ESVConnect is here

COES and licensing activity will transition to the online platform this July

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OVERHEAD POWERLINES.

DON’T EXPECT A WARNING.

Whenever you enter a new property, the safest thing to do is assume that there are live powerlines overhead. To stay safe, follow this simple three-step process. Your life could depend on it.

1. AS SOON AS YOU ENTER A SITE, STOP. GET OUT OF THE VEHICLE.
2. LOOK UP AND AROUND. UNDERSTAND THE ENTIRE AREA OF WORK.
3. PROCEED ONLY IF SAFE.

For more information visit www.esv.vic.gov.au/look-up-and-live
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Winter is here, and the 65 per cent of Victorians with gas heaters will have them blasting. And who could blame them, the last weeks of May and early June were freezing.

All gas heaters need to be serviced at least once every two years. Whether you’re a gasfitter or an electrician, it’s a message that has to be impressed on all your clients who have gas heating, especially open-flued. The risk of carbon monoxide poisoning is always present. We do not want to see another family left grieving for a loved one, killed by such an avoidable incident. Tips include:

1. Service your gas heater.
2. Allow for fresh air when the heater is running. This doesn’t mean windows wide open. Keep warm, but don’t block every source of ventilation when the heater is running.
3. Don’t run exhaust fans at the same time as the heater. This can create negative pressure which will drag exhaust gasses out of the flue and into living areas.

The messages are complex and difficult to communicate simply to the community, but you can help. Victorians look to you for advice. So please, spread the word.

The new platform for the registration of COES and licensing activity, ESVConnect, is nearly here. The transition will begin at the end of June and into July. Once operating, industry will be able to access plenty of information and support to navigate the new system. FAQs are available on our website.

Keep warm this winter.
Jonathan Granger
jonathan.granger@energysafe.vic.gov.au
Carbon monoxide prompts consumers to Be Sure

By Jonathan Granger, Head of Communications and Marketing

Further information on heating your home with gas safely is available at: esv.vic.gov.au
Victorian Government invests $1.7M to get carbon monoxide awareness into the community.

‘Be Sure’ is Energy Safe Victoria’s new safety campaign for carbon monoxide awareness.

The campaign urges Victorians to take action by getting their heaters serviced and have a better understanding about how to manage their heaters during the colder months.

» ‘Be Sure’ targets consumers with gas heaters in their home.

» It addresses the need for regular and ongoing maintenance of gas appliances to reduce incidence of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

» It aims to empower consumers with the correct information and resources they need to ‘be sure’ their gas heater is safe this winter.

The campaign targets all homes with gas heating. It includes television advertisements, social media, print advertising and radio. There will also be posters and billboards as well as advertisements on realestate.com.au and related websites to capture both landlords and renters.

“We don’t want people to suffer from cold but equally, those with an open flued gas heater need to practice some basic steps, such as ensuring there is adequate ventilation and not running exhaust fans at the same time as the heater,” says Director of Energy Safe Victoria, Mr Paul Fearon.

“The ‘Be Sure’ message is particularly important for people with an open flued gas heater in a newer home. Newer homes tend to be better sealed, resulting in less ventilation. Remember, carbon monoxide can harm anyone,”

Mr Fearon said professionals in both the gas and electricity industries should be alerting their clients to the importance of servicing at least once every two years.

“If you see a gas heater, particularly an open flued gas heater at a job, always check the homeowner understands the importance of managing their heater.

“For all the advertising ESV can do, nothing beats friendly advice from a professional to get Victorians to take action. We do not want to see another fatality caused by carbon monoxide from a gas heater.”

Recent research conducted by ESV showed that 67 per cent of Victorians have a general understanding of what carbon monoxide is, and are familiar with the dangers of the poisonous gas. However, 65 per cent have either not got a plan or no imminent plan to take reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning in their homes. Those who had intentions to did not know how to contact a gasfitter.

To achieve this, the campaign television advertisement has three phases:

» The first introduces a typical household where a man runs through a mental checklist as he heads to bed – is it bin night, are the kids tucked in and is the cat inside. As he gets through the list, he realises he is not sure that the household gas heater is safe.

» The second highlights the widespread effect of a faulty gas heater in the home, and the dangers to your family. Using orange colour to represent what carbon monoxide might look like if it could be seen, a colourless and odourless gas, the poisonous gas seeps into the oblivious home before prompted – are you sure, your gas heater is safe?

» The third and final phase demonstrates the steps to take to mitigate the risk, before the plume of toxic gas recedes back into the heater, indicating the house is safe.

The campaign came about following a recommendation of the Victorian Coroner following the death of a Greensborough woman. Mr Fearon said there had been many more incidents of deaths and serious illness caused by carbon monoxide.

“Not even a decade has passed since the two Robinson boys, Chase and Tyler, died from CO poisoning in their Mooroopna home. And their mother Vanessa was lucky to survive carbon monoxide poisoning,” he said.

Mr Fearon commended Vanessa and her charity The Chase & Tyler Foundation for tirelessly campaigning for carbon monoxide awareness since the deaths of her children.

“It was only last year ESV sat through the harrowing coroner’s inquiry into the death of Sonia Sofianopoulos who was tragically killed by carbon monoxide poisoning in her Greensborough home,” he said.

“Carbon monoxide poisoning doesn’t always have fatal consequences. Many more people will be suffering long term health effects from chronic exposure at a lower level. The only way to protect yourself and your family from this is to look after your gas heater, get it serviced and minimise the risk.”
**Are you IoT ready?**

Technology is changing the way we access the network, from the NBN, to houses with multiple TVs, gaming consoles and Foxtel, to full-house audio installations and more. And while there is a movement towards running everything over Wi-Fi, most wireless home networks are overloaded, hence the need for robust cable infrastructure. The logical option for consumers is to hire an electrician, but many electricians don’t have the training or skills to do the work – do you?

For example, due to increased demand for bandwidth, an installation completed five years ago to an average standard may no longer be able to keep up with the speed of all the devices being used today, even in houses that aren’t automated.

Installations need to be as future-proof as possible to keep up with the current rate of innovation and move towards the Internet of Things (IoT).

It’s also more cost-effective for the consumer to have the home set up for speed in the first place as it is expensive to fix.

