

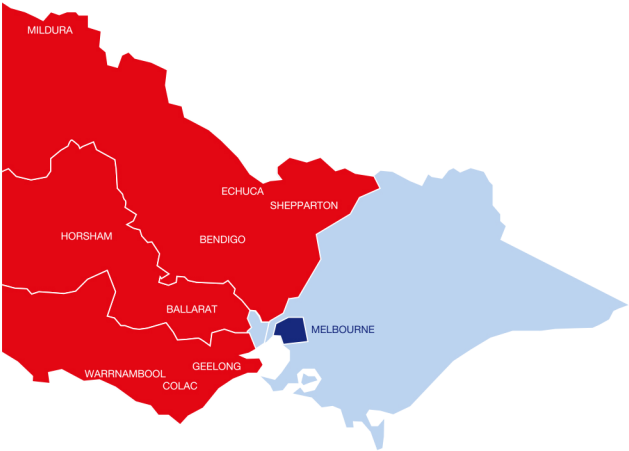
Private Overhead Electric Lines

Understanding our shared responsibilities



Working to make communities safer

CitiPower and Powercor CEO Tim Rourke with dairy farmer Harper Kilpatrick



Network statistics	<div><div></div>CitiPower</div>	<div><div></div>Powercor</div>
Network route line length:	7,526km	90,000km
Network area:	157sq km	145,700sq km
Customer numbers:	332,000	868,000
Poles:	57,000	588,000
Network reliability:	99.99%	99.97%

CitiPower and Powercor Australia

Your Electricity Distributors

Who we are and what we do

CitiPower and Powercor are the most efficient and reliable urban and rural electricity distribution networks in Victoria. We are two of Victoria's five privately owned electricity distributors, owning and managing the 'poles and wires' that deliver electricity to nearly 1.1 million homes and businesses in Victoria.

As a responsible electricity distributor, CitiPower and Powercor invests millions of dollars in an ongoing program of bushfire risk management initiatives that help reduce bushfire risk across Central and Western Victoria to help create a safer environment for local communities.

Our key areas of focus are managing any vegetation around powerlines, extensive asset inspection and maintenance programs and also helping customers manage any privately-owned overhead electric lines. Overhead electric lines that aren't inspected and properly maintained can result in a serious bushfire or safety hazard.

This brochure outlines your responsibilities as a landowner with a Private Overhead Electric Line (POEL) and our responsibilities as your electricity distributor.

Private Overhead Electric Lines

A Shared Responsibility

Bushfires impact the things we care about - our communities, our homes, our businesses, liveability and our environment.

While it is not possible to completely eradicate bushfires, by working together to reduce the factors that contribute to bushfire risk, we can limit the instances of bushfire starts.

Our responsibilities as your distributor

We will inspect your POEL up to the first switchboard at least once every three years to ensure it meets the standards required under the Electricity Safety Act 1998 (the Act). If we discover a dangerous situation during inspection, we may have to disconnect your electricity supply without any prior notice.

If your line does not meet the standards required, we are obliged to inform you of any defects identified and issue a **Defect Notice** in writing.

In addition, **we have the right to disconnect defective POELs from the supply mains for safety reasons on Total Fire Ban days** and other conditions deemed highly dangerous. A disconnection and reconnection fee may be charged.

Your responsibilities as a property owner

It is your responsibility to ensure that all electrical assets on your property, including private power poles, power lines and pole-top fittings are properly maintained and do not pose a bushfire or safety risk.

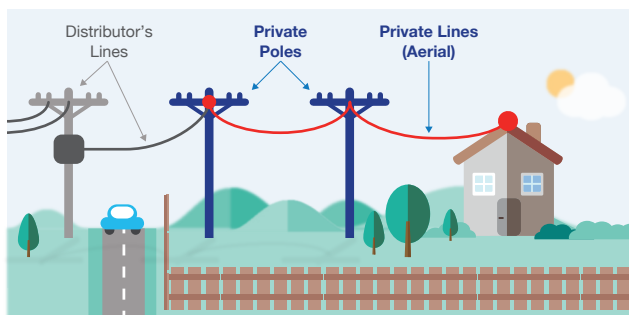
If you receive a Defect Notice, you will need to engage a Registered Electrical Contractor (REC) to repair any non-vegetation related defects. The REC must issue a Certificate of Electrical Safety (CES), as a guarantee that the repairs meet the safety standards specified in the Act. You will need to repair any defects identified within the deadline specified in the Defect Notice.

