

Line of Fire Safeguards

When this applies

Any work where your body can be put in harm's way. This includes:

- Moving mechanical parts and equipment.
- Pressurised systems.
- Stored energy.
- Being within a drop zone.

Hazards

Working with equipment is higher risk when you're working on tasks involving people interacting with or being close to equipment containing energy sources. This could include:

- Powered hand tools.
- Hydraulic powered equipment.
- Potentially unstable stored equipment (e.g. tubing, valves, chemicals).
- Stored energy in load restraints.
- Equipment being lifted into place via slinging and rigging.
- High-pressure lines
- Equipment with stored energy such as pressure, pneumatic or gravity.



Key Safeguards

Wherever possible, reduce risk by adopting the following safeguards:

- Follow isolation procedures to make sure equipment is isolated and de-energised before you begin work.
- Use physical control measures to disconnect, release and lockout mechanical energy to separate people from the Line of Fire.
- Lock out mechanical movements with a pin, lever, breaks, linkage or other lockout device.
- Organise the workplace to provide unobstructed and easy access.
- Identify pinch points on equipment and confirm that equipment guarding is in place.
- Plan the work to maintain body positioning out of the line of fire.
- Secure tools and equipment that are to be used at heights (e.g. tool lanyard).
- Confirm that exclusion zones are in place before starting the work.
- Make sure any required signage is clearly visible.
- Ensure that any required PPE is in good working order and confirm that it cannot get snagged while completing the task.
- Ensure that all personal items such as watches, rings or jewellery are removed or covered so they cannot get caught.
- Confirm that you know how to shut down equipment in an emergency.

Did you know:

The three major categories of Line of Fire injuries are being caught in, caught between or struck by uncontrolled energy.

Line of Fire Safeguards

What you need to do

- **Before starting work:**
 - Confirm if a **Work Permit** is required to perform the task.
 - **Review isolations** and confirm all energy sources have been assessed and are controlled.
 - Confirm you will be working on the **right equipment**.
 - Confirm guards, whip checks or other **protection equipment** is available and working effectively.
 - Confirm that **exclusion zones** are in place and clearly defined in the **Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS)**.
- **During work:**
 - **Secure tools and equipment** whilst in use at heights (e.g. using a tool lanyard).
 - **Maintain body positioning out of the line of fire**.
 - Take regular breaks to **evaluate any changes** to Line of Fire risks and if new controls are required.
 - **Be vigilant for signs of equipment failure or damage**.

Worker competencies required

- Training in Permit to Work and Isolation procedures.
- Certification in operating specific machinery or equipment that may pose a line of fire risk.


Additional resources

- Isolation Procedure SENEX-CORP-HS-PRC-034
- Permit to Work Procedure SENEX-CORP-HS-PRC-005
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace Code of Practice
- Managing the risk of plant in the workplace Code of Practice
- Safer Together – Line of Fire website

If you have any questions or need any support, speak to your Supervisor.

Line of Fire Safeguards

Complete this checklist before starting work.



START HERE
Have you considered other methods of working that are lower risk?
 Yes

Has the task been planned, documented and authorised under the Permit to Work system (if required)?
 Yes

Have you followed isolation procedures to make sure equipment is isolated and de-energised before you begin work?
 Yes

Do you have physical control measures in place to disconnect, release and lockout mechanical energy to separate people from the Line of Fire?
 Yes

Have you locked out mechanical movements with a pin, lever, breaks, linkage or other lockout device?
 Yes

Do you know how to shut down equipment in an emergency?
 Yes

Have you organised the workplace to provide unobstructed and easy access?
 Yes

Have you removed or covered all personal items (e.g. watches, rings or jewellery) so they can't get caught?
 Yes

Have you identified pinch points on equipment and confirmed that equipment guarding is in place?
 Yes


Is all your PPE in good working order and can't get snagged while completing the task?
 Yes

Have you established exclusion zones before starting work?
 Yes

Have you secured tools and equipment that are to be used at heights (e.g. tool lanyard)?
 Yes

Have you planned the work to maintain body positioning out of the line of fire?
 Yes

Is all required signage clearly visible?
 Yes



Scan for more



If you can't achieve all applicable controls in this safeguard, **STOP** work, review and update the SWMS (and Work Permit where required) with your Supervisor and ensure hazards are controlled.

Line of Fire Safeguards

Did the task have any challenges or complications?

Yes

No

If yes, how were they managed?

Were there any controls on the safeguard which could not be achieved?

Yes

No

If so, why not and how was this managed?

Did you improve the safeguards during verification?

Yes

No

If yes, how did you improve it?

Do you have any feedback on this safeguard document or the controls?

Yes

No

If yes, please detail below.

Name: Role:.....

Site: