

12<sup>th</sup> November 2012

**No: 269**

## **Network Rail Safety Bulletin**

### **Conductor Rail Heating Control Panels**

**For the attention of ; Any member of Network Rail Staff or Contractor staff working on the Kent Sussex and Wessex Routes**

Background:

Following component failures which have caused localised damage within certain Conductor Rail Heating Control Panels in Kent, Sussex and Wessex additional protective measures have been undertaken for the 2012-13 Winter period. Certain installations will remain switched off until they can be modified and the control panels upgraded.

All other sites will be switched on but will have the following additional precautions applied:-

- Certain Conductor Rail Heating Control Panels switched on during the current Winter Period will have a fenced exclusion zone as shown below around the Control Panel which must not be entered whilst the equipment is switched on.



In addition to the fencing, these locations will have warning signs as shown below:-



**Immediate Action Required by all persons affected:**

For access to the local control panel **including switching on or off of the heating**, the Electrical Control Operator (ECO) shall be contacted and arrangements made for the conductor rail section supplying the control panel to be switched off. Persons **must not enter** the fenced area until the ECO has confirmed this has been done.

Upon completion of any activity within the fenced area and **only** when all persons attending are outside that area shall the ECO be requested to arrange for the conductor rail supplying the relevant control panel be switched on.

To undertake actual work on the panel 750v control equipment circuits or heating strip an appropriate isolation (Procedure A, Procedure B or Temporary Isolation) in accordance with the DC Electrified Lines Instructions (NR/L3/OCS/3091) shall be undertaken.

If the panel is **completely removed and disconnected** from the 750v supply an isolation is not required.

As modified and updated control panels are fitted the restrictions will be lifted and exclusion fencing removed.