Vegetation related defects can be rectified by a tree services professional and you must notify us in writing when all identified defects have been rectified.

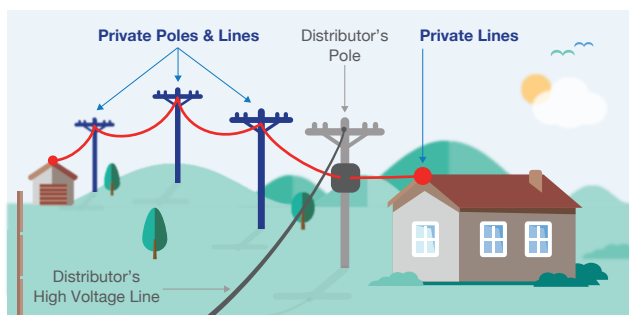
Where your line begins

We have included common examples to help you identify your private electric lines. This list is by no means exhaustive but if you are at all unsure, please call us at 13 22 06.

The poles marked **blue** and wires marked **red** are your responsibility.



This example shows our pole on a public roadway carrying supply onto your property by private poles and electric lines. The lines, poles and hardware on the poles are your responsibility.

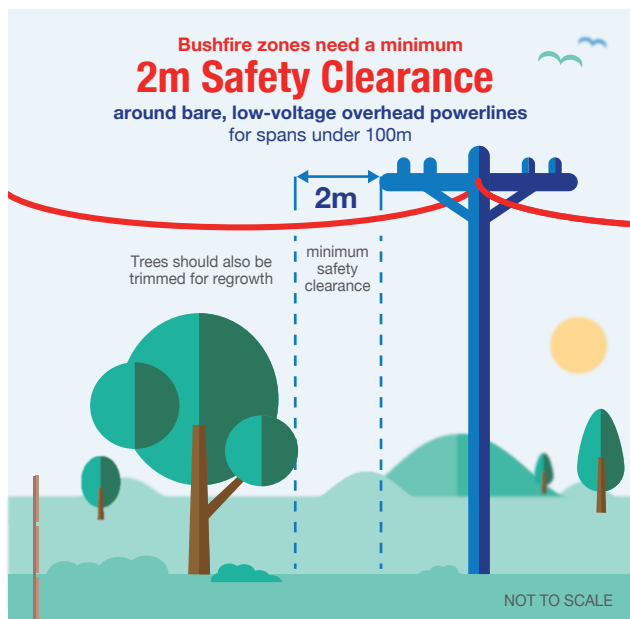


This example shows our pole on your property carrying supply onto your property by private poles and electric lines. The distribution pole is our responsibility while the private poles and electric lines are your responsibility.

Check for hazards

There are several types of common defects that could pose a bushfire or safety risk including damaged fittings and wires. However, vegetation defects are the most common type of defect we identify during inspections.







Trees and other vegetation growing inside the minimum safety clearance can come into contact with live power lines and cause blackouts or start a bushfire. Vegetation should be trimmed away to ensure it will not make contact with the power line.



We will advise if vegetation works are required on your private line and recommend that you engage a professional tree clearing contractor to clear the line.





Table of clearances

Minimum Building Clearances

 Type of Conductor	 Areas Normally Accessible by Persons	 Areas Not Normally Accessible by Persons	 Horizontal Clearances from Wall	 Clothes Lines, TV Aerials, Stay Wires etc.	 Above Swimming Pools
Bare Live Conductor	3.0m	3.0m	2.0m	2.0m	Not permitted
Insulated Live Conductor	3.0m	2.0m	1.0m	2.0m	3.0m
Neutral Screen Conductor	2.0m	0.5m	1.0m	2.0m	3.0m

Contact with overhead lines can kill. It is important that overhead electric lines are high enough to prevent accidental contact.

Minimum Ground Clearances

 Type of Conductor	 Over Areas Used by Vehicles	 Over Areas not Used by Vehicles	 Over Areas where Sailing Craft or Irrigation Pipes are used
Bare Live Conductor	5.5m	5.0m	Not permitted
Insulated Live Conductor	4.6m	3.0m	5.5m
Neutral Screen Conductor	4.6m	3.0m	4.5m

Contact us

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General queries

CitiPower: 1300 301 101

Powercor: 13 22 06

Faults and emergencies (24 hours)

CitiPower: 13 12 80

Powercor: 13 24 12

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