



Electrical Safety for Farmers

Anne Taylor

Chair

Proactive Agricultural Safety & Support Inc

PASS Inc, formed 2007

www.pass.org.au

Physiotherapist, Farmer, Manutention Trainer

Power line

Extension
Cord



Jan 2007 fatality: together 2 x 21 year olds

Not again!!

6 fatalities in 6 years, 20km radius Cressy

4 irrigation, 4 electricity (3 young), 3 machinery, 2 crush



Keeps on happening
Nothing changes!

Electricity Safety our 1st project
Widespread in rural communities
Rarely any 2nd chances

Coroners Recommendation:
**Never store irrigation pipes
under powerlines**



Electricity Safety in Rural Environments Forum

Delegates:

Electricity companies:

Aurora, Transend

WorkCover Tasmania

Electricity Regulator

WST Inspectors

Ag Service Providers

ServeAg, TopCrop, CSIRO
CGU

Processing companies

Tas Alkaloids, GlaxoSmithKline

Farmer Organizations

TWiA, CWA,

Farmers

PASS Inc members





Electricity Questionnaire

Authors:

Gary Rowe, Safety Action P/L

Anne Taylor



Simple format
Every day information

Aim: to focus delegates



Outcome

Delegates:

Noisy exclamations,
Don't know

Results

Only 4 over 50%

Regulator

Insurance

Work Cover Advisor

WST Inspector

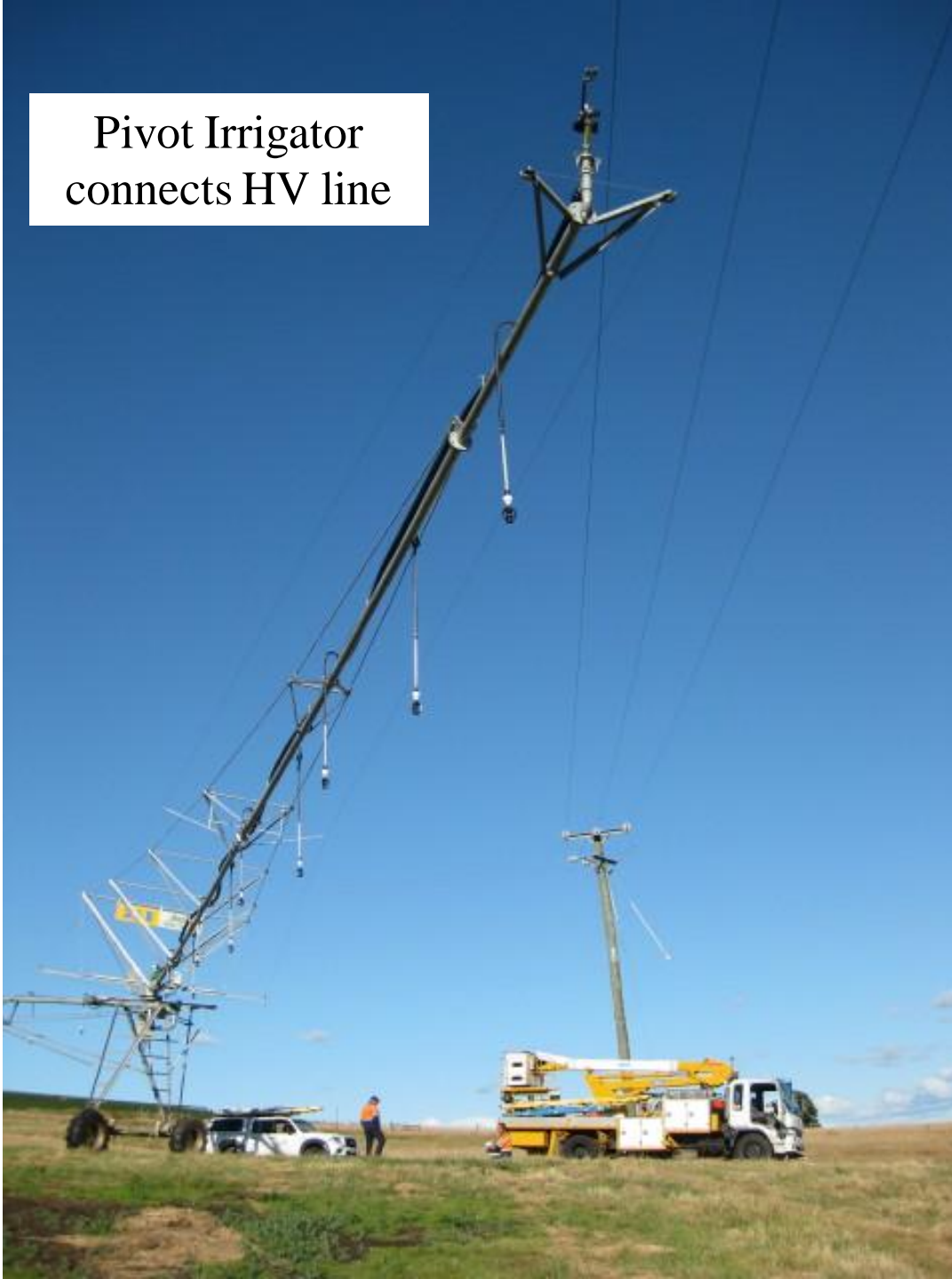


Hose & damaged extension cord
entwined

Many months like this

Cope Out quoting Aust
Standards 3000, 3670

Pivot Irrigator
connects HV line



Subsequent Meetings

Farmer organizations

Farmer PD / seminars

Rural Service Clubs

Results:

Only electricians > 50%

Did You Know?

**Electricity jumps
/arcs across a gap!**



Field Day display

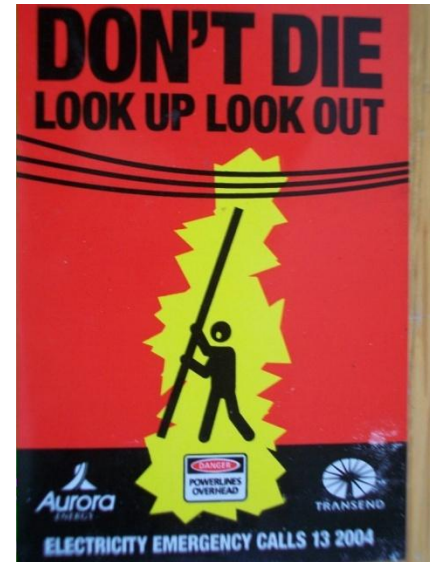


Recommendations
Multifaceted Education programs
On Going



Creative, Entertaining, Engaging

- Schools (primary → tertiary),
- Community: Women's groups, Service Clubs
- Field Days: interactive displays
- Electricity bills: revolving messages
- Free signage
- Media: Human interest stories, Cartoons
- Competitions
- ID & promote role models





Change



Needs a frame of mind. Not an action or event

- Takes commitment of
 - Time
 - Perseverance
- No simple solution
- Who's responsible?
- All = Within our organizations. Within our industries



Lord Salisbury:

“Change, change, who needs change? Things are bad enough the way they are”