Sir/madam

I have worked in the power industry for over 30 years with a Victorian distribution business. I am qualified both as a Cable Jointer and Lineworker and I am amazed that we still continue to allow non qualified Cable Jointers work on the system without attaining a full Qualification.

These line workers/jointers do a 5 day course were they are shown a couple off different joints and then are sent back to their depots where they go out and do Cable Jointing with no follow up skills checking, mentoring sessions or quality control done on their work, this is not safe.

Both linewoker and Cable Jointing are a 4 year apprenticeship and needs to be treated seperate. This idea you can do a short course in Jointing and then be sent out to do Cable Jointing is wrong and unsafe and a myth that has been pedalled by distribution businesses to try and get work done by non Qualified jointers cheaply with total disregard for safety and quality.

I am all for licensing of lineworker/Cable Jointer Qualification as it is exactly what we need but to blur the lines and allow restricted jointing to be done by line workers with no qualification in Cable Jointing sends the wrong message.

This multi skilling model was tried in the early 90's and failed which is why we now have Proper Qualification pathways for Cable Jointing.

We get one chance to set this up right, please can we show leadership and not bow down to electricity Distribution business who put profits ahead of safety and quality

1 licence for Qualified oh lineworker 1 licence for Qualified Cable Jointer NO HYBRID=SAFE WORKPLACE

I look forward to your response. Regards

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