NBN technicians are increasingly moving into the domain of the cabler when they have to complete installations within a consumer’s house. Technical advancements such as IoT are revolutionising domestic data, but if telecommunications or NBN technicians don’t know how to terminate cables safely it’s potentially hazardous.

As an electrician, having that termination experience gives you the edge, but without the necessary cabling qualifications it’s not worth the safety risk.

Another point for getting qualified is that amateur work is a red flag for auditors, resulting in stricter regulations on cabling.

If you want to get up to speed, NECA Education & Careers offers the unit of competency for Open Registration, plus the endorsements in structured and coaxial cabling and optical fibre.

To take the next step with NECA Education & Careers, book now for Open Registration, Structured & Coaxial Cabling or Optical Fibre here: necaeducation.com.au/data-communications/

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**Carbon Monoxide Awareness Program**

By Paul Harris, Head of Gas Operations

The VBA, ESV and Master Plumbers are launching a new Carbon Monoxide Awareness Program in 2019.

Plumbing and gasfitting experts will present the latest information and procedures for carbon monoxide (CO) spillage tests, negative air pressure testing and gas appliance maintenance.

Sessions for plumbers and gasfitters will be held in various metro locations and major regional centres across Victoria. The series of presentations launched early May and will run through to 11 July.

Each session runs for three hours. Attendance is free but places are limited.

The course will cover the process you should follow to identify situations that could result in CO spillage within a residence.

It will reference the following Gas Information sheets:

» Sheet No. 37 Carbon monoxide measuring equipment

» Sheet No. 38 Testing for negative pressure and carbon monoxide spillage while carrying out gas service work

» Sheet No. 44 Carbon monoxide safe working level

Registration

For more information on the program and to register for a session near you, visit our website.
BRIT Apprentice Awards 2019

By Sue Sizer, Compliance Officer, Electrical Installation Safety

Energy Safe Victoria sponsors the Best Electrical Apprentice Award at the annual Bendigo TAFE Apprentice (BRIT) Awards.

This year’s recipient was Elliott Hawkins, taking home Best Electrical Apprentice 2019 and Best 4th Year electrical Apprentice award.

Elliott completed his apprenticeship with O’Brien Electrical (formerly Laser Electrical Bendigo) in September 2018, mainly working in new commercial installations with some service and maintenance work.

To date, his favourite job was at the Bendigo RSL, where he was heavily involved in the refurbishment of the 100 year-old building and building a large new extension.

Elliott enjoyed his training at BRIT, as he found the teaching staff very approachable and helpful.

Elliott passed all his licensing exams on the first attempt, clearing each subject with marks in the 90s. His employer nominated him for the NECA Apprentice of the Year Award, where he placed 3rd in the state.

Elliott is enjoying work as a licensed electrician and is finding that the learning doesn’t stop when you leave TAFE.

Elliott’s passion to continue learning and developing new skills both on the job and through tertiary education is evident, recently completing Cert IV in Building & Construction during his final year as an apprentice. With the full support of his employer, Elliot hopes to develop his training in solar and batteries, or communications and fibre.

After hours he enjoys playing video games, going to the gym, and spending time with his partner. On the night, Elliot was supported by his proud parents and partner.

Vale
Pamela Kelly

It is with great sadness that Energy Safe Victoria acknowledges the passing of our friend and colleague, Pamela Kelly, who passed away unexpectedly on April 24th.

Pamela worked in both the Gas Installations and Certificates of Electrical Safety (COES) teams. Pamela will be very much missed by all of those who were touched by her brightness and zest for life. The funeral for Pamela was held on Friday, 3 May.

Energy Safe Victoria would like to offer deepest sympathy to Pamela’s family and friends.
Introducing ESVConnect — the new platform for online regulation of the electrical industry

In late June, ESVConnect will launch with expanded capability.

Certificates of Electrical Safety (COES) purchase and lodgement, registration of electrical contractors and cathodic protection systems (CPS), and electrical worker licensing, maintenance and renewal will be processed using ESVConnect.

ESVConnect delivers a next generation system for meeting regulatory obligations for those in the electrical and gas industries.

If you are an electrical worker (LEW), licensed electrical inspector (LEI) or Registered Electrical Contractor (REC) in Victoria, ESVConnect will be the primary system for interacting with ESV.

Director of Energy Safety, Paul Fearon said the launch of ESVConnect will significantly improve the way we do business with each other.

“This meets government’s requirements of improved access to regulatory services and delivers a system that will reduce regulatory burden, lead to lower prices for consumers and assist in faster new connections”

Developing a new system from the ground up has enabled ESV to re-examine and overhaul the process of regulatory compliance for electrical worker licence applications and the COES regime.

ESV’s Deputy Director, Neil Fraser has been a key advisor to the ESVConnect project from day one explains further.

“Users will find the step by step licensing application process in ESVConnect easier to follow and more efficient.

“The new eligibility checker will help applicants understand what’s expected of them before starting a licence application. These new practices are aligned to regulatory requirements ensuring a more robust compliance regime. The same process has been applied to the development of the COES system, eliminating unnecessary steps and information, saving time and still delivering the required safety and compliance outcomes.”

What you can do
To make sure you are ready to use ESVConnect:
» Check your email address and contact details are correct in Online Services.
» Watch our short animated video about the system on YouTube — it explains how we’ve consolidated old paper-based processes into the new online system.

Transitioning to ESVConnect
Support will be in place to help you transition to ESVConnect, including a virtual guided tour, an in-built ‘help’ text on each screen and our Licensing and COES teams will be available to answer questions.

You can find helpful information on the ESV website that explains how ESVConnect works as well as updates, alerts and Frequently Asked Questions.

Access our online resources at: esv.vic.gov.au/ESVConnect

Mobile friendly: lodge COES on-the-go.
What you need to know

**COES**
Paper Certificates will remain available and valid for use for existing licence holders.

They may be purchased via agents or through ESV, however, the lodgement of paper COES will only be available via the IVR phone system (Interactive Voice Response) on 1300 360 366.

**ESVConnect login**
Online Services users will use their existing login details to upgrade their accounts to access ESVConnect.

If you have never used Online Services but have a current licence or registration with ESV, contact us to recover your user id and password.

If you have not previously been licensed - don’t worry – you will be able to create a new profile in ESVConnect.

To create a login, all you need is a personal email address.

