

Designating land for easement corridors and substations

We obtain approval for corridors of land for sub-transmission powerlines and some substations through the Infrastructure Designation process. This process involves extensive stakeholder consultation and reporting as well as a submission to the Minister responsible for the Planning Act for approval. We usually complete this process for very large projects or those that extend over multiple Local Government Areas. Once a site or corridor of land is designated, it must be listed in the relevant Local Government's planning scheme.



Development referral

Developments affected by an Infrastructure Designation (Figure 1 above) must be referred to the State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA), as the Queensland Government is responsible for the designation process. Energex is often required to provide input to the process to ensure there are no technical issues arising from the development. We may also be triggered as a Referral Agency if the site has an Energex easement registered over it.

Why do we designate land?

After a corridor has been designated, it can take several years for the final powerline to be built. In this time, the surrounding land uses may change. The designation protects the corridor by ensuring the nearby land uses do not make the corridor unsafe for electricity infrastructure.

The main advantage of having a designated corridor rather than a set of easements is that any development application is referred to the Queensland Government first. This decreases the chance of encroachments upon individual easements, which must be fixed at a later date. It also offers a more holistic type of protection across a large geographical area, often including several Local Government Areas at once.

Large corridors of land that have not undergone a designation process are more likely to be infringed on by development. This can have consequences for future network plans, continued powerline performance, as well as hindering maintenance and emergency works on existing infrastructure.

Contact us

For more information about our Referral Agency contact us or visit our website at:

- www.energex.com.au/referralagency
- 13 12 53 (8am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
- townplanning@energex.com.au

And, for more information about working safely near powerlines, please see our [working safely near powerlines information](#).



Part of the Energy Queensland Group