

## Respecting electricity is a powerful thing

Endeavour Energy issued a reminder today for its customers to be ever-vigilant of the risks of electricity, particularly if they have the misfortune of being involved in an electrical accident.

“Electricity should always be respected because it can kill, and even non-fatal shocks can cause severe and permanent injury,” said Endeavour Energy’s General Manager Health, Safety and Environment David Neville.

“Regrettably between 10 and 20 people in NSW are killed each year in accidents involving electricity.

“Whilst it is not pleasant to confront these tragedies, Endeavour Energy is committed to raising awareness in the community about treating electricity with the respect it deserves.”

In the unfortunate event that someone around you receives a serious electric shock, Mr Neville said there were some important steps to respond safely and not make the situation worse.

“The old saying of ‘more haste, less speed’ should underline any response to an electrical accident.

“While it is vital to act immediately, a person in contact with the source of electricity is themselves a conductor until the power is turned off.

“Do not attempt to touch or rescue a person until the power source has been cut off and the situation made safe.”

When responding to an electrical accident, Mr Neville said it was important to follow the ensuing steps in sequence:

- if possible, switch off all sources of electricity supply in the immediate area
- call for help immediately by contacting 000 and requesting an ambulance
- once you are sure the power is off, administer basic first aid to the injured person but do not touch burns, break blisters or remove burnt clothing
- administer CPR if the injured person is unconsciousness and not breathing if you are trained
- call Endeavour Energy emergency services on 131 003 to report the incident.

“While we hope that no customer is ever in the unfortunate situation of having to respond to an electrical accident, these simple steps can help save someone’s life.

“The best way to stay safe is to be ever respectful of the risks and consequences of receiving an electric shock,” Mr Neville said.

For more safety advice, visit [www.endeavourenergy.com.au](http://www.endeavourenergy.com.au) or call 131 003.

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