**What you can expect in ESVConnect: personalised dashboard**
LEWs, RECs, LEIs and inspection companies can navigate to the work area using the unique dashboard or view their profile by selecting their licence or registration under the tabs.

**My Applications:** Here you can apply for an Electrical Worker Licence, Restricted Electrical Licence, Switchgear Worker Licence, ‘L’ Licence, Electrical Inspectors licence, register as an Electrical Contractor or apply to register a Cathodic Protection system. You can also track the progress of your application and upload information as required, ensuring a more efficient process.

**My Licences:** Manage electrical worker licence information, renew your licence, apply to replace a card, check certificates available for use, purchase new certificates and view certificate order history.

**My Registrations:** Manage electrical contractor registration – supervisors, operators and worker lists, and view registration history. Purchase, manage and certify installations. If you hold an inspection company or register CPS, access your information in this tab.

**My Installations:** LEWs and RECs can use this section to manage electrical installation certifications, including drafting Certificates of Compliance, and reviewing and progressing certificates.

**My Inspections:** LEIs and inspection companies manage electrical inspections here, including allocating inspection requests to staff and bulk accept/decline electrical inspection invitations from your customers.

**My Certificates:** Search for, view and print certificates you have a relationship with for customers or send via email.
Powercor pleads guilty and fined for line clearance breaches

By Jonathan Granger, Head of Communications and Marketing

In early April, electricity distribution company Powercor entered a guilty plea and has been fined $374,000 for numerous powerline clearance breaches and three fires, in Shepparton Magistrate’s Court.

ESV prosecuted Powercor for 51 charges, incorporating 189 breaches of Electric Line Clearance regulations along a corridor from Benalla to Mildura. A further six charges related to three grass fires connected with tree branches hitting high voltage powerlines.

Trees or other vegetation touching powerlines can cause electrocution and bushfires. It can also interrupt the electricity supply, leaving vulnerable people in regional and rural areas without power.

The magistrate imposed on Powercor fines of $374,000, consisting of $200,000 for the line clearance breaches and $58,000 for each of the three fires. The magistrate said the charges were ‘serious’ but noted that Powercor had pleaded guilty at the earliest opportunity.

“Noting the magistrate’s comments as to the gravity of the offending, the guilty plea and no previous offending I am satisfied that a strong signal has been sent,” Director of Energy Safety Paul Fearon said.

“ESV has increased its inspection resources and will continue to closely monitor the performance of all DBs and councils responsible for tree clearing. I will not hesitate in laying further charges if serious non-compliance is observed.”

Under the regulations, vegetation must be a prescribed distance from powerlines to avoid the possibility of contact and a potential fire.

The fires occurred last year near the townships of Rochester (6th January), Port Campbell (28th January) and Strathmerton (20th January).

Mr Fearon said all distribution businesses should understand their legal responsibilities in terms of vegetation clearance.

“Victoria has suffered a number of significant fires resulting from vegetation coming into contact with powerlines. As far as I am concerned, many of these were preventable fires and should not have occurred,” he said.

“I am pleased to note that since these incidents and ESV’s subsequent investigation – which resulted in the charges – Powercor and its sister companies have significantly improved their bushfire risk mitigation practice.”

Most of the line clearance breaches occurred in low bushfire risk areas although changes to land and water management have left conditions significantly drier than previously, greatly increasing the risks of fire in these areas. The CFA are currently reviewing the classification of these areas.

AFL Victorian partnership

By Daniel Brace, Communications Advisor

On 7 June, ESV kicked off its 2019 partnership with AFL Victoria. The Country Victoria U19 representative football team put on their Energy Safe Victoria guernseys to take on the Victorian Amateur Football Association U19 side in the Challenge Cup at Elsternwick Park.

Our partnership with AFL Victoria, which has been going for almost a decade, also includes the successful Canteen Grants Program and the inaugural Canteen Volunteer of the Year Award.

The partnership is another avenue for ESV to deliver our safety messages — household wiring safety and gas BBQ safety — into the community.

The Canteen Grants program provides Victorian clubs financial support to purchase new gas or electrical equipment to replace aging and unsafe equipment.

“We’re improving the safety of club canteens, one club at a time. Thanks to our partnership with AFL Victoria, over two years we will have helped almost 60 clubs become safer places for the volunteers, players and communities they serve,” says Paul Fearon, Director of Energy Safety.

To see if your local club received a Canteen Grant, keep an eye out for the announcement of recipients on our website.

Nominations for the inaugural Energy Safe Victoria 2019 Canteen Volunteer of the Year will open soon.
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energysafe VICTORIA
Creating a safer state with electricity and gas
DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG
The Essential First Step
No tolerance for substandard or unsafe solar installations or inspections

By Neil Fraser, Deputy Director ESV

Over 30,000 households have signed up for rebates on solar power system installations since the Victorian Solar Homes program was launched in August 2018.

The growth in solar installations is expected to continue across the state when applications for rebates re-open on 1 July 2019.

ESV is working closely with Solar Victoria and the Clean Energy Council (CEC) to ensure all solar photovoltaics (PV) systems installed in Victoria are safe and compliant.

Use approved products

All systems installed under the Solar Victoria package are required to meet Australian Standards. ESV participates in the technical committees that develop the standards for solar installations, storage systems and the electrical equipment used.

The Clean Energy Council (CEC) maintains a list of approved modules and inverters that meet Australian Standards for use in the design and installation of solar PV systems.

The Solar Homes program requires the installation of solar PV systems included on the CEC Approved Products list.

For solar hot water, the program requires the installation of an approved product from the Clean Energy Regulator’s Register of Approved Solar Providers and the Victorian Essential Services Commission (ESC) Registered Products list.

Use approved installers

All PV installations are required to be completed by a licensed electrician, issued a Prescribed Certificate of Electrical Safety, and be physically inspected by a licensed electrical inspector upon completion.

Occupation Health and Safety Regulations 2017 require that safe work methods and fall prevention measures be in place for each installation.

The Solar Victoria program explicitly requires solar providers sign a statement ensuring these provisions are in place.

Further to these legislated requirements, the Solar Victoria program requires additional safety measures:

» All eligible PV systems are to be installed by CEC accredited installers, through a program that has been in operation since 2012, and providing additional training on safety and quality issues surrounding PV installation.

» All installers are required to have had no prosecutions registered with WorkSafe Victoria in the past three years (or with an equivalent authority in another Australian jurisdiction).

