

Hydro Tasmania

SAFETY ALERT

Topic

Alert Number (YYMMDD)	300725	Date Issued	28 August 2025
SAP Incident Number	76217	Approved By	Head of WHS
Alert Category	Safety	Action Required?	Yes

Alert details/incident summary

On 30 July, during routine maintenance on Tarraleah Machine #2, a team was removing the exciter cover to clean the windings during routine maintenance. The cover was secured with four bolts. After three bolts were removed, the last bolt was loosened to hold it in place while a crane took up the slack of the sling which was attached to the eye bolt. When the crane was activated, it lifted too quickly, putting excess force on the lifting point. A 150mm section of the cover broke away and was ejected about 3 metres into the air before landing safely away from workers. No one was injured.

Alert/incident photos



Findings

- Having a licence, qualification, or training doesn't always safeguard against incidents when working in unfamiliar sites or with unfamiliar equipment.
- Take 5 was completed however risk assessments can miss hidden hazards if not used effectively. An electronic version could prompt deeper consideration of risks.
- There's uncertainty about when a certified rigger is required. The current guideline does not appear to be well known with the employees involved.

Actions

- Review and progress the development of an electronic Take 5 tool with better hazard prompts.
- Deliver refresher awareness/training on all lifting and rigging procedures.
- Develop a work instruction allowing certain simple or routine lifts to be performed without a certified rigger, where appropriate.