

Your checklist ✓

- **Begin your planning at least six months before you require electricity**
 - **When preparing your application to Powercor determine if you require a budget estimate or a firm offer**
 - **Determine if you are subdividing a property or you simply require supply to be made available to the property**
 - **Determine your electrical needs with your Registered Electrical Contractor**
 - **Verify if electricity lines or an underground electricity pit are near your property**
 - **Complete all the details on a Rural Residential Properties application form and submit your application to Powercor – if applicable, do not forget to include your final plan of subdivision**
 - **To avoid delays in providing an electricity supply to your property:**
 - **Approach your neighbours to obtain an in-principle agreement if easements are required**
 - **Return all subsequent documentation as requested by Powercor in a timely manner**
 - **Obtained all necessary tree clearing approvals and permits**
 - **Ensure safe site access for Powercor**
 - **Make timely payment of Powercor's invoice.**
- Once you have formally accepted our firm offer, work will commence and an electricity supply will be made available to the agreed point of supply within the timeframes specified.**
- **Organise an account with your electricity retailer**
 - **Arrange for a Certificate of Electrical Safety, metering and the final connection to your property through your Registered Electrical Contractor.**

Glossary

Point of Supply

- The junction point between Powercor's electricity cables and the customer's electricity cables. The point of supply will normally be one of the following points:
 - a) An underground service pit installed on the boundary of the property
 - b) The low voltage terminals of the supply substation that has been erected on your property.

Subdivided land

- Land that has been divided into two or more allotments which can be disposed of separately.

Registered Electrical Contractor

- An Electrician who contracts services to clients. Registered Electrical Contractors must hold an Electrician's Licence and be registered with Energy Safe Victoria.

Certificate of Electrical Safety

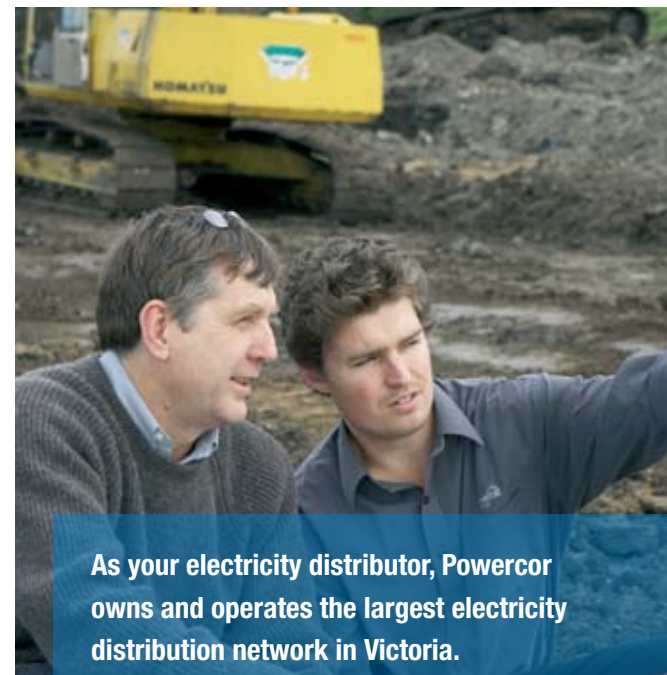
- A form endorsed by Energy Safe Victoria, issued to ensure all electrical work has been undertaken by a qualified person and conforms to all aspects of electrical wiring standards.
- A Certificate of Electrical Safety is issued once the work is completed by a Licensed Electrical Inspector.

Cabling

- The way the power is extended to a dwelling, including the installation of electrical wires, conduits and all trenching requirements.

Statement of compliance

- Affirms compliance to permit conditions that may have been imposed on the subdivision prior to registration at the Land Titles Office.



As your electricity distributor, Powercor owns and operates the largest electricity distribution network in Victoria.

We deliver to you the power you buy from your electricity retailer. Your electricity retailer sends you your power bill and they pay us directly for distributing your power. We do not sell you electricity.

Our role is to develop and maintain the poles, wires and other equipment on the electricity network. We also install service cable for certain urban and rural properties when requested to do so.

This guide outlines the necessary steps you need to undertake with Powercor to make an electricity supply available to your property, and includes useful tips on working with your Registered Electrical Contractor. A comprehensive guideline for making an electricity supply available can be obtained from the Connect to the Network section on Powercor's website at www.powercor.com.au

This information is intended for properties in rural or undeveloped areas. For information on urban properties, please refer to the Urban Residential Properties version of this brochure.

Contacting Powercor

General Enquiries (24 hours) 13 22 06
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Powercor Offices

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Epsom
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Private Bag 8004
Bendigo 3550

Mildura

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Facsimile (03) 5022 5991
PO Box 544
Mildura 3502

Warrnambool

7 Strong Street
Forward all correspondence
to Ballarat Office

Ballarat

Gate 1 – 990 Norman Street
Wendouree
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PO Box 572
Ballarat 3353

Geelong

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Rural Residential Properties

Arranging an Electricity Supply to your Property

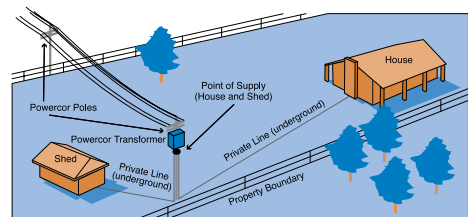
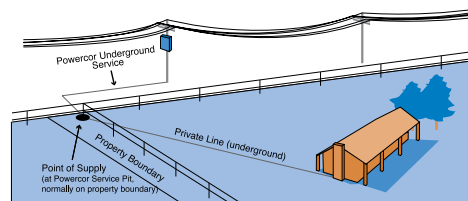


**A guide for
developers,
builders and
property owners**

Powercor
AUSTRALIA

Typical connection arrangements

If your property has not previously had an electricity connection you will need to arrange one. Rural dwellings are typically connected to the Powercor network via low voltage cabling to a nominated point of supply. Examples of typical points of supply for rural properties are shown in these diagrams.