Auditing of installations in place

To ensure safety and quality standards are being met, Solar Victoria is conducting a program of regular random auditing of installed systems in partnership with Energy Safe Victoria and the Victorian Building Authority.

As a result of the auditing process, installers may be removed from the CEC accredited lists and electricians or inspectors found to be incompetent or negligent will have their electrical licenses suspended, cancelled or have restrictions placed on the licence.

Safety is of the highest concern to Solar Victoria and ESV. Solar PV panels have been regularly and safely installed in Victoria since the 1970’s, and we are committed to ensuring this remains the case for years to come.
Emily Waras awarded Kangan Apprentice of the Year

By Sue Sizer, Compliance Officer, Electrical Installation Safety

Energy Safe Victoria was once again, this year’s proud sponsor of Electrical Apprentice of the Year at the Kangan Institute Apprentice Awards.

The 2019 Electrical Apprentice of the Year was awarded to Emily Waras, who was also named Kangan Apprentice of the Year. Congratulations Emily, a huge achievement on both counts!

Previously working as a trade’s assistant with her electrician husband, Emily soon realised the trade was for her.

After gaining an apprenticeship with Downer Rail, Emily became pregnant at the end of her first year, taking six months leave before returning to work and school, doubling her school workload to catch up. She then started a post-trade course (Certificate IV in Industrial Automation and Control) at night school while juggling full-time work, trade school, and her young family.

Emily hopes to continue her studies and aims to complete a diploma and then an electrician’s degree.

Emily is due to start her Licensing exams soon, and expected to complete her apprenticeship at the end of this year.

She is currently enjoying a placement in construction at the Eye and Ear Hospital, but she also really enjoys the work with Downer Rail. She hopes one day to become a signal technician, especially with the current advances in signalling.

Emily is enthusiastic and committed to the trade, and can look forward to a bright future in the industry. She has great support from her husband who is a full-time Dad to their son while Emily completes her studies. She may not have much spare time, but when she does it is spent enjoying time with her husband and baby son.

Stealing copper could cost you your life

By Neil Fraser, Deputy Director ESV

Energy Safe Victoria is alarmed at the increase in the theft of copper wiring from electrical installations, underground reticulation, substations and from the distribution network.

There have been recent investigations and arrests by Victoria Police for stealing and selling stolen copper. Stealing copper is illegal and dangerous for the perpetrator, electrical workers and the general public.

In past years, we know of three people who were electrocuted whilst stealing copper. Thieves were discovered in a disused factory, on the roof of a shop and under a disused house, all in the early hours of the morning. No doubt there have been many more near misses.

Electrical workers are also at risk wherever thieves have been at work. In particular where items such as copper earth cable, copper strap and copper busbar have been tampered with.

ESV can prosecute anyone who leaves electrical installation work that is unsafe, or anyone who interferes with a network asset in an unsafe manner. The police can also lay criminal charges and in some cases, electricians can lose their licence.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously around substations or large installations notify Victoria Police on 000 immediately. It’s just not worth the risk for a few dollars of copper!
Strategies for helping students achieve success

By Sue Sizer, Compliance Officer, Electrical Installation Safety

The Licensed Electricians Assessment (LEA) is a set of three assessments, which must be completed by apprentices intending to apply for an A Class Electrician’s Licence in Victoria. The LEA includes a theory, practical and a safe working practice assessment.

Did you know that any candidate who fails one of these assessments six times or more, or achieves a result of less than 40% in the theory or practical assessments is reported to ESV?

**Why?** This is so we can help them achieve a successful result. After multiple attempts, candidates can reach a stage of hopelessness, where they do not know who to turn to for help and are ready to turn away from the trade, despite completing their apprenticeship. ESV wants to help these candidates break the cycle of constantly sitting and failing their exams.

Following discussions with industry stakeholders on the issue, ESV started receiving reports on ‘excessive attempt’ candidates in early 2016.

In January 2019, we began reporting on candidates with results under 40%, and since then, we have received reports on over 70 candidates in this situation. A third of these apprentices have now achieved a successful result, with another 30 apprentices actively undertaking extra training. Not all are committed or successful, and some have left the trade and are unlikely to ever complete.

**So why do candidates fail so badly, or so often?**

The reasons are often very individual. Sometimes it is a lack of understanding of the concepts, unfamiliarity with the Standards, difficulties with comprehension, or English being a second language. Family issues, money pressures, work pressures, or lack of time to study are also contributing factors.

Similarly, a lack of commitment to the trade, disinterest, or not acknowledging that the assessments require effort on their part. It could also be related to candidates having learning difficulties, struggling with mental health issues, or other medical conditions.

Sometimes, it is simply a lack of maturity – one candidate admitted they enjoyed being the ‘class clown’, and now the joke is on them.

In these instances, ESV will not let the candidate sit an exam until they have completed the minimum required work or addressed any issues hindering them to ensure a reasonable outlook for success.

Our aim is to assist candidates to identify any problems or barriers to success, and help them find a solution.

ESV can assist in directing eligible candidates to where they can seek additional tutorial help or support, or consider extra time allowances or other special assessment requirements.

Case study examples include printing the assessment on coloured paper, ensuring a candidate sat near a window for natural light, and providing a solo assessment so the candidate could read the question aloud without disturbing others sitting the exam.

ESV appreciates the support of teachers and tutors in this process, and having candidates pass is often a team effort. This includes support from family, friends, employers and work colleagues. But when a successful result is finally achieved, it is the candidate who must take the credit, as they have done the hard yards.
Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO) for electrical apprentices

By Sue Sizer, Compliance Officer, Electrical Installation Safety

With the program in its fourth and final year, all first year electrical apprentices will receive ESV’s apprentice LOTO kit.

Each apprentice LOTO kit contains:
» 1 pair of low voltage insulating gloves
» 1 Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO) kit
» 1 ESV LOTO safety guide.

Along with their LOTO kit, apprentices are encouraged to sign up to email alerts about important industry and regulatory changes. These alerts provide an understanding of how industry improvements occur, and the changing regulatory environment; an important aspect of their future lives as licensed electrical workers.

ESV’s popular LOTO electrical apprentice safety campaign was launched in 2016 as a response to a rise in incidents and fatalities of young electrical workers.

