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PREVENTION OF UNAUTHORISED ACCESS TO STEEL LATTICE OVERHEAD LINE SUPPORTS

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy defines the approach to be taken in the classification of overhead line supports and associated spans with regard to the risks of unauthorised access, interference and the approach to be taken in preventing unauthorised access and interference.

The policy relating to the classification of risk applies to all new and existing lattice steel supports and associated spans. However, the policy with respect to the fitting of Anti-Climbing Devices (ACD's) and safety signs will only apply to new supports, or where those on existing supports are being replaced.

PART 1 – POLICY

1 CLASSIFICATION OF RISK

All overhead line supports shall be the subject of a risk assessment to TGN(E)194, and shall, as a result, be classified as either *vulnerable (high risk)*, or *non-vulnerable*. New supports shall be classified before erection.

All overhead line spans shall be subject of a risk assessment to TGN (E) 237, with identified spans which fit the criteria classified as *High Risk*. High Risk spans are such that they present a higher than normal danger to persons from interference, vandalism or unauthorised access through their day to day activities or work.

The risk classification of each support and associated span shall be reviewed at each inspection, or as necessitated by changes or events in the immediate area of the support/span. The maximum review period shall be 2 years.

The risk classification of an asset should not alter once appropriate measures are put in place in accordance with the risk classification assigned. This is because in many cases the potential for danger from interference will remain. Only consider changing the risk classification when the equipment is replaced or the use of the surrounding land changes.

However following a suitable and sufficient assessment the control measures (for example extending the patrol period) can be altered in relation to the potential risks.

2 INSTALLATION OF ANTI-CLIMBING DEVICES (ACD'S) AND SAFETY SIGNS

A single ACD to TS 3.04.27 shall be fitted to each leg of every support. All vulnerable supports shall be fitted with enhanced ACD's. Installation shall be to Work Spec OHL1\Z1\CA and/or contract specification OHL1\Z1\CB.

All supports shall be fitted with a safety sign to TS 3.04.09 adjacent to each leg and facing in the most likely direction of approach.

Where there is evidence of continued unauthorised access to a support, the lower parts of the support may be painted with anti-climbing paint and/or fitted with close-wrapped wire. Alternatively an additional ACD to TS 3.04.27 may be fitted.

In addition, to reduce the risk of objects being inserted into the step bolt holes which could aid unauthorised access to the towers, removable step bolts may be installed on identified high risk and frequently climbed towers. The removable step bolt should be of a type which when absent from the tower, will stop objects from being inserted into the step bolt hole.