



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 for **Irrigators**



Exclusion zone

An exclusion zone is a safety envelope around an overhead powerline. 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).

Exclusion zone measurements depend on the voltage of the powerline, type of work being performed and qualifications of people involved.

Generally, workers and their equipment must maintain exclusion zones around powerlines as follows:

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

These exclusion zones can be reduced if the worker has been trained and approved as an Authorised Person. Contact us for information on how to become an Authorised Person.

Call for safety advice



1800 635 369



Queensland Government



13 74 66



13 12 53

Part of Energy Queensland

1800 353 031

Emergency numbers

13 16 70

13 19 62



Queensland Government



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ERG00006

Working in close proximity to powerlines has its hazards. Each year, workers in the agriculture industry make contact with electricity assets. This includes contact with powerlines when moving equipment or 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.
- Ensure workers have been suitably trained and are competent to perform the work being carried out.
- Know the location of overhead and underground powerlines, poles and stay wires on the property and their proximity to your work.
- Complete a hazard assessment for each paddock and each 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 carefully 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 stay wires.
- Stay well clear of damaged powerlines and report them immediately by calling triple zero (000).
- Plan work to ensure machinery or equipment being operated will not encroach exclusion zone clearances.
- Ensure operators are aware of the height of their machinery in both stowed and extended positions.
- 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, and review these control measures periodically. Control measures may include, but are not restricted to:
 - Appropriate signage at least 10 metres either side of powerlines
 - Contact us about marking powerlines, power poles and stay wires on your property
 - Ground barriers, where appropriate
 - Informing workers of required work practices.
- Assign a safety observer to each team to ensure required exclusion zone clearances between machinery/equipment and powerlines are maintained.

- Ensure exclusion zone safety clearances between machinery and powerlines are maintained.
- Keep spray from irrigators clear of powerlines.
- Check for powerlines and take extreme care when relocating or positioning irrigators or irrigation pipes.
- Lower all machinery/equipment to the lowest point before relocating between paddocks.
- Ensure maintenance and storage activities are carried out well away from powerlines.
- Store irrigation piping and associated equipment away from powerlines.
- Always carry irrigation pipe horizontally.
- Never clear debris or vermin from pipes near powerlines.



Unsafe work practice. Boom spray contacting powerlines can cause intermittent power outages, making it difficult for our crews to restore power.