This program is an important initiative to help apprentices understand the importance of following safe work practices and using appropriate safety equipment on the job.

ESV recommends the use of low voltage insulating (LV) gloves on the job where there is a risk of accidental contact with live parts, such as when testing or fault finding, the application of lock out devices and using a danger tag to notify others.

For more information about the program, including videos and other resources please visit esv.vic.gov.au/apprentice-safety
Your electrical questions answered

By Simon O’Leary, Compliance Officer, Electrical Installation Safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Question</strong></th>
<th><strong>Answer</strong></th>
<th><strong>Standard/Clause</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I have been asked to issue a COES for a house that has been disconnected from supply for more than 12 months.</td>
<td>You will need to satisfy yourself as a licenced electrician that the property is safe to have the power reconnected. This could be done by a combination of visual inspection and testing. Reference should be taken from Part 8 of AS/NZS 3000 on inspection and testing requirements. The description on the COES should reflect that you have carried out an inspection and testing, and that the electrical installation is safe to reconnect to the electricity supply.</td>
<td>AS/NZS 3000:2018 Clause 8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do I need put on the certificate?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am installing a split system air-conditioning unit at a domestic home. It will be situated right near the main switchboard.</td>
<td>No. A lockable isolating switch must be installed adjacent to the unit. The switch must isolate all parts of the system including ancillary equipment.</td>
<td>AS/NZS 3000:2018 Clause 4.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is it ok to use the CB at the main switchboard as an isolator and not install an isolator adjacent to the unit?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am installing switches and power outlets in a bathroom with an open shower area, and the shower has a flexible shower hose.</td>
<td>Measurements for wet area classification in showers are taken from the fixed plumbing connection on the wall (or ceiling).</td>
<td>AS/NZS 3000:2018 Clause 6.2.2.1 (c) and Figure 6.3 — 6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where do I measure my wet area zone from?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are the mandatory tests required to be carried out to verify that the electrical work complies, and is there documented guidance for these tests?</td>
<td>The following tests shall be carried out along with a visual inspection for a low voltage electrical installation: a. Continuity of the earthing system (earth resistance of the main earthing conductor, protective earthing conductors and bonding conductors) b. Insulation resistance c. Polarity d. Correct circuit connections e. Verification of impedance required for automatic disconnection of supply (earth fault loop impedance) f. Operation of RCDs. AS/NZS 3017 “Electrical Installations – Testing and inspection guidance” sets out some common inspection and test methods.</td>
<td>AS/NZS 3000:2018 Clause 8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When installing underground consumers mains, can I reduce the depth of cover where the conduit runs under the concrete slab?</td>
<td>No. The underground wiring system must be buried to a depth of at least 500mm below the surface of the ground.</td>
<td>Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 2009 Regulation 214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do I need an RCD for a lift installed in a common area of a residential building?

Not necessarily. RCDs will be required where the lift is installed inside an individual occupier’s portion (domestic or residential). RCDs may not be required for common areas of a residential building, as this area is not considered to be domestic or residential for the purpose of clause 2.6.3.2.2 — RCDs in domestic and residential installations.

Do I need an RCD on all the subcircuits in the plant room circuits supplying equipment listed in 2.6.3.2.3.3 of a residential building?

Not necessarily. RCDs may not be required for final subcircuits in the plant room of a residential building, as this area is not considered to be domestic or residential for the purpose of clause 2.6.3.2.2 — RCDs in domestic and residential installations. However, RCDs will be required where the final subcircuit supplies electrical equipment associated with any portion of a domestic or residential living unit.

Can I put an LV main switchboard in a HV substation room?

Yes. However, you must be aware of any access requirements. Private HV substations typically require an electrical access permit (EAP) to be issued before anyone can access the substation. This means an EAP will be required to access the room impeding access to the LV MSB.

Does a door to a switchboard installed in a passage need to be 2.2m high?

No. A cupboard is not deemed to be an enclosure or a switchboard room. The building code only requires passageways to be 2.1m high, so potentially this stops us installing switchboards in passageway cupboards.

If an installation includes a circuit that has cables sized for voltage drop reasons and therefore significantly larger than required for the installed protective device, does the earth size need to meet Table 5.1 for the larger cable or can it be reduced to that required for the equivalent sized cable related to the current carrying capacity?

For main earthing conductor size — Clause 5.3.3.2, Exception 2 may be applicable. All other earthing conductor sizing will relate to the larger conductor size and you will need to comply with Table 5.1 or calculation as per Clause 5.3.3.1.3.

Can I put baton holders in ceiling spaces, or under floors?

No. If it has direct contact with live parts of a lampholder when the lamp is removed.

Do I need to mechanically protect DC wiring system in a internal wall with less that 50mm clearance from the surface of a wall, floor, ceiling or roof.

Yes. Mechanical protection must meet a minimum of WSX3. Guidance on WS classification can be found in Appendix H of AS/NZS 3000:2018.
ESV tackling non-compliant flexible hose assemblies in commercial kitchens

By Doug Rennie, Gas Officer, Gas Operations

This breach continues to be the most common non-compliance issue during routine ESV inspections.

Inspectors often find flexible hose assemblies sitting on the floor under or behind appliances, kinked, strained, or subjected to temperatures above what is certified as safe.

While the flexibility of a hose assembly makes installation easier, gasfitters are responsible for the correct and compliant installation of appliances and hose connections in accordance with AS/NZS 5601.1.2013.

Fail, and fail, and fail again...

Information and support is available

ESV has developed a technical bulletin to assist gasfitters in presenting a compliant gas installation at the time of inspection, which can result in an infringement notice being issued for non-compliant plumbing work.

In addition, ESV has produced an animated video, available online, that outlines an ESV preferred installation using flexible hose assemblies on commercial cooking appliances. This video is available on the ESV website and our YouTube channel.

It is important to ensure that before starting a commercial kitchen gas installation and using flexible hose assemblies, gasfitters familiarise themselves with the bulletin, our animated video, and all the requirements under the Australian standard.

Once a gas application is submitted, the gasfitter will receive a guidance sheet, which outlines the conditions of an acceptance letter.

ESV takes a zero tolerance approach to non-compliant installations of this type. Failure to comply with the Australian Standard may cause embarrassment for you, inconvenience to your client, and a delay in the installation of a gas meter.

