

# Hydro Tasmania

## SSL/INJURY/ILLNESS INCIDENT OUTCOME

### RED NOTICE

## Crotty Industrial Elevator Fault/Evacuation

Document Number	110626_IO	Date Issued	12 June 2026
Incident Owner	Sam Vernham	Approved By	Head of WHS
SAP Number	94127, 94459	Type of Incident	Moderate Risk Incident

### Incident description

Multiple faults have occurred during operation of the Crotty Dewatering Valve pit access industrial elevator resulting in occupants of the elevator needing to evacuate through the lift roof access hatch and out onto the emergency stairs.

Hazards:

- A small gap (approximately 500mm) which is required to be stepped over to reach the emergency stairs which presents a fall risk.
- The site is remote so assistance from a lift technician would take some time.



Re-enactment of egress through roof

### Incident Contributing Factors:

- Known concerns regarding the elevator's ongoing serviceability.
- Some mitigating controls already exist including a recommendation for a person to be located on the surface while in use. However, a rescue plan that considers the 'work at heights' risks when evacuating the lift does not currently exist.
- 3rd Person was allocated to task but was attending a callout at the time, 2 people were required to perform task at the bottom of the dewatering outlet.

### Incident Learnings & Actions for leaders, employees and contractors

Incident tasks:

- Immediate inspection, repair by lift technician.
- The elevator refurbishment timelines are under review considering the recent increase in faults.
- A documented rescue plan will be developed including the placement of any required equipment in the lift should evacuation be required.

What can we learn from this?

This presents an opportunity to evaluate how we consider/prioritise maintenance requirements/ upgrades against risk. What was good in this case is the reporting of incident/faults to gather data to use to inform upgrade schedules.

There is also opportunity to review everyday access/equipment in your area with a 'what happens if it fails' mindset. Is the equipment/plan readily available to those in immediate need? Could a rescue/emergency egress occur safely?