

# Safety notice

## Notice to Contractors, Sub-contractors & Third Parties

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### Safe Digging & Locating Assets Under Ground (UG)

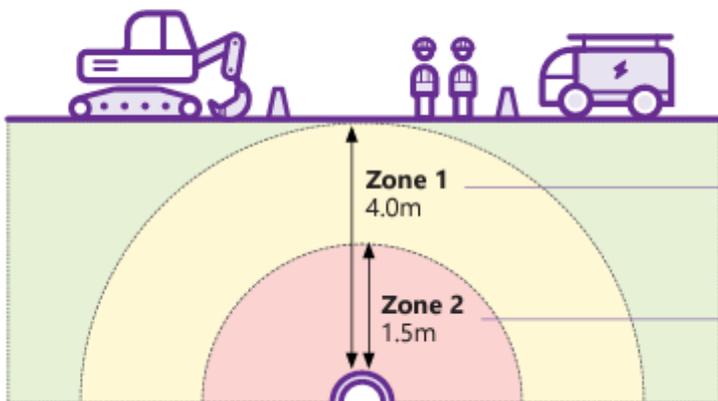
There have recently been several incidents involving contact with underground assets during earthworks and excavation activities. These incidents have involved both Powerco contractors and third-party contractors, affecting assets owned by Powerco as well as those belonging to other asset owners.

We require any organisation or member of the public to obtain the proper consents or standovers if they plan to work within 4 meters of Powerco's electricity assets. Similarly, when our own contractors are working in these zones, we expect them to conduct thorough locates and mark-outs, use hand-digging to confirm the accuracy of these locations, and have a spotter present when heavy machinery is in use around any underground assets.

To support this, the diagram below, now featured on our Close Approach Consent form and website, clearly defines two distinct work zones and the corresponding consent requirements for each.

Powerco is proud to have designed this aid to understanding when breaking ground around our underground assets.

#### Excavating near underground assets



#### Consent required

Are you working near our assets? If your work is within 4.0 metres of electrical assets, **you must contact BeforeUdig** before starting.

#### Critical excavation

If you're working within 1.5 metres of electricity cables, strict conditions are required. Mechanical digging prohibited until assets exposed by approved methods. A Powerco standover may be required.

#### Free Training

NZ Utilities Advisory Group (NZUAG) is pleased to announce its new online training module for those who work in transport corridors to explain the essential elements of safety in such an environment.

The free online course teaches workers about the Code and how to ensure everyone works in a safe and managed way. The online course was designed by the team at Open Polytechnic | Te Pūkenga and should take about 45 minutes.

<https://nzuag.org.nz/code-training/>

**For further information and consent to work around Powerco's underground assets, please see our website:**

<https://www.powerco.co.nz/safety/safety-below-ground>

**0800 769 372 [powerco.co.nz](https://www.powerco.co.nz)**

