

Call for safety advice
or high load permits.

To identify powerline
locations, visit
lookupandlive.com.au
and make a plan to
stay safe when working
near powerlines.



Scan with
smartphone

Working safely around
electricity for the
**Trucking
Industry**

Call for safety advice



1800 635 369



Queensland
Government



13 74 66



13 12 53

Part of the Energy Queensland Group

1800 353 031

Emergency
numbers

13 16 70

13 19 62

ergon.com.au | energex.com.au

EEB0518



Queensland
Government



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Working in close proximity to powerlines, above or below the ground, has its hazards. Each year, the road transport industry has the highest impact on electricity assets. This includes contact with poles, wires and pillar boxes by vehicles, the loads they are carrying or their associated plant. Contact can also occur when working aloft on these vehicles either when tying down loads, fastening tarps or checking livestock.

Practice safe work habits

- Before starting work, take the time to plan. Visit lookupandlive.com.au - our powerline planning map to identify powerline locations and make a plan to work safe.
- Check for poles and overhead powerlines before going aloft on your vehicle.
- Carry out maintenance and storage activities well away from powerlines.
- Lower plant to the transport position when moving or relocating. Never drive with plant elevated.
- Ensure that your load height is correct and does not exceed 4.6 metres.
- Don't use "bumpers" or Polypipe to keep wires from snagging the load.
- Contact us for powerline heights - never try to measure them yourself. Any contact with powerlines can cause shocks or electrocution.
- Be sure to check before reversing as underground pillar boxes can be difficult to see and are easily run over by cars and trucks.
- Ensure machinery is checked after contact with overhead wires. Tyres can be damaged and have the potential to explode.
- Stay well clear of damaged powerlines and report them immediately by calling triple zero (000).

Transporting a high load?

If the height of your load or plant exceeds 4.6 metres you are transporting a high load.

It's essential that you submit a Notification to Transport High Loads form. You will be required to know your load dimensions (vehicle and load), proposed route and times for transport. We will scope and assess the route to ensure the high load will not contact overhead powerlines.

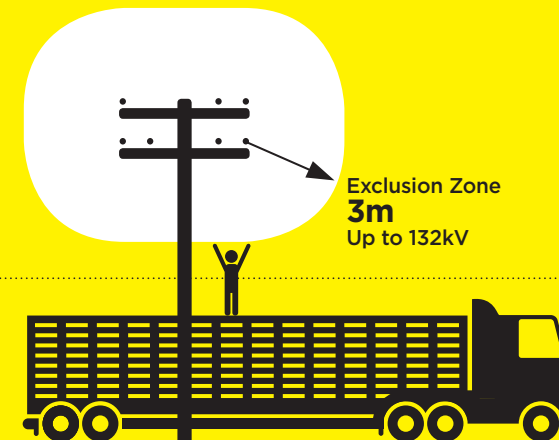
Before any person or company can transport a high load, authorisation to travel must be received in writing from us.

Before climbing your vehicle

Check for poles and overhead powerlines before going aloft on your vehicle to tie down loads, fasten tarps or check livestock.

Remember powerlines can be difficult to see at dawn and dusk.

Permit required if transit height exceeds **4.6m**





1

STAY
in the truck

CALL
000

WAIT
for help



2 If there's an immediate danger, like fire, and evacuation is **ABSOLUTELY necessary**, assess your escape route and check for fallen powerlines.

3 Exit the truck by jumping - make sure to land with both feet together.

4 When jumping, **don't touch the truck and the ground at the same time.**

5 Once landed with both feet together (careful not to stumble or fall), jump or shuffle with your feet together away from the truck.

6 Move in this way until you are at least 10 metres away from the truck. **DO NOT go back.**

What to do if your truck brings down powerlines



1800 353 031



Queensland Government



13 16 70



13 19 62

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EGE181010

Look up and Live

This machinery's **stowed height** is m

This machinery's **extended reach** is m

Call for safety advice

Untrained Person Exclusion Zones

6m Up to and including 330kV

3m Up to 132kV

10m 10m

Safety Observer Area **Safety Observer Area**

Permit required if transit height exceeds 4.6m

Powerlink **Queensland Government** **EGON ENERGY NETWORK** **energex**

1800 635 369 13 74 66 13 12 53

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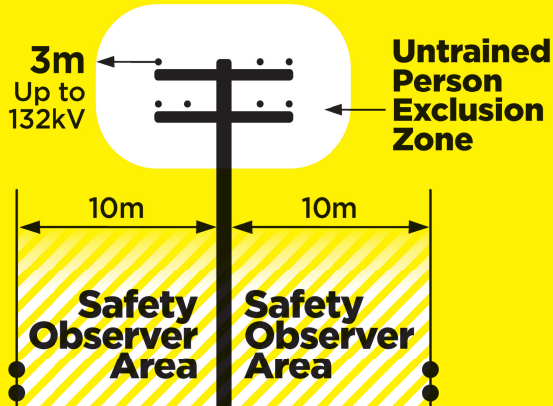
Outside view looking through glass

