



MOBILE PLANT AND/ OR VEHICLE REDUCED MINIMUM APPROCH DISTANCE REQUEST

Number:

Applicant to fill out and submit 10 working days prior to proposed start date

In compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice 34: 2001 Section 5.2, Safety Manual – Electrical Industry Rules 2.905, 3.712 an applicant’s statement is hereby requested for a reduction in the minimum permissible distance to approach live conductors with mobile plant and/or vehicles in accordance with the following proposal.

Address/Location:	NEL Pole Numbers(s):
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Request details (Contractor’s machinery and equipment involved, work to be carried out, etc):

The method of identifying and ensuring compliance with the minimum distance boundaries will be:

Start and end date of required minimum approach:

Proposed minimum distance to live conductors will not be less than [] metre(s). Refer to table on reverse for NEL default distances

The person on site and in charge of ensuring the minimum distance will be:

If the above person is not on site, the person in charge will be:

The safety observer will be:

Applicant &/or Company Name:	Date:
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Contact name:	Phone No:
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Signature:	Email:
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In an emergency contact Nelson Electricity Faults: 035469256

Nelson Electricity section

Nelson Electricity STATEMENT In terms of the NZ Electrical Code of Practice 34: 2001 Section 5.2, Safety Manual- Electricity Industry Rules 2.905 and 3.712 AND Nelson Electricity's own requirements AND the risk assessment below, the requested mobile plant and/or vehicle minimum distance to live conductors of [] metre(s) is approved.

Upper Line Voltage is:	Lower Line Voltage is:
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Risk assessment comments:

This reduced approach distance permission is issued solely to the applicant or named company and may not be used by any other persons or company. The permission is issued for the duration detailed below only. The applicant will notify the issuing Nelson Electricity Personnel on works completion.

Start Date:	End Date:
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Risk Assessment completed by: (Name & Sign)	Date:
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Nelson Electricity approved by: (Name & Sign)	Date:
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Notified works completed date:	Permission cancelled (Sign):
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Do not attempt to use any measuring device, stick, rod or other material to assess or check distances around any power line

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Extract from New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice 34: 2001 Section 5 with NEL addition to table 6

Safe Distances for The Operation of Mobile Plant Near Conductors

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 This section does not apply to live line work or to any conductor forming part of the mobile plant or any collector wire, insulated cable, or flexible cord used for the purpose of supplying electricity to the mobile plant.
- 5.1.2 Mobile plant working near an electric overhead electric line can damage the line and be hazardous for the plant operator, the mobile plant and people in the vicinity.
- 5.1.3 Conductors can be displaced from their normal position by wind or temperature change. This requires special consideration by mobile plant operators.
- 5.1.4 This section does not apply while mobile plant is in transit on a road and the relevant requirements of the Traffic Regulations 1976 are observed.

5.2 Minimum Approach Distance

- 5.2.1 The distance between any live overhead electric line and any part of any mobile plant or load carried shall be **"AT LEAST 4.0 METRES"**, unless the operator has received written consent from the overhead electric line owner allowing a reduced distance.
- 5.2.2 When an approval has been obtained pursuant to clause 5.2.1, and subject to clause 5.5.1, the minimum approach distance between a conductor and any mobile plant shall not be less than specified in Table 6.
- 5.2.3 Figure 5 provides a quick reference guide to the minimum safe distances for use of mobile plant near conductors of overhead electric lines.

5.3 Working Above Overhead Electric Lines

- 5.3.1 Mobile plant or any load carried shall not operate above the conductors of any overhead electric line unless the operator has received written consent from the overhead electric line owner to work above the overhead electric line.
- 5.3.2 The use of helicopters above overhead electric lines is governed by the Civil Aviation Rules.

5.4 Consent For Reduced Minimum Approach Distances

- 5.4.1 The application for written consent from the overhead electric line owner shall be made with reasonable notice.
- 5.4.2 The overhead electric line owner's written consent shall advise:
 - (a) The voltage of the overhead electric line and the minimum approach distance to be observed, which shall not be less than the requirements of Table 6; and
 - (b) Any other reasonable conditions to be observed while working in proximity to, or above, the overhead electric line.
 - (c) The section of line to which the consent applies.

TABLE 6: REDUCED MINIMUM APPROACH DISTANCES (where written consent has been obtained)

Circuit Voltage	Minimum Approach Distance (m)	NEL Default minimum distance (m)
Not exceeding 1 kV – insulated conductor	0.15	1.0
Not exceeding 1 kV – conductor not insulated	1.0	1.0
Exceeding 1 kV but not exceeding 66 kV	1.0	2.0

5.6 Other Requirements

5.6.1 Where any mobile plant is likely to be used at any time in the proximity of overhead electric lines, the owner or operator of such device shall affix an approved warning notice in a conspicuous place as near as practicable to the operator's position. The notice shall be maintained in a legible condition and shall state:

"WARNING, KEEP CLEAR OF POWER LINES".

5.6.2 Any mechanically operated hedge cutter used under or in close proximity to any overhead electric line shall be operated to prevent hedge clippings or other material being thrown into contact with the conductors or creating any other hazard.

SAFETY

All power lines have the potential to cause serious harm or death if persons directly touch, indirectly touch or even simply get too close to a conductor or line.

Do not attempt to use any measuring device, stick, rod or other material to assess or check distances around any power line

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