If your gas installation is found to be non-compliant, ESV may enforce legal action that can result in an infringement notice.

Watch our Commercial Kitchen Installation Video available at: www.esv.vic.gov.au
LPG safety valve coming to Victoria

By Jason Treseder, Senior Gas Engineer, Type A Gas Appliance & Component Safety

In previous editions of energysafe, we discussed the introduction of a new and safer LPG cylinder connection. The product itself will be in the market in 2020.

Early next year, the LPG cylinder valve connection on leisure cylinders will be modified from the current Type 21 ‘POL’ design to a CGA 791 Quick Connect Coupling, commonly known as safety valves, or quick close coupling (QCC).

These smaller cylinders range from 3kg to 9kg and are used with portable gas appliances such as barbecues and patio heaters. Larger cylinders are not affected by the upcoming change.

The Victorian Coroner recommended the introduction of the QCC valve following the death of a 24 year old Footscray man in December 2015. The Coroner found that leaking gas from partly open LP gas cylinders was the major cause for an explosion in a van that killed the young man.

The current Type 21 outlet connection has been the default LPG cylinder connection for many years. However, the number of incidents involving the cylinder valve connection has made it clear that this connection is no longer a suitable connection for leisure use. The QCC valve has additional safety advantages over the current Type 21 connection.

These include:

» A check valve that will only enable gas to flow when a gas tight connection is made, reducing the risk of high pressure gas escaping if the cylinder valve is opened during transportation, or disconnected during use.

» A large diameter right-handed thread that is operational without the use of tools.

» Perishable rubber seals all located within the body of the gas valve, which means they can be assessed by a competent assessor as part of the refilling process, and, replaced with the cylinder valve every 10 years as part of the cylinder test process.

» A thermal fuse that will melt when exposed to heat. This enables the internal check valve to close, shutting off gas flow in the event the connection is exposed to a fire.

» Compatibility with existing appliances that use the Type 21 connection, which will support the transition process.

» The connection is readily available as it is used internationally in USA and New Zealand.

These additional safety features are expected to significantly reduce the number of incidents and injuries involving leisure LPG cylinders.

In addition to the Victorian Coroner’s recommendation, the QCC valve is mandated through Australian Standards. A coordinated approach to the introduction of QCC valves to the market by updating Standards accordingly, will ensure the transition minimises any impact on current cylinder owners.

The transition will start with the progressive introduction of cylinders with QCC cylinder valves.

Since, the QCC valve is compatible with both QCC hose connections and Type 21 hose connections, owners of existing appliances do not need to get appliances adapted when the new cylinder valves arrives. All new appliances will be supplied with a QCC hose connection, which requires a cylinder with a QCC cylinder valve.

Overtime, all leisure cylinders and associated gas appliances will operate with a QCC connection.

Leisure LPG cylinders have a 10-year test cycle, so it is expected that full transition to QCC cylinders will be completed within this timeframe.

Further details will be provided once transition timing is finalised.
The importance of reading manufacturer's instructions

By Wayne Tangee, Gas Safety Officer, Gas Operations

ESV is increasingly finding non-compliances relating to combustible surface clearances, that show that manufacturer’s instructions are not being read before the work begins.

This issue is often attributed to the increased burner capacity of Type A gas cooking appliances.

During the gas appliance certification process, the specified clearances are tested to ensure any adjacent (or overhead) surfaces do not exceed 65°C above ambient temperature.

With this in mind, it is a timely reminder to all plumbers and gasfitters to check the installation instructions to ensure all gas appliance installations comply with the manufacturer’s instructions or AS/NZS 5601.1, Clause 6.2.2.

Appliances shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of this standard and the manufacturer’s instructions.

ESV has recently come across several Type A domestic gas cooking appliances that required a horizontal clearance from the nearest burner to a combustible surface of greater than 200 millimetres.

A potentially costly mistake to rectify, which could have been avoided if the manufacturer’s installation instructions had been read before installation.

Rangehood clearances are another area of concern. Plumbers and gasfitters must read the manufacturer’s instructions for both the rangehood and gas appliance installation to establish the required clearances.

Refer to Clause 6.10.1.1 (a), requiring compliance with the rangehood’s instructions, for more information about this requirement.

Similarly, the clearance used must be the larger of the two clearances specified by either the rangehood installation instructions or the gas appliance manufacturer.

When installing in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, measurements must be taken from the appliance feature specified in the instruction manual e.g. the trivet, burner, or hob.

Another important note to consider is that some manufacturers specify additional ventilation requirements for appliances over and above the requirements of AS/NZS 5601.1, Clause 6.4.

This once again highlights the importance of thoroughly reading the appliance manufacturer’s installation instructions before starting a job.
As we enter the peak season of business for gasfitters, ESV wants to remind specialised Type A Gas Appliance Service licence holders about the limits and capabilities of their carbon monoxide (CO) measuring equipment.

We all get drilled on using the right tool for the right job, and in the case of commissioning or servicing a flued gas appliance, you must ensure the appliance is not spilling combustion products into the living space.

To correctly test for combustion products, you should be using a flue gas analyser or a CO detector with a probe.

Each type of CO detector available will have a maximum temperature limit provided by the manufacturer. When the detector experiences temperatures in excess of this limit, it will no longer provide an accurate reading and may even be damaged.

Many CO detectors have a maximum operating temperature of between 40°C and 50°C. These CO detectors are designed to measure ambient CO levels within a room, not to measure CO in a heater’s discharge air stream.

ESV frequently comes across cases where CO detectors have given false or misleading readings from gas heaters or central heating duct air supply registers due to the equipment being exposed to temperatures greater than their maximum rating.

ESV advises:
- You do not place your CO detector in front of a heater’s discharge air stream, as the hot air may overheat the CO detector and cause false CO readings.
- You should know the maximum rated temperature of your CO detector before positioning it in an environment subject to heat. If in doubt, contact the equipment supplier.

Alternatively, use an instrument with a sampling probe or a dedicated flue gas analyser, so measurements in the discharge air can be taken using the probe and the testing instrument is not subjected to high temperatures. And remember, your CO detector or analyser always needs to be in calibration.

At a minimum, these sensitive instruments need to be calibrated yearly through the equipment’s supplier or agent. That said, if you are using your instrument constantly, it may need more frequent calibration. The supplier of your test gear will be able to give you more information.