All cabling within your property boundary from the point of supply is your responsibility and must be installed by a Registered Electrical Contractor. Powercor must complete all servicing works outside of your property boundary – to the point of supply.

Are you building in an area serviced by existing powerlines?

You should not assume a supply is quickly available, even if electricity lines are located near your property boundary.

In most cases a connection to existing electricity lines is not free as we may need to increase the capacity of our lines and supply transformers to meet your needs. Also, where another customer has already paid for an initial extension of a powerline and a new or upgraded supply substation, you may be required to pay an equitable (not necessarily equal) share of their cost.

To see if you are in an area serviced by existing powerlines, you will need to check for poles, lines, or an underground electricity pit near your property boundary. All Powercor poles have an identification number of four to six digits located on an aluminium strip, or black and yellow plastic strip about 1.6 metres from the base.

Do you require an extension or upgrade?

If no electricity lines are evident or your dwelling will be located more than 100 metres from existing electricity lines, it is likely that Powercor will need to extend an electricity line to provide you with supply.

If your supply requirements exceed the capacity of existing Powercor lines or supply substation we may need to upgrade them. You will be responsible for these costs. Powercor may make a contribution to these costs, depending on the amount of electricity you will use.

Budget estimate

We do not charge for the first budget estimate which is offered only to assist you in your planning.

A budget estimate is not a firm cost quotation. It provides information on the supply conditions and approximate costs for Powercor to make an electricity supply available to your property.

A budget estimate also explains the options you have in choosing who performs the various tasks in making supply available to your property.

Firm offer

A firm offer is an all-inclusive cost quotation from Powercor to make an electricity supply available to your property.

In the preparation of a firm offer Powercor physically inspects your property, negotiates easements with neighbours and prepares a detailed technical assessment and final design.

We will ask you to pay a non-refundable registration fee when you request a firm offer.



Making application

To begin the process of arranging an electricity supply to your property you will need to complete a Rural Residential Property application which can be obtained by contacting Powercor on 13 22 06 or alternatively download the form at www.powercor.com.au

You will need to complete all the details requested on the application. Often, incomplete details add delays in Powercor responding to applications. It is advisable to discuss your electrical needs with your Registered Electrical Contractor prior to completing the application form.

Easements

Before a Powercor electricity line crosses private property, the land owner must grant permission for Powercor to install and maintain our lines on the property.

Where a preferred route for a new powerline crosses private property, it is helpful if you make an initial approach to the affected property owners to gain their in principle agreement for a new line crossing their property. Powercor will then ask the property owner to grant a free easement over a strip crossing their land for the proposed line.

Sometimes property owners refuse permission for Powercor to build new lines across their property. The refusal of an easement may significantly affect the costs and time necessary to make supply available to your property, particularly if we need to choose a longer alternate route.

The negotiation of easements across neighbouring properties can sometimes cause delays in making supply available.

Tree clearing

Powercor endeavours to limit the need for tree clearing when building new lines. However, some tree clearing may be necessary to minimise potential interruptions to supply, maintain public safety, and prevent bushfires.

Powercor does not provide a tree clearing service and the cost of tree clearing is not included in either our budget estimate or firm offer. You will be required to arrange and pay for any necessary tree clearing, treatment of stumps, and removal of all debris along the route of the proposed powerline, including road reserves and property crossings.

It is important you do not begin tree clearing until you have:

- Obtained all necessary approvals from your local council, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, and any other approval bodies that apply regulations in your area.
- Confirmed the final route of the proposed electricity line with Powercor.

Access issues

In addition to providing a clear path through trees for our lines and poles to your property, you are also responsible for removing other obstacles, such as large mounds of dirt, or derelict buildings located on your property. You must also ensure access for heavy vehicles which may be used during construction of the line on your property and you must maintain access for future maintenance.

Are you subdividing land?

If you are subdividing your property, Powercor may impose conditions on your planning permit for powerline easement requirements and to enable us to make an electricity supply available to all subdivided allotments.

To finalise your subdivision you must meet all the conditions of the planning permit relating to the power supply arrangements before Powercor can issue a Statement of Compliance and begin work.

In addition to completing an application form you will also be required to provide Powercor with a final plan of subdivision.

We will assess your application and advise the work required and costs involved for us to supply your development.



Costs

If Powercor extends or upgrades electricity lines to make supply to your property you will be responsible for these costs. We calculate the costs using the guidelines provided by Victoria's Essential Services Commission. As mentioned, Powercor may make a contribution depending on the amount of electricity you will use. Any monies owing to Powercor must be paid prior to Powercor starting any electricity works to make supply available.

Supply conditions

The supply conditions will stipulate the allowable maximum load (in amperes), the number of supply phases and any requirement to provide load control in accordance with the Victorian Service and Installation Rules.

Connecting power

Once all necessary steps have been taken, your Registered Electrical Contractor will make your property ready for supply and obtain a Certificate of Electrical Safety. Your Registered Electrical Contractor will apply to your chosen electricity retailer for the installation of metering and for the power to be turned on.

Your electricity retailer will apply standard new connection charges in the first bill of each new account.