

EEA Health & Safety Workshop 2026

2025 EEA Public Safety Award:

Close Approach Consents – a Story about
Simplicity, Collaboration and Learning

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How it started...

Info only dig

Zone 1 (Outermost, e.g., light green, extending to 4.0m for electrical, could also cover the 2.0m for gas):

CONSENT REQUIRED ZONE

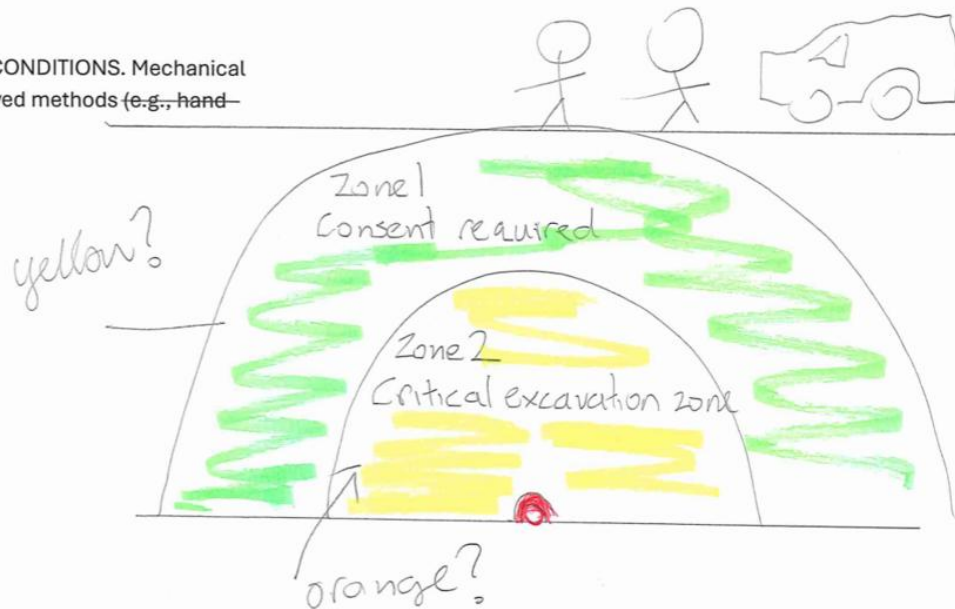
Working near our assets? Within 4.0m (electrical) or 2.0m (gas pipes) –
Contact Powerco for consent ~~BEFORE~~ you dig. Conditions & standover
may apply.

Before dig first prior to work? not sure on wording..

Zone 2 (Inner, e.g., orange, representing approx. <1.5m for cables and <2.0m for gas):

CRITICAL EXCAVATION ZONE

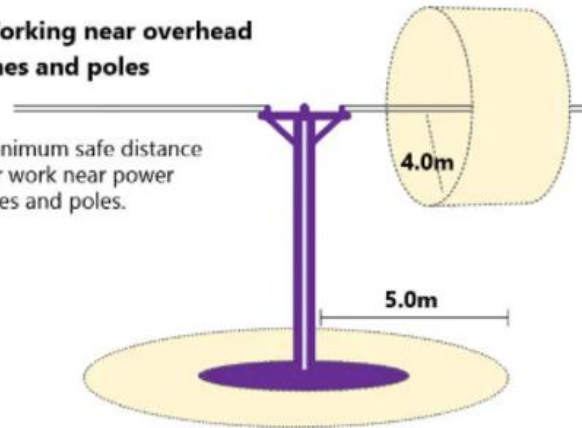
Within 1.5m (cables) / 2.0m (gas pipes): STRICT CONDITIONS. Mechanical digging prohibited until assets exposed by approved methods (e.g., hand dig). Powerco standover required.



How it's going...

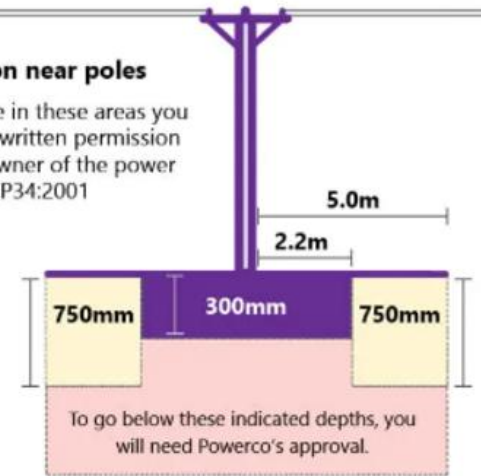
Working near overhead lines and poles

Minimum safe distance for work near power lines and poles.

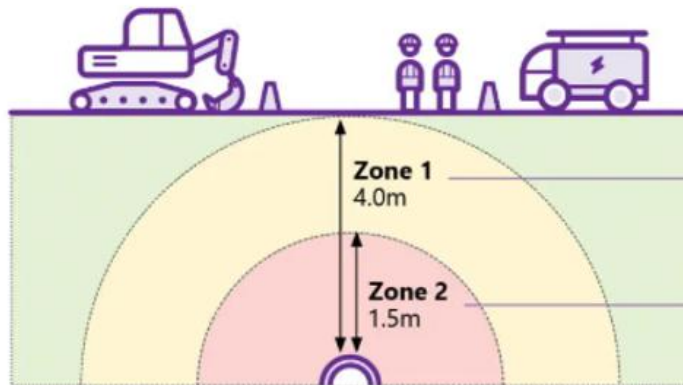


Excavation near poles

To excavate in these areas you must have written permission from the owner of the power pole. NZECP34:2001



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.

Where to from here...?

Well it's not that simple...

Real improvement is rarely linear.

Questions?

Discussion