

## H&S Alert – Blue Electric Cable

| Incident Details  |                                    |  | Contract Number: 87754 |       |          |
|---|------------------------------------|--|------------------------|-------|----------|
| Date: 28/09/17  | Scheme: Litchfield STW Quality WFD | On-Site Location: Site Compound Trial Hole |                        |       |          |
| Incident Outline  |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| <p>Whilst carrying out extension works to the site compound at Litchfield STW, a trial hole was dug to identify a buried service which the Cat had located only to find what appeared to be a 25mm water service pipe. Upon further investigation and a closer inspection this was proven to be an electric cable, but rather than being the expected standard black colour, it turned out to be the exact copy of a BLUE water service pipe.</p> <p>Workforce immediately informed their supervisor who documented the findings along with photographs taken by the Safety Coach, to enable a toolbox talk to be communicated to ALL operatives on site of the unusual find.</p>   |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| Photographs   |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
|    |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| Photos: Service as found  |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| Additional Information  |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| <p>UK Power Networks were contacted for information regarding the use of "Blue Electric Cables", they insisted that under no circumstances do they lay "Blue Cables", only <b>BLACK</b> for Low Voltage and <b>RED</b> for High Voltage. However, a representative of UK Power Networks did state that private developments and independent contractors do not always adhere to the recommended industry standard utility colour coding, and they believe that this cable was laid as a result of this. It is therefore very important that all crews excavating on or around the highways or new development sites are fully aware of the possibility's that they may come across similar situations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Never assume the service you expose is what you expect it to be!</b></p> |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| Immediate Actions Taken   |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work immediately ceased and supervisor informed</li> <li>• Position of cable recorded and photographs taken</li> <li>• TBT given to workforce highlighting issue</li> </ul>  |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| <p><b>Please ensure your teams are briefed on the above incident and resulting corrective actions.</b></p>  |                                    |  |                        |       |          |
| Compiled By:  | Mark Breeze                        | Title:                                     | Safety Coach           | Date: | 29/09/17 |
| Approved By:  |                                    | Title:                                     |                        | Date: |          |
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