It has been brought to the attention of the ETU that Energy Safe Victoria has granted an exemption (ref EE-685) for the electric brand of cable that is of a light green colour.

The exemption was for permission to divert from strict compliance with clauses 1.7.2(f) and 3.8.1 of AS/NZS 3000:2007 wiring rules.

The cable was specified in the engineering drawing and was questioned by an ETU Health and Safety representative on an H&M store in the Western suburbs prior to installation.

At the time in question, the colour of the outer sheath, Energy Safe Victoria confirmed the cable is non-compliant to AS/NZS 3000:2007 wiring rules. The electrical contractor continued to install the cabling and upon request for energisation, an exemption was lodged and subsequently granted.

The cabling could be mistaken for an earth cable, and subsequent to the ETU’s inspection of the site, a switching cable was also observed that could potentially be mistaken for a data cable.

If you come across these types of cables, the ETU recommends:

• you request a copy of the exemption;
• you request an appropriate lock-out/tag-out procedure;
• you comply with relevant energisation procedures; and
• in the event that you have to modify the system, you request a legal response from Energy Safe Victoria and submit a certificate of electrical safety.

It is the recommendation of the ETU that if any of the above steps are not followed, the work should cease.

Contact your designated Health & Safety representative, your local organiser or your Union OH&S officer.