

To identify powerline locations, visit **lookupandlive.com.au** and make a plan to stay safe when working near powerlines.



Scan with smartphone

Working safely around electricity on

Cotton Farms

Call for safety advice



1800 635 369



Queensland Government



13 74 66



13 12 53

Part of the Energy Queensland Group

1800 353 031

Emergency numbers

13 16 70

13 19 62

ergon.com.au | energex.com.au

EEB0609



Queensland Government



Part of the Energy Queensland Group



Working in close proximity to powerlines, above or below the ground, has its hazards. Each year, the workers in the cotton industry come in contact with electricity assets. This includes contact with poles, wires and pillar boxes by vehicles, the loads they are carrying or their associated plant. Contact can occur during harvesting, spraying, moving machinery and plant from one location to another or when irrigating.

Before you start work

- Before starting work, take the time to plan. Visit lookupandlive.com.au - our powerline planning map to identify powerline locations and make a plan to work safe.
- Talk to the person in control of the property about any work areas which may be hazardous.
- Know the location of overhead and underground powerlines, poles and stays on the property and their proximity to your work.
- Complete a hazard assessment 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. Vision can be obstructed by machinery blind spots.
- Monitor weather conditions closely as powerlines can sway in winds, sag as temperature increases and are difficult to see at dawn and dusk.
- Be aware of reduced powerline heights resulting from damage, often indicated by uneven powerlines, excessive sag or slack stays.
- Stay well clear of damaged powerlines and report them immediately by calling triple zero (000).
- Ensure operators are aware of the height of their machinery in both stowed and working positions.
- Monitor closely any machinery being operated to ensure required powerline exclusion zone clearances are maintained.
- Ensure all farm workers know the emergency procedures applicable for the work being carried out and the relevant emergency contacts.

Practice safe work habits

- Identify all electrical hazards, assess the risks, establish and introduce control measures, review control measures periodically. Control measures may include but may not be restricted to:
 - Appropriate signage at least 10 metres either side of powerlines.
 - Visual indicators such as rotamarkers fitted to the powerlines (contact us for advice).
 - Ground barriers where possible.
 - Informing workers of required work practices.
- Assign a safety observer to each work team to guide machinery movements near overhead powerlines.
- Ensure required exclusion zone clearances between machinery and powerlines are maintained.
- Lower the ram/tramper to the transport position when relocating cotton module makers.
- Build modules well away from overhead powerlines.
- Make boll buggy pick-ups well clear of overhead powerlines.
- Lower the bars on top of cotton pickers when relocating from paddock to paddock and farm to farm.
- Carry out maintenance and storage activities well away from powerlines.
- Contact us about marking powerlines and power poles on your property.

Transporting a high load?

If the height of your load or plant exceeds 4.6 metres, you are transporting a high load.

It's essential that you submit a Notification to Transport High Loads form. You will be required to know your load dimensions (vehicle and load), proposed route and times for transport. We will scope and assess the route to ensure the high load will not contact overhead powerlines.

Before any person or company can transport a high load, authorisation to travel must be received in writing from us.



Call for safety advice or high load permits.