Look up and Live

Always take care when operating around overhead powerlines.

Working safely with electricity around agricultural netting and structures

Working in close proximity to powerlines and poles has its hazards. Not only could contact with electricity cause injury or death but repair costs for the damage you do could be expensive.

Exclusion zone distances

Workers and their equipment should not approach overhead powerlines any closer than the following minimum distances without consultation or approval from Ergon Energy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voltage</th>
<th>Untrained Persons</th>
<th>Operation of operating plant</th>
<th>Operation of a vehicle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insulated low voltage without consultation</td>
<td>3000mm</td>
<td>3000mm</td>
<td>600mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low voltage (LV) without consultation</td>
<td>3000mm</td>
<td>3000mm</td>
<td>600mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LV up to 33kv without consultation</td>
<td>3000mm</td>
<td>3000mm</td>
<td>900mm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This information is extracted from Schedule 2 of the Electricity Safety Regulation 2002.

Important safety tips

- Know the location of all powerlines on the property.
- Ensure safety clearances are always maintained.
- Ensure operators are aware of the height of their machinery in both stowed and working positions.
- Lower all machinery, every time, to the transport position when relocating.
- Assign a Safety Observer to each work team.
- Install appropriate signage around powerlines.
- Contact Ergon Energy for safety advice on 13 10 46 at the planning stage of any construction or removal activity.

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More information

Our Community Safety Team is available to discuss any questions relating to electrical safety. Call 1300 736 349.

Customer Service
13 10 46
7.00am - 6.30pm Monday to Friday
ergon.com.au

Faults only
13 22 96
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Life-Threatening Emergencies only
Triple Zero (000) or 13 16 70
24 hours a day, 7 days a week
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Always take care when operating around overhead powerlines.

Before you start work

• Ensure the person erecting the structure talks to the person in control of the property about where construction of netting or other structure will take place.
• Be aware of the location of powerlines on the property and their proximity to the work area.
• Complete a risk assessment for each structure and piece of machinery to be used and review at the start of each day or if conditions change.
• Contact Ergon Energy for safety advice on 13 10 46 at the planning stage of any construction or removal activity. If any electricity services need to be upgraded, relocated, disconnected or de-energised, a formal request needs to be submitted well in advance of the work commencing.
• Ensure operators are aware of the height of their machinery in both stowed and working positions.
• Be aware of reduced powerline heights as a result of ambient air temperatures. The hotter the day, the more the conductor will sag.
• Be aware of reduced powerline heights as a result of damage, usually indicated by uneven conductors, excessive sag or slack stays.
• Stay well clear of damaged powerlines and report any damage immediately on 13 22 96.

• Be aware that under no circumstances must anything be attached to, or built around powerlines, poles or stays, pillar boxes or other Ergon Energy equipment that prevents the inspection, testing, or maintenance of Electrical Assets.
• Remember that access is essential to keep powerlines and equipment safe and reliable. If you need to build close to overhead lines they may need to be placed underground or moved.
• Maintain easements along the route of any powerline so it is accessible to workers and machinery for maintenance, repair, and replacement of assets and does not place electrical workers’ safety at risk.
• Ensure that close cropping procedures don’t impact on any Ergon Energy assets or easements.

Practise safe work habits

• Identify all electrical hazards, assess the risks, establish and introduce control measures and review control measures periodically. Control measures may include but not be restricted to:
  • Appropriate signage at least 10 metres either side of powerlines.
  • Visual markers such as flag markers fitted to powerlines (contact us for advice).
  • Ground barriers to give a physical boundary of an overhead exclusion zone, where possible.
  • Informing workers of required work practices.

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Ergon Energy Queensland Pty Ltd ABN 11 121 177 802