

Suburban Land Agency Contractor Safety Update

Construction Safety Newsletter – May/June 2017

Introduction

The Suburban Land Agency (Suburban Land) is pleased to provide its third bi-monthly newsletter for 2017. These Safety Updates are provided to assist in creating a culture and awareness of safety in our industry and addressing safety trends across Suburban Land construction sites. This Newsletter will help inform discussion relating to work health and safety in general and promote awareness about any emerging work health and safety trends or risks.

Summary

Suburban Land is currently managing 11 civil/landscaping construction contracts with a value of more than \$118 million. Suburban Land undertook four audits during the months of May and June in accordance with the ACT Government's Active Certification Policy. In the four Audits undertaken during this reporting period there were no Non-Conformances, continuing the positive trend demonstrated during the first half of 2017.

During the May and June period there were seven reports of work health and safety incidents, including one Notifiable Incident.

The incidents reported for the last two periods are summarised in the table below:

Incident Reporting

<i>May/June 2017</i>	<i>March/April 2017</i>
<u>Personal Injury Incidents:</u> 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groin Sprain during connection of sewer pipes, using a crowbar. 	<u>Personal Injury incidents:</u> 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee tripped over. • Car accident with oncoming traffic whilst employee was leaving site and entering public road.
<u>Notifiable Incidents:</u> 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetlight electrical cable cut by auger during excavation for bollards. 	<u>Notifiable incidents:</u> 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant rollover (Skid-steer loader). • Truck reversed into a parked car.
<u>Property Damage:</u> 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Generator and site compound windows vandalised. • Driver crashed into temporary fence and caused damage to traffic light. 	<u>Property Damage:</u> 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst loading a truck, a large rock fell and dented cabin of truck and handrail. • Empty water barrier blew into a passing car.
<u>Other Incidents:</u> 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexploded blast holes uncovered during trench excavation. • Wacker packer caught fire. • Water cart stuck on steep terrain. 	<u>Other incidents:</u> 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexpected find (suspicious article). • Un-inducted worker identified on site. • Near miss - excavation beside Streetlight Conduits.

"Tomorrow is your reward for working safely today"

While the May/ June 2017 reporting period has seen a slight drop in the number of incidents reported when compared to the previous reporting period, there were still a number of incidents which had potential to result in a serious injury.

Following investigation of the Notifiable Incident, it was found that the streetlight cable had not been installed in accordance with the design drawing and was not updated correctly in the WAE drawings. This highlights the importance of making sure appropriate measures and investigations are undertaken when working around live services.

WHS Audits – Key outcomes & findings from recent audits

Some details of recent observations and findings from Active Certification Audits is provided below to help provide feedback to Suburban Land's Contractors and Consultants to assist our Industry in further developing our WHS systems and learn from other project audits which are being undertaken across all Suburban Land's sites.

- Apprentice not signed into site and stopped from performing unsafe work at heights with a ladder.
- Consideration should be given to clarifying exactly when a mobile phone can be used on site and a specific tool box be conducted with the primary focus being the use of mobile phones.
- Consideration is given to conducting a Toolbox meeting where the primary focus is the Site Safety Rules.

Monthly WHS Reporting

In this newsletter we are highlighting the importance of the Suburban Land Agency's Principal Contractor WHS Monthly Reporting.

This report is used to capture key WHS reporting information for all of Suburban Lands construction sites, which also includes site that are in the 12 month defect liability period. This WHS information and reporting is also used to inform the WHS component of our overall monthly project reporting.

Clarification with respect to the requirements for reporting against some specific sections of the report is included below:

- List number of incidents reported to Work Safe ACT (Item 8 of the report): If any incidents have been reported to Work Safe, the current action required must also be included. This may be as simple as a statement such as "Incident closed out", or "Currently being investigated by WorkSafe ACT".
- Provide date and details of the last WHS audit (Item 11 of the report): This is not only limited to Active Certification Audits undertaken by the Principal, but should also include any 3rd party audits or internal audits undertaken by the Principal Contractor. Details of the audit should also be included.

Completed reports must be submitted to the project Superintendent or Principal's Authorised Delegate at the end of each month for review and endorsement. Endorsed reports from the Superintendent (or PAD) must be submitted to the relevant project officer of Suburban Land by the 5th calendar day of each month.

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Suburban Land Agency
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