fuses which isolated all power to the turbine and found the cause of the problem to be a faulty circuit breaker which was then repaired. Relivened and tested again to confirm the circuit breaker was operating correctly.



The Faulty Circuit Breaker

Potential Causes

Faulty Circuit Breaker

Contact Person -

this person must distribute to the ".Safety Alert" distribution list within 24 hours of the event

Reg Soepnel

*MRO: The most severe possible outcome that can reasonably be projected to occur with existing controls in place.

A function of the largest realistic/credible consequence and largest realistic/credible likelihood.

What are the parallels in your area?

