



**Health & Safety
Causeymire Fatality**

**Safety Alert
ISSUE 2: 05/10/09**

Safety Alert

This Safety Alert has been issued as a result of a fatality at Causeymire Wind Farm which occurred on 16 September 2009. At this stage detailed information about the immediate or underlying cause(s) of the accident are not known by BWEA as the investigation continues. Its application and intent is therefore broad and general.

General Safety Advice

Below are some points of guidance that Duty Holders should consider. The BWEA recommends that all Duty Holders review their safety arrangements for work within a nacelle. The following points also have a wider and more general application to safe working arrangements.

Areas to consider in any review of existing arrangements include:

- Risk assessments should be reviewed and where necessary revised to take account any new safety information. Attention should be paid to mechanical safety issues and specifically the adequacy of measures for preventing and controlling access to dangerous machinery. Particular attention should be given to locking and braking procedures and controls;
- Attention should be given to any new or revised risks that may have been created as a result of any repairs or modifications undertaken since commissioning;
- Duty holders should make contact with the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) to determine if any new information or safety precautions are applicable to the specific turbine concerned and/or the particular design layout of the nacelle;
- Checks should be made to ensure that all operators and technicians are competent and authorised to carry out work in a nacelle. Where necessary additional training or revised work instructions may need to be provided;
- Duty holders should review safety policies and procedures and where necessary in light of a revised risk assessment, safe systems of work ("SSW") should be updated; and
- As appropriate contractors and 3rd parties should be advised of any new information including any revised precautions such as new induction training, updated site operating procedures or new SSW.

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Further Information

Contacts

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Legislation

Legislation potentially relevant to this Alert includes but is not limited to:

1. Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
2. Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998
3. Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008
4. Work at Height Regulations 2005

Links

1. Health and Safety Executive
 - o Work Equipment Safety
 - o <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/puwerind.htm>
2. BWEA
 - o Health & Safety Guidelines 2008
 - o <http://www.bwea.com/safety/index.html>

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