Gas information sheet 37 has more information about carbon monoxide measuring equipment.
National Hydrogen Strategy

By Enzo Alfonsetti, Manager, Type A Gas Appliance & Component Safety

Over the past decade there has been much debate over Australia’s energy policy and its obligations to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol and, more recently, the Paris Agreement.

More recently, as was seen during the Federal Election, the dilemma of tackling climate change while ensuring affordable and reliable energy for consumers has remained a challenge for everyone.

In August 2018, the Hydrogen Strategy Group, chaired by Australia’s Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel, published a briefing paper for the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Energy Council entitled ‘Hydrogen for Australia’s Future’.

The briefing paper outlines that both Japan and South Korea are committed to a hydrogen economy, therefore a tremendous opportunity exists for Australia to become a major producer and exporter of hydrogen to the respective countries.

This would allow Australia to leverage from the opportunities and develop its own hydrogen infrastructure for a number of applications including transport, power generation and gas appliances.

A media release from the Chief Scientist published at the same time last year declared that:

“Hydrogen could be Australia’s next multibillion dollar export opportunity. Hydrogen produces only water vapour and heat when burned. When produced from water using renewable electricity, or from coal or methane combined with carbon capture and storage, it’s a close to zero-emissions fuel. With appropriate safeguards, it’s just as safe as natural gas, and just as convenient for consumers. In Australia, we have all the necessary resources and expertise to make hydrogen at scale: wind, sun, coal, methane, carbon sequestration sites.”

Hydrogen gas is an abundant natural resource, but the challenge is extracting it from the environment. The focus on hydrogen and its various production methods has led to the introduction of some new terminology.

Green hydrogen is produced by splitting the water molecule (H₂O) through an electrolysis process driven by excess renewable energy from solar and wind power. Seen as the ‘holy grail’ of hydrogen production, there are no carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions involved in the process. At the moment, however, the electrolysers used for the electrolysis process are not commercially viable or able to produce hydrogen in significant quantities.

Blue hydrogen is produced by cracking natural gas (methane) using a steam methane reforming process where CO₂ is also produced and captured using carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology.

Brown hydrogen is produced via coal gasification where CO₂ is also produced, but again is captured using CCS technology. The Victorian Government, in collaboration with a Japanese-led consortium, is progressing with a pilot project to test the economic feasibility of producing brown hydrogen in the Latrobe Valley and shipping the liquefied product to Japan.

In December 2018, the COAG Energy Council agreed to support a proposal by Australia’s Chief Scientist to develop a National Hydrogen Strategy in 2019, and establish a dedicated working group to lead activities that achieve this vision.

The working group is considering six streams:

» Hydrogen Exports
» Hydrogen for Transport
» Hydrogen in the Gas Network
» Hydrogen for Industrial Users
» Hydrogen to Support Electricity Systems
» Cross-cutting Issues (e.g. Standards, R&D, etc.)

In March 2019, the working group published its Request for Information—Discussion Paper.

The paper outlines how the working group will action the activities, and includes the published responses of the paper’s Request for Input.

ESV is playing an active role in development of the National Hydrogen Strategy, providing feedback and advice to the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DEWLP) and the Federal Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

In particular, ESV is providing input for the Hydrogen in the Gas Network stream and its impact on safety and legislation. ESV also participated in a National Hydrogen Strategy workshop in April with the National Hydrogen Strategy Taskforce.
ESV is in an ideal position to participate and provide advice, given its participation in the Future Fuels CRC Research Programs, which explores the impact of hydrogen on pipelines and gas appliances.

ESV is also represented on the recently formed Standards Australia Technical Committee, ME-093 Hydrogen Technologies, which enables Australia to be a participating member of the International Organisation for Standardisation committee for hydrogen technologies, ISO/TC197.

The next milestone in the development of the National Hydrogen Strategy is the publication of a series of issues papers enabling further stakeholder engagement.

An issues paper on the Hydrogen in the Gas Network stream will be published at the end of June. The Workplan for the strategy’s development outlines its major milestones.

The National Hydrogen Strategy, which will have a profound impact on the gas industry if implemented over the course of the next decade, will be presented to the COAG Energy and Resources Ministers in December 2019.

Read more on COAG at: chiefscientist.gov.au
Identified non-compliance breaches

By Paul Harris, Head of Gas Operations

Listed below are the most frequently identified non-compliance items as a result of recent Energy Safe Victoria inspections on gas installations (Jan to Mar 2019).

When inspecting, ESV assesses the installation for compliance against the prescribed Australian Standards. It is imperative that gasfitting professionals have the right tools for their job. This includes access to the relevant Australian Standards. Reading and understanding the relevant standards, as well as following the manufacturer’s installation instructions, is important to ensure a compliant gas installation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Clause description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 5.9.5</td>
<td>USE OF HOSE ASSEMBLIES – Hose assembly – Operating conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>Hose assemblies have been installed where they are exposed to a temperature exceeding the maximum temperature specified for the hose, do not comply with the manufacturer’s instructions or are subject to strain, abrasion, kinking or permanent deformation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 6.10.2.3</td>
<td>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLATION OF SPECIFIC GAS APPLIANCES – Commercial catering equipment – Clearances around commercial catering equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>The clearance to combustible surfaces from commercial catering equipment does not comply with the gas appliance manufacturer’s instructions or is less than the clearance as shown in Table 6.10 of AS/NZS 5601.1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 6.2.2</td>
<td>GENERAL INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS – Manufacturer’s installation instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>Appliances have not been installed in accordance with the requirements of this Standard (AS/NZS 5601) and the manufacturer’s instructions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 5.2.9</td>
<td>LOCATION OF CONSUMER PIPING – Piping in a concealed location other than underground or embedded in concrete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>Consumer piping in a concealed location has not been installed in accordance with the requirements detailed in AS/NZS 5601.1 Table 6.2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 5.3.8</td>
<td>GENERAL INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS – Manufacturer’s installation instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>Appliances not installed in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS 5601.1 and the manufacturer’s instructions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 6.6.5</td>
<td>GAS APPLIANCE CONNECTION – Fitting of an appliance gas pressure regulator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For clarification on a specific clause within an Australian Standard, contact the ESV Gas Safety Technical Information Line on 1800 652 563.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Clause description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>An appliance gas pressure regulator has not been fitted to Type A appliances or has been fitted in an inaccessible location.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 6.6.3</td>
<td>GAS APPLIANCE CONNECTION – Means of isolation 6 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>A means of isolation has not been provided on the inlet connection of an appliance, in accordance with AS/NZS 5601.1: 2013, Table 6.4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 5.3.7</td>
<td>LOCATION OF CONSUMER PIPING – Above-ground piping not to touch the ground 6 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>Consumer piping has been incorrectly laid on the ground or is not more than 50 mm clear of the finished ground level.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 5.11.1.6</td>
<td>INSTALLING GAS EQUIPMENT – Consumer piping gas pressure regulators – Consumer piping regulator outlet operating pressure notice 5 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>A permanent and durable notice in a prominent position has not been placed near the regulator showing the outlet pressure setting. Notice is required where the outlet operating pressure setting of a consumer piping gas pressure regulator for natural gas, exceeds 1.5 kPa or for LP Gas exceeds 3.5 kPa,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>AS/NZS 5601.1 2013 [A2] Clause 6.10.1.1</td>
<td>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLATION OF SPECIFIC GAS APPLIANCES – Domestic gas cooking appliances – Clearance around a gas cooking appliance 5 Non-compliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaches</td>
<td>The required clearance between a gas cooking appliance and a combustible surface has not been provided in accordance with the cooking appliance manufacturer’s specification. In the event that clearances are not specified, clearances shall be as in AS/NZS 5601.1:2013, Figure 6.3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ESV has recently taken legal proceedings against the following individuals and companies.

