

Öffentlich

Swissgrid Ltd
 Bleichemattstrasse 31
 P.O. Box
 5001 Aarau
 Switzerland

T +41 58 580 21 11
 info@swissgrid.ch
 www.swissgrid.ch

leaflet

Helicopter support for on-call emergencies

DocuSigned by:
 Christian Arpagus
 67F76A0275E84CA

DocuSigned by:
 Stefan Flury
 3504137885046F4

Version 1.0 dated 7 August 2024

The standard on-call process is extended for emergencies requiring the **urgent disconnection** of lines.

If the on-call service provider receives a call from the Swissgrid coordinating command centre (kNAS) for an emergency operation with the verbal instruction «**Approval for helicopter transfer**», the on-call service provider is authorised to order a helicopter for the transfer to the destination. Each on-call service provider must estimate the journey time to the destination (incl. collection of equipment). They must then decide whether an air taxi would allow a relevant time saving, according to the following decision criterion:

- If the **journey to the destination takes longer than 45 minutes**, Swissgrid expects the on-call service provider to use a helicopter (air taxi) in order to save a significant amount of time.

Once the decision has been made to use a helicopter, each on-call service provider must call the flight operations centre independently so that helicopter dispatching can be initiated. The Rega flight operations centre can be reached on **1414**, the Valais flight operations centre on **144**.

Communication with the flight operations centre

The flight operations centre conducts the call. Callers should prepare the answers according to the «five Ws».

1.	Who?	Who is calling? State your name and telephone number.
2.	What for? What?	Reason for the call, what has happened? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • «Swissgrid order: perform switching operation for rescue operation» • «Swissgrid order: carry out rescue operation on high-voltage line»
3.	Where?	Specify the pick-up location as precisely as possible and indicate the corresponding destination .
4.	What extent?	What is the extent of the emergency? How many people or how much additional equipment must be transported per helicopter?
5.	Wait	Wait for queries from the flight operations centre

Behaviour in relation to helicopters

Hand signals to the rescue helicopter

Yes
We need help

No
We do not need help

Suitable landing site for the rescue helicopter

- ❶ Area of 25 x 25 metres, obstacle-free (no cables, power lines, etc.)
- ❷ Approx. 100 metres away from the accident site
- ❸ Remove any loose objects lying around (clothes, rucksacks, sun umbrellas, etc.)
- ❹ How to behave at the helicopter landing site:
 - When the helicopter is approaching, stay where you are and kneel down
 - Maintain eye contact with the pilot
 - Do not approach the helicopter until the rotor has come to a standstill

(Source: Rega)

Approval for rescue

No rescue work may be carried out on electrical systems before the «approval for work / rescue».

The on-call service provider (route) only gives the rescue organisation the «approval for work / rescue» once the following actions have been completed:

-
1. Each affected substation has been secured (by the on-call service providers (substations)) to prevent unintentional reconnection (GWS).
-
2. They have received the authorisation to dispose (VE) for each line.
-
3. They have carried out the test for absence of voltage.
-
4. They have attached the visible hand earthing to the conductors.
-
5. **For rescue operations from pylons: they have ensured the mechanical securing of all affected individual chains, individual conductors and earth wires.**
-