



Safety (<https://www.ergon.com.au/Network/Safety>)

(/network)

Exclusion zones and safety laws

[Home \(https://www.ergon.com.au\)](https://www.ergon.com.au) > [Safety \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety)

- > [Working near powerlines \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines)
- > Exclusion zones and safety laws

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).

What's an exclusion zone?

An exclusion zone is a minimum safe distance that must be kept from powerlines to reduce the risk of electric shock. People, operating plant and vehicles must stay out of an exclusion zone while an overhead powerline is energised or live.

The size of an exclusion zone depends on the voltage of the powerline, the type of work being done, and the qualifications of people involved.

Generally, exclusion zones are:

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



Note: These distances can be reduced if a worker is approved as an Authorised Person. Find out how to become an Authorised Person (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/contractors-and-industry/electrical-contractors/authorised-persons>).

IMPORTANT: If you have to enter an exclusion zone, contact us to request written Safety Advice (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines/safety-advice>). You can't enter the zone until you have that advice.

Know your exclusion zones

Know your exclusion zones



+ Transcript

When to use a safety observer

Safety Observer



+ Transcript

Look up and Live map

Our Look up and Live map (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines/look-up-and-live-map>), helps you locate overhead powerlines using an interactive geospatial map. It also gives you:

- safety guidelines and advice, including powerline exclusion zones
- options for planning or performing work e.g. powerline visual indicators
- information on de-energisation or relocation of powerlines
- high load forms
- Dial Before You Dig enquiry details.

Note: You can also download this map as the Look up and Live app.



(<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/look-up-and-live/id1519374756>)



(<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.com.energyq.lual>)

Look Up and Live app (<https://www.ergon.com.au/redirect-pages/lual-map>)

Visit map now

Electrical safety laws

Several laws apply when you work with or around powerlines. They're designed to prevent people and property from being harmed or damaged by electricity. These include:

- Electrical Safety Act 2002
- Electrical Safety Regulation 2013
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011
- Codes of Practice approved under the above-mentioned Acts.

If you are an employer, getting to know these laws will help you understand your obligations. It's your responsibility to keep your workers safe.

How to comply

Use the [Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020 - Working near overhead and underground electric lines](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/27670/es-code-of-practice-working-near-overhead-underground-electric-lines.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/27670/es-code-of-practice-working-near-overhead-underground-electric-lines.pdf) for practical advice to help you apply the laws in your place of work. It outlines a process for:

- identifying hazards
- assessing the risks associated with these hazards
- implementing and maintaining risk control measures
- reviewing risk control measures.

Read more about these in the accordions below.

+ Identifying hazards

+ Assessing risks

+ Implementing control measures

The electrical safety codes of practice that might apply to your place of work:

- [Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020-Electrical equipment rural industry](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/20952/es-code-of-practice-rural-industry.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/20952/es-code-of-practice-rural-industry.pdf)
- [Managing electrical risks in the workplace code of practice 2021](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0025/72637/managing-electrical-risks-in-the-workplace-cop-2021.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0025/72637/managing-electrical-risks-in-the-workplace-cop-2021.pdf)
- [Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020-Working near overhead and underground electric lines](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/27670/es-code-of-practice-working-near-overhead-underground-electric-lines.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/27670/es-code-of-practice-working-near-overhead-underground-electric-lines.pdf)
- [Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020-Works](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/18343/es-code-of-practice-works.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/18343/es-code-of-practice-works.pdf)
- [Managing the risks of plant in the workplace code of practice 2021](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/72641/managing-the-risks-of-plant-in-the-workplace-cop-2021-1.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/72641/managing-the-risks-of-plant-in-the-workplace-cop-2021-1.pdf)
- [Mobile crane code of practice 2006](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/17128/mobile-crane-cop-2006.pdf) (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/17128/mobile-crane-cop-2006.pdf)
- [Tower crane code of practice](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/20991/tower-crane-code-of-practice-2017.pdf). (https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/20991/tower-crane-code-of-practice-2017.pdf)

Want more information?

FAQs

If you have more questions, you might find answers in our [Frequently Asked Questions \(PDF 124.2 kb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/162180/Frequently-Asked-Questions-ver-2.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/162180/Frequently-Asked-Questions-ver-2.pdf).

Safety fact sheets

Download our fact sheets for information about working safely near powerlines, including some specific guidelines for different industries.