» Nicholas Korosa of Lysterfield, Plumber but not gasfitter, appeared at Broadmeadows Magistrates’ Court charged with two counts of offering to carry out plumbing work for which he was not licensed. Korosa was convicted and fined $1,000.

» Powercor of Melbourne, MEC, appeared at Shepparton Magistrates’ Court charged with 54 counts of failing to comply with Code of Practice for electrical line clearance and three counts of failing to comply with BMP. Powercor was convicted and fined $374,000, and ordered to pay $165,000 in costs.

» SN Electrical Contractors Pty Ltd of Sommerville, REC, appeared at Ringwood Magistrates’ Court charged with three counts of employing a person to carry out electrical work when that person was not a LEIW. SN Electrical Contractors Pty Ltd was convicted and fined $1,000.

» Stuart Shaw of Sommerville, unlicensed, appeared at Ringwood Magistrates’ Court charged with five counts of carrying out electrical installation work when not licensed. Shaw was fined $1,500 without conviction and ordered to pay $1,200 in costs.

» Jeremy Gleeson of Knoxfield, unlicensed, appeared at Ringwood Magistrates’ Court charged with two counts of carrying out electrical installation work when not licensed. Gleeson was fined $5,500 without conviction and ordered to pay $1,200 in costs.

» Jong Trade Pty Ltd of Arthurs Creek, unregistered, appeared at Ringwood Magistrates’ Court charged with two counts of employing a person to carry out electrical work when the company was not a REC. Jong Trade Pty Ltd was fined $5,500 without conviction.

» Augusta Jong of Knoxfield, unregistered, appeared at Ringwood Magistrates’ Court charged with two counts of employing a person to carry out electrical work when that person was not a LEIW. Jong was fined $5,500 without conviction.

» Matthew Benetti of Knoxfield, builder, appeared at Melbourne Magistrates’ Court charged with carrying out building work that would make a building unsafe, and carrying out electrical installation work when not licensed. Benetti was fined $750 without conviction and ordered to pay $1,200 in costs.

» Lukasz Strachecki of Derrimut, Telecommunications Cabler, appeared at Melbourne Magistrates’ Court charged with offering to carry out electrical contracting work when not registered, and two counts of carrying out electrical installation work when not registered. Strachecki was fined $1,500 without conviction and ordered to pay $750 in costs.

» Go Go Experts Pty Ltd of Derrimut, unregistered, appeared at Melbourne Magistrates’ Court charged with two counts of carrying out electrical contracting work when not registered, two counts of employing a person to carry out electrical work when the company was not a REC and two counts of employing a person to carry out electrical work when that person was not a LEIW. Go Go Experts Pty Ltd was fined $4,000 without conviction and ordered to pay $750 in costs.
Infringement notice summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>REC/LEW/Other</th>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>Penalty</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Jun 18</td>
<td></td>
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Infringement notices 2018/2019

Types of infringement notices issued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>REC/LEW/Other</th>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 19</td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Non-complying installation work</td>
<td>$3,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Appliance or installation did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gas fitting work did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Fails to give electronic notice in time</td>
<td>$322</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEI</td>
<td>Fails to give complete certificate</td>
<td>$793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEI</td>
<td>Fails to give complete certificate</td>
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<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gas fitting work did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
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<td></td>
<td>LEI</td>
<td>Fails to give complete certificate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Failed to have work inspected by Inspector</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 19</td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Non-complying installation work</td>
<td>$4,030</td>
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<td></td>
<td>LEI</td>
<td>Certificate does not describe work</td>
<td>$758</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Civil Contractor</td>
<td>Unauthorised uncover or expose gas pipe</td>
<td>$1,612</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Construction Company</td>
<td>Unauthorised uncover or expose gas pipe</td>
<td>$1,612</td>
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<td>Apr 19</td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Failed to have connected work inspected</td>
<td>$645</td>
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<td>REC</td>
<td>Failed to have work inspected by Inspector</td>
<td>$3,171</td>
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<td></td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Failed to have work inspected by Inspector</td>
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<td></td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Employ unlicensed person/contractor</td>
<td>$4,030</td>
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<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gas fitting work did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gas fitting work did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gas fitting work did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gas fitting work did not comply</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Fail to have work inspected within required time</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Appliance or installation did not comply</td>
<td>$3,224</td>
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<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gasfitter/Plumber</td>
<td>Gasfitting work did not comply</td>
<td>$645</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>REC</td>
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<td>$322</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Civil Construction</td>
<td>Unauthorised excavation near pipeline</td>
<td>$1,612</td>
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</table>
UNDERSTAND NEGATIVE PRESSURE.

Our new short animation explains what it is, its effects on open flued gas heaters, how to test for it and how to mitigate it. Watch it now at www.esv.vic.gov.au/NegativePressure

For more information visit www.esv.vic.gov.au