



When it comes to the potential dangers of working around powerlines and other network infrastructure, there are some key safety messages to keep in mind. Take a moment to get to know these safety considerations as they could help to save a life when working on the land.

Identify hazardous areas



Identify the location of overhead and underground powerlines on your property using the Look Up and Live app. Look Up and Live has made overhead powerline locations and imagery available to the public online, at no cost, via an interactive geospatial map. The app provides the ability to search locations in real time and to overlay maps with third party mapping programs, or print, as required. Visit essentialenergy.com.au/lookupandlive

StormTracker

StormTracker can help you keep an eye on the weather, with lightning strike and rainfall information all on the one screen, updated every 15 minutes. You can stay prepared for storms, by visiting StormTracker every day at essentialenergy.com.au/stormtracker



Keep an eye out for damage to the electricity network

Damaged or fallen powerlines can be hard to spot.

Indicators of potential damage may include:

- > flickering or no power supply
- > burnt areas in paddocks or roadsides
- > injured or downed stock
- > smoke or fallen trees.

Contact Essential Energy on 13 20 80 if you see fallen or damaged powerlines. Always stay at least 8 metres away from the line and anything in contact with it and report the fault immediately.



Emergency escape

If your vehicle makes contact with overhead or underground powerlines:

- > Stay in your vehicle and call **000** immediately
- > If escape is absolutely necessary, jump well clear to avoid contact with the vehicle and ground at the same time
- > When you jump land with your feet together. Do not touch the vehicle, fall or allow your feet to step apart
- > You must shuffle or jump, with your feet together until you are at least 8 metres clear of the vehicle, powerlines or anything else in contact with them
- > Once clear, do not return to the vehicle for any reason
- > **Call Essential Energy on 13 20 80**
- > Remember to never approach a vehicle to assist in an evacuation and always treat powerlines as if they are 'live'.

If you have any safety questions call **13 23 91** and speak to Essential Energy's Public Safety Team or go to essentialenergy.com.au/safety



What should I do before commencing any work on a property?

- > Know the location of powerlines on the property and their proximity to where you are working
- > Provide workers with accurate, up-to-date maps/diagrams showing the location of powerlines on the property, also indicating safe traffic paths to eliminate the possibility of powerline contact
- > No one knows your property like you do. Have a good look around and think about anything that could hurt you or one of your workers. Once you are satisfied that you have identified everything think about how you can prevent these things (hazards) from happening
- > This should be completed for each paddock and piece of machinery to be used
- > Install visual markers in any areas where electrical hazards are identified prior to commencing work, as vision can be obstructed due to blind spots in machinery
- > Carefully monitor weather conditions - powerlines can sway in winds, sag as temperature increases and are difficult to see at dawn and dusk
- > Ensure operators are aware of the height and reach of their machinery in both stowed and working positions to ensure that safe approach distances to powerlines are maintained (see Essential Energy's fact sheet 'Work near overhead powerlines' for minimum approach distances)
- > Machinery measuring over 4.6 metres has a higher risk of contacting overhead powerlines and should be closely watched to ensure required safe approach distances are maintained.

Safe work habits

- > Ensure required safe approach distances are maintained. This is the amount of space required to be kept between machinery or anything held by a person and the powerlines in order to prevent electricity arcing to you or the machinery
- > Assign a safety observer to each work team to guide machinery movements near overhead powerlines, in order to warn the person/operator of unsafe conditions and ensure that minimum safety approach distances are maintained
- > Lower all machinery to the transport position when relocating.

What else can I do to make my property power safe?

- > Ensure maintenance of machinery and loading/unloading activities are carried out well away from powerlines
- > To warn workers of the presence of overhead powerlines install appropriate signage at least **8 to 10 metres** either side of powerlines.



DANGER

THE STOWED HEIGHT OF THIS MACHINERY IS:	m	THE EXTENDED HEIGHT OF THIS MACHINERY IS:	m
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3m
CLEARANCE ZONE UP TO AND INCLUDING 132,000 VOLTS

6m
CLEARANCE ZONE ABOVE 132,000 VOLTS UP TO AND INCLUDING 330,000 VOLTS

8m
CLEARANCE ZONE ABOVE 330,000 VOLTS

4.6m
A PERMIT IS REQUIRED IF THE TRANSIT HEIGHT ON A ROADWAY EXCEEDS 4.6m

LOOK UP AND LIVE
KEEP WELL CLEAR OF OVERHEAD POWERLINES

For safety tips visit essentialenergy.com.au/safety or call 13 23 91. In an emergency call 13 20 80

Safety Sticker for use in Agricultural Machinery Cabins - Available by calling Essential Energy on 13 23 91

SAFETY FIRST

- > You can still be injured without directly contacting an overhead powerline, as electricity can arc across open spaces - so keep your distance!
- > Be aware that the apparent height of powerlines will vary depending upon the angle which they are viewed
- > Always treat all powerlines as live even though they may appear to be dead.

Essential Energy recommends you familiarise yourself with the latest SafeWork NSW Code of Practice 'Work near Overhead Powerlines' which can be viewed at: safework.nsw.gov.au or you can purchase a copy of the Code of Practice by contacting **SafeWork NSW** on **13 10 50**.