



Australian Contaminated Land Consultants Association (Victoria) Inc. Underground and Overhead Assets and Tagging of Equipment

Be aware of Electrical Hazards, as they provide a significant risk in relation to the works you may be conducting. Consequences can range from minor and financial but many are fatal.

Consider the following Electrical hazards on site and control them:

- Tools and Equipment
- Stored Energy

Ensure that you are complying with regulations and No Go Zones.

Overhead Assets

- Use a certified spotter where you are working within 3.6-4 metres of Power Lines or between 8-10 metres of an electrical tower. If you need to work within 3 metres of a power pole or 8 metres of a tower then special provisions need to be made these are available from **Worksafe** or **The Chief Electrical Inspector**.
- **“No Go Zones for overhead electrical powerlines”**- Special provisions for plant and equipment:

[No go zones for overhead electrical powerlines](#)

Underground Assets

- Investigate prior to excavating or drilling utilising Dial Before You Dig
- Use a Certified Underground Service locator to check the site and mark out where suitable areas are clear to drill and/or excavate.
- Take further precautions by using Non destructive Drilling and/or hand augering and probing when drilling.
- Refer and comply with the up to date information provided through Worksafe and or the Chief Electrical Inspector.

“No Go Zones for underground utility services”:

[No Go Zones for Underground utility Services](#)

“Framework for Undertaking work Near Overhead and Underground Assets” is a 13 page publication which identifies fundamental safe systems of work endorsed by key stakeholders and establishes the recommended standards to undertake work near overhead or underground assets. The framework provides a uniform safety approach for industry when working near both overhead and underground assets. Ongoing management of these guidelines has been assigned to a Utilities Safety Committee (USC). This is to ensure there is an appropriate state of knowledge within industry sectors undertaking work in the No Go Zone of overhead or underground assets.

[Framework for undertaking work near Overhead and Underground Assets](#)

Testing and Tagging of equipment

Portable electrical equipment, including flexible electrical cords, needs to be regularly inspected for wear and mechanical damage, and periodically tested for earth continuity and insulation resistance. Procedures for testing of electrical leads, tools and equipment and the frequency of these tests can be found in:

- Joint Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 3760 In-service safety inspection and testing of electrical equipment; and
- Joint Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 3012 Electrical installations - Construction and demolition sites

Disclaimer - This alert is provided to raise awareness of an important safety issue. It does not replace the need for member companies to review and manage their specific risks.