

# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## TB-0181

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### Pole-top inspection of wood pole

#### Purpose

The purpose of this technical bulletin is to inform employees of the pole-top inspection of wood poles and that Branch form FAE 3057 (Pole-top Inspection of Wood Pole – Report Sheet) is to be completed upon carrying out the inspection.

#### Background

Mains Maintenance Standard MMI 0001 states that "Where doubt exists to the condition of the pole top or fittings in respect to fungal decay or splitting, the pole shall be reported for a close inspection with the use of a EWP by Regional staff". The procedure for this inspection can be found in Annexure 8 of MMI 0001. Branch form FAE 3057 was developed to complement this procedure.

**Note:** It is advised that only employees who are trained in the procedure shall carry out this inspection which may involve drilling the pole and assessing it for various types of rot. Training will be made available through the Technical Training Centre.

The form/report will provide data to assess the pole-top condition of wood poles across the network and identify any areas of concern. The form will also provide details for poles that are condemned to assist in the replacement process.

Note that the form will later be converted into an electronic format and deployed once resources (for example, laptops/iPads) are made available to all relevant regional staff.

#### Actions

Until further notice, Form FAE 3057 shall be completed when a pole-top inspection of a wood pole is carried out. The completed form is to be handed to the operations manager or technical support officer to be scanned and stored in:

***G:\SHARE\FAE3057 Pole-top Inspection of Wood Pole***

**Note:** If multiple measurements are taken for a pole (for example, more than one knot hole present), any additional measurements shall be put in the comments section on the same form.

Additionally, when the work order is closed, the work order completion comment field shall be filled out including whether the pole is condemned or still serviceable. Detailed reasons for condemning any pole shall also be included in the comments field.

Contact the Technical Training Centre for further information regarding training for pole-top inspection of wood poles.

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**Contact:** Andrew Tang

**Phone:** 9853 6714

**Date:** 26 February 2015

**Authorised by:** Jude Perera, Manager Primary Systems

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51 Huntingwood Drive, Huntingwood NSW 2148

Telephone: 131 718 Fax: (02) 9853 6000

Postal Address: PO Box 811 Seven Hills NSW 1730.

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## POLE-TOP INSPECTION OF WOOD POLE - REPORT SHEET

This form is only to be used for EWP pole-top inspections.

Scan and store in G:\SHARE\FAE3057 Pole-top Inspection of Wood Pole

For poles condemned through GLI, use form FAE 3032.

|                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Inspector Name and service number:</b>                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Work order No:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                     |
| Date of Inspection:                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Field Centre:                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     |
| <b>Pole details</b>                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| Pole number:                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Circuit voltages on pole (circle)</b>                                                                                                                                                                    | 132kV/ 33kV/ 22kV<br>11kV / LV / SL |
| Pole address:                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Location</b> (Pavement, Paddock, Park, Roadside)                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Pole function (circle)</b><br>Ordinary      Stay      Stayed                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Pole attachments</b><br>(Down Earth, Cable, ABS#, Pole Sub#)<br>.....                                                                                                                                    |                                     |
| <b>Inspection checklist</b>                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Pole head</b>                                                                                                    | Pole head condition acceptable? (Circle)<br><b>YES</b> – Continue to sounding<br><b>NO</b> – Condemn pole                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Sounding</b>                                                                                                     | Sound the pole at different locations around the suspected defect.                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Drilling</b>                                                                                                     | <b>Wall thickness (cm) (Circle)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | <input type="radio"/> < 20 <input type="radio"/> 20 <input type="radio"/> 30 <input type="radio"/> 40 <input type="radio"/> 50 <input type="radio"/> 60 <input type="radio"/> 70 <input type="radio"/> > 70 |                                     |
|                                                                                                                     | Wall thickness is less than 40mm or presence of white rot? (Circle)<br><b>YES</b> – Condemn pole<br>(Note: If less than 20mm <b>OR</b> there is any white rot – replace within 48 hrs)<br><b>NO</b> – Pole is serviceable |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Condemned pole priority (Circle)</b>                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>48 HOURS</b> 1 MONTH            3 MONTHS            6 MONTHS                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>COMMENTS</b> (for example, details for condemning pole and priority given, alternate methods to repair the pole) |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |
| <b>Sketch for condemned poles</b> (for example, show the location of knot hole or drill holes)                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |