## Media Release



29 March 2018

## Save energy for electricity safety this Easter

Essential Energy is encouraging customers to invest time in electrical safety checks before undertaking home improvement projects this Easter long weekend.

General Manager Safety, HR and Environment, David Nardi, recommended some simple safety checks before jumping in to get that list of jobs done.

"Before using power tools or electrical equipment, know where the electrical wiring is within your work space," David said.

"Check tools for frayed cords or loose connections, do not overload power boards and keep extension leads to a minimum.

"Ensure your home, workshops and sheds are fitted with electricity safety switches such as Residual Current Devices or Earth Leakage Circuit Breakers."

In 2016-17, three deaths were recorded in New South Wales involving consumers performing electrical installations\*.

"Essential Energy advises that a qualified electrician should be engaged for all jobs involving electrical wiring," David said.

"If you suspect someone may have received an electrical shock, do not attempt to touch them until the power has been disconnected. Call Essential Energy immediately on 13 23 91 or call Triple 0 (000) if the situation is life-threatening," he added.

For more information on electrical safety, visit <u>essentialenergy.com.au/safety</u> or call Essential Energy on **13 23 91.** 

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\*(2016-2017 Electrical Fatal Incident Data report for Australia and New Zealand, Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council)

Essential Energy is the operator of one of Australia's largest electricity networks spanning 95 per cent of New South Wales' land mass. Owned by the New South Wales Government, Essential Energy also provides water and sewerage services to customers in far western New South Wales.