



IT'S TIME



SEP 2020

ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION NSW & ACT CONSTRUCTION & CONTRACTING CAMPAIGN BULLETIN

ETU ACTION: SAFEWORK ORDERS LENDLEASE TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM DEADLY ASBESTOS

SafeWork NSW has issued Lendlease with an Improvement Notice after an ETU inspection found asbestos on the M4-M5 Link.

SafeWork confirmed that 'workers may be exposed ... to inhalation of asbestos fibres'.

The asbestos exposed may be friable – the mineral's deadliest form – rather than bonded, SafeWork found.

The Notice directs builder Lendlease to 'manage risks associated with asbestos fibres' and 'review control measures'. The regulator took action after ETU officials documented contaminated soil. Concerned workers had called the union in.

'We welcome this action from Safework which requires Lendlease to protect workers from deadly asbestos,' said ETU NSW & ACT Secretary Justin Page.

'The project hired an independent hygienist and asbestos removal expert after the ETU raised concerns that contractors hired in those roles were unqualified.'

Stage one of the \$3.2 billion WestConnex M4-M5 Link will deliver two 7.5 kilometre tunnels linking St Peters and Haberfield. The project is a joint venture between Lendlease Engineering, Samsung C&T and Bouygues Construction.



ETU REPORTS DODGY JOB ADS

Electrical TA's -Switchboards and Panel Wiring

Adecco

[More jobs from this company](#)

4 Aug 2020

Sydney, North Shore & Northern Beaches

Contract/Temp

Trades & Services, Electricians

Our client based in lane Cove NSW is seeking experienced switchboard panel wirers for an immediate start. Excellent opportunity to secure work with this Global company

The ETU has called on regulators to stop contractors advertising for non-qualified workers to perform electrical work.

Justin Page, Secretary ETU NSW & ACT Branch, said such ads breach NSW laws and regulations governing electrical work.

'I wrote to SafeWork NSW and Fair Trading this week, drawing attention to a number of ads sent to the union by our members. Employers are blatantly advertising for unlicensed people to perform electrical work. These contractors are putting workers and the public in serious danger.'

IS YOUR SITE UNSAFE? Contact the ETU team for support



SIDE-BY-SIDE

These ETU members employed by contractor Fredon are working side-by-side with ETU members employed at Sydney Trains – the joint project is Central Metro Rail, a massive job that will extend the Metro from Central to Sydenham.

5 PIPELINE PROJECTS

The pandemic has stalled some projects, but these 5 major jobs are steaming ahead

- ➔ WestConnex M4-M5 Link
- ➔ WestConnex Rozelle Interchange
- ➔ Parramatta Light Rail
- ➔ Sydney Football Stadium
- ➔ 'Linewise' Stage 2 Metro

ETU INCOME PROTECTION HELPS APPRENTICE SEVERELY INJURED IN SCRUM

ETU Income Protection has delivered ongoing financial relief to a Grid Electrical apprentice who suffered serious spinal injuries playing football.

Daniel Solofa's ETU membership and union EBA entitled him to Chifley Income Protection.

The Chifley financial product is a standard feature of ETU construction EBAs. Eligible members can claim up to 90% of their regular income (to a maximum of \$2,000 weekly under the new EBAs) for up to two years.

To find out more, visit www.chifleyservices.com.au, email info@chifleyservices.com.au or call 1800 800 002.



DANIEL SOLOFA WITH PARTNER ELLEN.

YOUNG ELECTRICIAN SUFFERS CARDIAC ARREST AFTER HV ELECTRIC SHOCK

SafeWork NSW warned contractors after a 24-year-old electrician went into cardiac arrest from a severe high-voltage electric shock.

Co-workers used a defibrillator (AED) to revive the worker before he was rushed to emergency with burns after the incident at Eastern Creek Data Centre.

SafeWork's report noted the electrician 'received a potentially fatal electric shock while testing a transformer. He contacted exposed conductors as voltages were applied to the transformer'.

SafeWork emphasised that only licensed electricians with appropriate training should perform electrical work.

The ETU was closely involved with the investigation, ensuring members on the Eastern Creek location are safe and supported.

'We believe a key issue behind this life-threatening incident was inadequate training on the equipment electricians were required to use,' said ETU NSW & ACT Secretary Justin Page.

UNION ACTION

SECURES SUBSTANTIAL PAYMENT FOR UNFAIRLY SACKED APPRENTICE

ETU action has secured a substantial financial settlement for a second-year apprentice who was unfairly dismissed by an electrical contractor.

The company also agreed to withdraw its termination of the ETU member, who was able to officially resign from the job.

'Thank you, ETU! Without the union, I would have got nothing,' said the apprentice. 'It's certainly worth the \$3 per week I pay in fees!'

NORTHCONNEX: 1,000+ FAULTY RCDS REPLACED AFTER ETU ACTION

RCDS which failed to comply with Australian standards caused at least one emergency lighting fire and could have left the entire tunnel without lighting.

Members reported the fire to ETU organiser Lawrie Duff who notified regulators SafeWork and FairTrading NSW.

NorthConnex builder Lendlease eventually engaged 50 electrical workers to rectify the defects.



CONTACT YOUR ETU CONSTRUCTION TEAM

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