- [Look Up and Live – Exclusion zones \(PDF 614.2 kb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/497785/Look-up-and-live-brochure-folder-140x297-r3.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/497785/Look-up-and-live-brochure-folder-140x297-r3.pdf)
- [Agriculture industry \(PDF 1.6 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/497780/EGE190715-lual-industry-brochure-agriculture-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/497780/EGE190715-lual-industry-brochure-agriculture-DL.pdf)
- [Cane industry \(PDF 2.0 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/498001/EGE190717-lual-industry-brochure-cane-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/498001/EGE190717-lual-industry-brochure-cane-DL.pdf)
- [Cotton industry \(PDF 1.6 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/498002/EGE190710-industry-brochure-cotton-DL-r1.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/498002/EGE190710-industry-brochure-cotton-DL-r1.pdf)
- [Trucking industry \(PDF 1.4 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/498011/EGE190719-lual-industry-brochure-trucking-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/498011/EGE190719-lual-industry-brochure-trucking-DL.pdf)
- [Building and Construction industries \(PDF 1.6 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/497787/EGE190709-industry-brochure-building-DL-r1.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/497787/EGE190709-industry-brochure-building-DL-r1.pdf)
- [Plumbers \(PDF 1.3 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/498006/EGE190711-industry-brochure-plumbing-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/498006/EGE190711-industry-brochure-plumbing-DL.pdf)
- [Low-level flying \(PDF 1.4 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/497783/EGE190716-lual-industry-brochure-aviation-DL-r1.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/497783/EGE190716-lual-industry-brochure-aviation-DL-r1.pdf)
- [Structures and Billboards near powerlines \(PDF 1.4 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/498008/EGE190712-industry-brochure-structures-and-billboards-DL-r1.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/498008/EGE190712-industry-brochure-structures-and-billboards-DL-r1.pdf)
- [Powerline markers \(PDF 1.8 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/488152/EGE190718-lual-industry-brochure-marking-powerlines-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/488152/EGE190718-lual-industry-brochure-marking-powerlines-DL.pdf)
- [Fire and powerlines \(PDF 1.4 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/496971/EGE190708-industry-brochure-fire-and-high-voltage-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/496971/EGE190708-industry-brochure-fire-and-high-voltage-DL.pdf) (only available to download)
- [Trees and powerlines \(PDF 1.8 mb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/498010/EGE190713-trees-and-powerlines-DL.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/498010/EGE190713-trees-and-powerlines-DL.pdf) (only available to download).

To order factsheets in industry packs, use our [brochure & sticker order form](https://lual.cpxonline.net.au) (<https://lual.cpxonline.net.au>).

Marking powerlines on your property

Find out about [powerline markers](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines/powerline-markers) (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines/powerline-markers>) and how to increase the visibility of powerlines on your property. This is especially important if there are low level flying operations on your property or if machinery is operated near powerlines.

Other forms and guidelines

Links to some popular request forms and information.

- [Safety Advice request form](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/safety-advice-form) (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/safety-advice-form>)
- [Important notice regarding Safety Advice \(PDF 35.1 kb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/211235/BS001405R101-Important-Notice-Regarding-Safety-Advice.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/211235/BS001405R101-Important-Notice-Regarding-Safety-Advice.pdf)
- [Decorative painting of Ergon Energy assets \(PDF 276.2 kb\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/840089/Artwork-on-Ergon-Energy-Assets-Application-Deed-Poll.pdf) (https://www.ergon.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/840089/Artwork-on-Ergon-Energy-Assets-Application-Deed-Poll.pdf)
- [Electrical Safety Office](https://www.electricalsafety.qld.gov.au/) (<https://www.electricalsafety.qld.gov.au/>)

RELATED LINKS

[Safety advice](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines/safety-advice) (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/working-near-powerlines/safety-advice>)

[Trees and powerlines](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/safety-at-home-and-work/trees-and-powerlines) (<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety/safety-at-home-and-work/trees-and-powerlines>)

NETWORK GENERAL ENQUIRIES
13 74 66 (tel:137466)

7:00am to 5:00pm, Mon - Fri

FAULTS ONLY
13 22 96 (tel:132296)

24 hours, 7 days a week

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES (INCLUDING SHOCKS & TINGLES)

000 (tel:000) or 13 16 70 (tel:131670)

(Triple zero) 24 hours, 7 days a week

INTERPRETER SERVICE
13 74 66 (tel:137466)

Servizi di interpretariato e traduzione
Dolmetscher- und Übersetzungsdienst
Mga serbisyo sa pagsasalín-wika
Tolk- en vertaal diensten

通訳・翻訳サービス

Ερμηνευτικές και Μεταφραστικές Υπ

傳譯與翻譯服務

NETWORK

[HTTPS://WWW.ERGON.COM.AU/NETWORK](https://www.ergon.com.au/network)

[Outages & disruptions](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/outages-and-disruptions)

[Outages & disruptions](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/outages-and-disruptions)

[Manage your energy](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/manage-your-energy)

[Manage your energy](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/manage-your-energy)

[Safety](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/safety)

[Connections & metering](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/connections)

[Connections & metering](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/connections)

[Network management](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/network-management)

[Network management](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/network-management)

[Contractors & industry](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/contractors-and-industry)

[Contractors & industry](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/contractors-and-industry)

HELP & SUPPORT

[HTTPS://WWW.ERGON.COM.AU/NETWORK/HELP-AND-SUPPORT](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support)

[Our commitment](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/our-commitment)

[Careers](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/careers)

[Frequently asked questions](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/faqs)

[Feedback](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/feedback)

[Contact us](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/contact-us-details)

[About Us](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/about-us)

[About Us](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/about-us)

[Help & support \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support)

[Right to Information \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/about-us/who-we-are/right-to-information\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/about-us/who-we-are/right-to-information)

[Terms of Use \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/about-us/terms-of-use\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/about-us/terms-of-use)

[Privacy \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/privacy-statement\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network/help-and-support/privacy-statement)



[. \(https://www.ergon.com.au/network\)](https://www.ergon.com.au/network)

Copyright © Ergon Energy 2022

Ergon Network acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay respect to Elders past and present.