

Watch out for what's below

Many underground services are located in the area of land between property boundaries and the footpath or roadway, in public reserves, on private property and on right of ways. Buried cables can present a serious and potentially fatal hazard if damaged.



Check for buried cables before you dig and before you drive stakes, fence posts or warratahs into the ground.

Reference maps are available from Network Tasman but should be used as a guide only. There could be unrecorded cables or service main cables in the area where you wish to work.

Worksafe NZ's Guide for Working Safely with Underground Services recommends the following safe digging practices:

- ▶ Make use of a professional location service to locate any cables. Network Tasman does not provide cable location services. Cable location providers are noted at end of this brochure.
- ▶ Follow the recommendations made by the cable location contractor.
- ▶ Request a standover if excavating within one metre of a high voltage or fibre cable.
- ▶ Before commencing machine excavations, pot hole by hand until the cable is physically located.

To arrange a standover phone Delta Utilities on 03 543 8071. In most cases there is no cost for this service.



IF YOU HIT A CABLE

Immediately phone Network Tasman faults on 0800 508 100 to report the incident, even if there appears to be no damage.

In the event of an accident or incident

Immediately report any incident to Network Tasman on 0800 508 100.

Contact with a power line, cable or electrical equipment can cause a power outage even when it appears there is no damage.



If a conductor has fallen to the ground:

- ▶ Do not approach the conductor. All electrical conductors must be treated as live until tested and proven otherwise.
- ▶ Immediately report the incident to Network Tasman on 0800 508 100.
- ▶ Ensure members of the public and/or any livestock are kept well clear of the site.

If a conductor has fallen onto a vehicle, an item of plant or machinery:

- ▶ Do not approach the conductor. All electrical conductors must be treated as live until tested and proven otherwise.
- ▶ Remain in the vehicle or on the item of plant or machinery if it is safe to do so.
- ▶ Immediately report the incident to Network Tasman on 0800 508 100. If the vehicle, plant or machinery has an RT call and request that the lines company is notified immediately.
- ▶ If safety dictates you must exit the vehicle, plant or machinery it is vital that you **JUMP CLEAR**. Do not climb out/off. With your feet close together jump as far as possible away from the vehicle, plant or machinery ensuring that you do not contact the ground simultaneously with any part of the vehicle, plant or machinery.
- ▶ Once clear of the vehicle, plant or machinery move away with your feet close together to avoid the risk of electrical shock.

Key contacts and additional information

networktasman

Your consumer-owned electricity distributor

Web: www.networktasman.co.nz

Email: info@networktasman.co.nz

Phone: 0800 508 098

CABLE LOCATION CONTRACTORS

Delta Utilities | Ph 03 543 8071

PowerTrace (Steve Peters) | Ph 027 230 7456

USEFUL LINKS

Links to the following documents can be found on Network Tasman's website or online.

Worksafe NZ's Guide for Working Safely with Underground Services:
<http://bit.ly/safetyunderground>

The Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34):
<http://bit.ly/safedistances>

The Road Code – over dimension vehicles and load:
<http://bit.ly/factsheet53>

ABOUT NETWORK TASMAN

Network Tasman operates and maintains the local power lines network in the Nelson-Tasman region (excluding central Nelson). It's our job to keep your lights on, fix any faults and keep the network safe.

networktasman
Your consumer-owned electricity distributor

CONTRACTORS

**KEEP
YOURSELF
SAFE**

Work safely around power lines and underground cables

Working near overhead power lines and underground power cables can be hazardous. If you hit or get too close to an electricity cable or overhead line there is a risk of:



Please save this brochure for future reference.

KEEP YOURSELF SAFE



If you are working near power lines you need to know how to keep yourself safe.

The documents listed below provide important information about how to keep yourself and others safe when working near power lines and cables.

- ▶ **The Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34)** sets minimum safe distances for those working or building near overhead electric power lines. Compliance with the Code is mandatory.
- ▶ **Worksafe NZ's Guide for Working Safely with Underground Services** provides all the information you need to help you to work safely around buried services.

Look up and around

Take care when working with any tools or equipment near power lines. Always look up and around before extending ladders, poles or pipes or when using plant or equipment that could come into contact with power lines.



When working with mobile plant or equipment

NZECP 34 requires that all equipment, tools, mobile plant (including parts), and any load carried must be at least four metres away from overhead power lines.

If you need to work closer than four metres you will need to apply for a Working Clearance Permit. To get a permit or discuss whether you require a permit phone Network Tasman's contractor, Delta Utilities, on 03 543 8071. There is no charge for this service.

If you are likely to operate plant or equipment within four metres you must also have a compliant Warning Notice affixed in the cab. Warning Notices are available at no charge from the Network Tasman operations administrator by phoning 0800 508 098.

Excavating near power poles

Excavation or removing earth from around power poles or stay wires can compromise the integrity of the pole structure and the pole could fall over or pull out of the ground.



You must obtain written consent from Network Tasman before excavating or disturbing the ground to a depth of more than 300mm within 2.2m of a pole or stay wire.

To discuss any work around a pole or support structures, contact Network Tasman's operations department on 0800 508 098. There is no charge for this service.

Working around a service line

Repairs to roofing, spouting, painting, water-blasting, tree trimming and scaffolding can be dangerous if carried out close to overhead service lines.



If you need to carry out work near a service line we recommend you have the power disconnected temporarily for safety. This is a chargeable service provided by Network Tasman's contractor, Delta Utilities, ph03 543 8071.

You must have the electricity disconnected before you demolish or remove a building.



Building near overhead lines

The table (right) indicates the minimum safe distances from power lines for finished structures such as buildings and scaffolds.

If you want to put up a structure (including temporary scaffolding) at lesser distances please apply for a reduced clearance before construction begins.

If you will be operating machinery or plant or other tools within four metres of an overhead power line during construction you will need a working clearance.

To discuss your building project and whether you need to apply for a Working Clearance Permit phone Network Tasman's contractor, Delta Utilities, on 03 543 8071. There is no charge for this service.

Safe distances from conductors for finished structures without engineering advice

| Circuit voltage | Span length* | Minimum distance beneath conductors under normal conditions | Minimum distance to the side of conductors under normal conditions |
|------------------|--------------|---|--|
| 400V | 50m | 4.0m | 3.5m |
| 11,000V | 80m | 5.5m | 5.0m |
| 22,000 – 33,000V | 125m | 7.0m | 8.5m |
| 66,000V | 125m | 7.5m | 9.5m |



*If the span length is greater consult Network Tasman for advice before proceeding.