View from inside windscreen



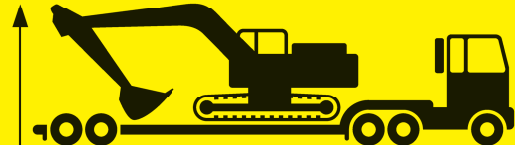
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Look up and Live



Call for safety advice
Ergon 13 74 66 | Energex 13 12 53

Permit required if transit height exceeds
4.6m



Place these
handy stickers in
key locations

More industry
specific information

All machinery operators and other workers working near powerlines should

be aware of their safety duties under the Electrical Safety Act 2002 and The Electrical Safety Regulation 2013 and adopt safe work practices in accordance with the Code of Practice 'Working Near Overhead and Underground Electric lines'.

Look up and Live

If you are contemplating working or operating plant near overhead or underground powerlines, you should obtain a copy of the 'Electricity Entity requirements: Working Near Overhead and Underground Electric Lines' which is available at ergon.com.au/lookupandlive or energex.com.au/lookupandlive

Always take care when operating around overhead powerlines.

Working in close proximity to powerlines, above or below the ground, has its hazards. Every year, workers die or suffer serious injuries, mostly because safe work practices around electricity have not been applied. Not only could contact with powerlines cause injury or death but costs to repair the damage could be expensive.

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This guide contains valuable information about some of the potential dangers of and how to work safely around, both overhead and underground powerlines, for operators of machinery including excavators, tip trucks, trucks, crop sprayers, harvesters or aircraft and users of scaffolding equipment, irrigators or ladders.

Exclusion zone

An exclusion zone is a safety envelope around an overhead powerline. Exclusion zones keep people, operating plant and vehicles a safe distance from energised overhead powerlines. No part of a worker, operating plant or a vehicle should enter an exclusion zone while the overhead powerline is energised (live).

Exclusion zone measurements depend on the voltage of the powerline, type of work being performed and qualifications of people involved.

Generally, workers and their equipment must maintain exclusion zones around powerlines as follows:

- 3 metres for voltages up to 132kV
- 6 metres for voltages up to 330kV

If the work that you and your staff are planning has the potential to encroach into powerline exclusion zones or if you are unsure, contact us for safety advice before starting the job.

These exclusion zones can be reduced if the worker has been trained and approved as an Authorised Person. Contact us for information on how to become an Authorised Person.

Safety Observer Zone

A Safety Observer Zone is the area where machinery or equipment is operating where any part of the machinery or equipment COULD enter the exclusion zone. A trained safety observer MUST be used if the equipment can reach the exclusion zone. Encroachment into the exclusion zone is strictly forbidden.

To ensure the equipment does not come within an unsafe distance, we recommend that a Safety Observer Area of 10 metres be delineated either side of overhead powerlines as per the diagram below. A Safety Observer SHOULD be used when machinery or equipment is operating in the Safety Observer Area.

Safety Observer

A Safety Observer or spotter is a person who:

- a. observes the operating plant; and
- b. advises the plant operator if it is likely that the operating plant will enter the exclusion zone for an overhead powerline.

Safety Observers undergo specific training and must be competent to perform the role in observing, warning and communicating effectively with the plant operator. Contact us for information on how to become a qualified Safety Observer.



What to do if contact with powerlines occurs

What happens if overhead or underground powerlines are contacted

1. The machinery or vehicle will become 'live' at the same voltage as the powerlines contacted and electricity will attempt to pass through the vehicle to the ground.
2. Anything in contact with the powerlines will also become 'live', such as fences and trees.
3. A potentially dangerous electrical field will be created around anything in contact with the powerline. This field extends for approximately 10 metres around these items.

What should you do if contact occurs

1. Try not to panic, remain calm and stay in the vehicle until the power has been isolated and the powerlines removed. Don't risk being electrocuted by attempting to leave the vehicle before power is disconnected.
2. Advise anyone near the incident site to stay a minimum of 10 metres from the vehicle and anything else in contact with the powerlines.
3. Treat all powerlines as if they are 'live'.
4. Call 000 immediately to report powerlines down and a life threatening situation.



We recommend that operators of machinery practise this jump / shuffle technique on a regular basis.

What if the person in the vehicle needs to be evacuated

An emergency evacuation is extremely dangerous and should only be attempted as a last resort, such as if the vehicle is on fire. Remember never approach the vehicle to assist in an evacuation and always treat all powerlines as if they are 'live'.

Tyres can explode

When a vehicle contacts overhead powerlines a massive electrical current flows through the vehicle and its tyres to earth. This can cause the tyres to explode on contact or to start burning on the inside.

Tyres burning on the inside creates a potential hazard where the build up of gases and heat can cause the tyre to explode at a later time, even 24 hours after the incident. Flying debris from the tyres exploding could potentially injure any persons in close proximity to the vehicle.

Ensure that the vehicle is isolated with a 300m exclusion zone for a minimum of 24 hours. After this, have the vehicle thoroughly inspected for tyre and mechanical damage.