



General Safety Advice - Queensland Rail



Workplace managers and supervisors are to review the general advice and should provide their workers with the opportunity to view this information if applicable.

There is no set timeframe to communicate this information to affected workers.

Issue date: 6/08/2024

Expiry date: 28/02/2025 To be removed from the safety and environment notice board.

Recipient training to support electrical safety observers

Attention: Recipients and their supervisors, contractor recipients and their supervisors, recipient trainers, traction power engineers, traction authorised persons, project managers

Background

The Recipient Learner Guide and Log Book [MD-20-293](#) has been updated to version 1.5 and published on SEMS and the [RIW portal](#).

The updates include the requirement for the following electrical safety observer roles to hold the Recipient SCA/SWA qualification:

- Plant electrical safety observer.
- Site electrical safety observer.

Transition period to introduce Recipient training for electrical safety observer roles



Any worker performing the role of safety observer for the safety observer zone (SOZ) must continue to have a current Recipient Safety Clarification Advice/Standard Working Activity (SCA/SWA) qualification. To assist electrical safety observers who do not currently have the Recipient SCA/SWA qualification to undertake the necessary training, a transition period of 7 months (until 28/02/2025) is being implemented.

During the transition period, the following arrangements will apply:

1. Workers who perform the plant electrical safety observer or site electrical safety observer roles who do not already have the Recipient SCA/SWA qualification must book into a Recipient training course by 16/09/2024.
2. Recipients (SCA/SWA/Form C) should use a qualified Recipient SCA/SWA as an electrical safety observer wherever possible during the transition period.
3. If a qualified Recipient SCA/SWA cannot be sourced for an electrical safety observer role during the transition period, the following options shall be considered when appointing an electrical safety observer:
 - a. **Option 1 (preferred option) – Engage a qualified Recipient from an approved panel of providers:**

Engage the services of a qualified Recipient SCA/SWA to perform the role of electrical safety observer. Qualified Recipients can be provided by several specialist companies in Queensland.
 - b. **Option 2 – Electrical safety observers who have completed the Recipient theory assessment:**

Electrical safety observers who have completed the Recipient theory assessment and are in the process of completing the mentoring activities may be used.

Electrical safety observers who have successfully completed the theory assessment, can provide the qualified Recipient for approved work with a copy of the trainer declaration from their Recipient logbook to verify their training attendance; or
 - c. **Option 3 (least preferred option) – Electrical safety observers that have been briefed by the Recipient:**

Electrical safety observers who are waiting to attend Recipient training may be used.

The qualified Recipient for the work activity shall read the requirements of [MD-20-293](#) - Section 15 to the electrical safety observer and have the electrical safety observer acknowledge (in the pre-start briefing) that they understand their duties as an electrical safety observer.

At the end of the transition period (28/02/2025), all electrical safety observers are required to hold the Recipient SCA/SWA qualification



For further information contact: David Wilson, Electrical Standards and Assurance Officer (HV)

Issued by: Francisco Siliezar, Discipline Head Electrical

QUEENSLAND RAIL OFFICIAL

© 2024 Queensland Rail

QueenslandRail

Actions to be taken:

- a. Recipients (SCA/SWA/Form C) shall be informed that there is a transition period for the requirement for plant electrical safety observers and site electrical safety observers to hold a Recipient SCA/SWA qualification. The transition period will finish on 28/02/2025.
- b. Recipients (SCA/SWA/Form C) shall understand the following transition arrangements for selecting plant electrical safety observers and site electrical safety observers to help them undertake their role:
 - **Option 1 (preferred option):** Engage the services of a qualified Recipient SCA/SWA to perform the role of electrical safety observer. Qualified Recipients can be provided by several specialist companies in Queensland.
 - **Option 2:** Electrical safety observers who have completed the Recipient theory assessment and are in the process of completing their mentoring activities may be used. Electrical safety observers who have completed the theory assessment, can provide the qualified Recipient for the work activity with a copy of the trainer declaration from their Recipient logbook to verify their training attendance; or
 - **Option 3 (least preferred):** Electrical safety observers who are waiting to attend Recipient training may be used. The qualified Recipient for the work activity shall brief the safety observer thoroughly about the requirements of the role and read the requirements of MD-20-293 - Section 15 to the electrical safety observer. The electrical safety observer shall acknowledge (in the pre-start briefing) that they understand their duties as an electrical safety observer. In this option, proposed safety observers need to print a copy of the Recipient learning guide and familiarise themselves with the content of the guide (including section 15).
- c. Workers who are required to perform an electrical safety observer role who do not hold the Recipient SCA/SWA qualification must book into a Recipient training course by 16/09/2024. Training can be arranged by contacting Asset Training Delivery at: TeamLeaderTechnicalTraining@QR.com.au.



ES Regulation s68 A person conducting a business or undertaking at a workplace must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that no person, plant or thing at the workplace comes within an unsafe distance of an overhead or underground electric line.

If it is not reasonably practicable to ensure a safe distance; the person must ensure that a risk assessment is conducted for the proposed work and control measures implemented are consistent with the risk assessment and, if an electricity entity is responsible for the electric line, any requirements of the electricity entity.

