

# Toolbox Talk

## Overhead power line safety

When it comes to electrical safety, there is no room for error. Nearly every work site has power lines, workers need to be aware of them and any equipment that could make contact with them. It's vital to your safety to know proper power line safety practices.

Overhead power line safety basics:

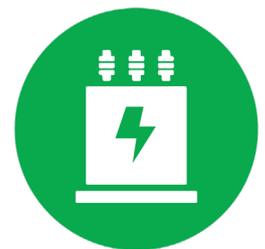
- **Never get closer than 4 metres to a power line.** Warn others if they breach the safe area.
- **Treat downed power lines and anything in contact with them as live and call us immediately.** Wait until we've confirmed it's safe to approach the area.
- Only operate equipment around overhead power lines if you are authorised and trained to do so.
- If tall equipment such as excavators, harvesters, cranes, hi-ab trucks are being used - ask another worker to watch and make sure you have enough clearance between the equipment and the power lines.
- If a machine makes contact with an overhead line, stay away and do not allow anyone near the machine.
- **If you are operating equipment that touches the line, stay inside the vehicle.** Call us for help. Once we arrive, we'll tell you when it's safe to move.
- Avoid storing materials underneath or near overhead power lines.
- Never touch a person who is in contact with a live power line.
- If in doubt, stop!

### More information

If you have any questions, please contact TLC  
[info@thelines.co.nz](mailto:info@thelines.co.nz)

**keeping you  
connected**

### safety tips



**Never go near  
downed lines**



**Stay 4m away  
from power lines**



**Never make contact  
with a live line**

**0800 367 546**  
**[thelinescompany.co.nz](http://thelinescompany.co.nz)**

# Your safety is paramount



We believe it's important to ensure everyone is safe around electricity, making it home to their whānau safely each and every day.

Many accidental electrocutions occur even though the victim was paying close attention to potential hazards in front of them. That is because they failed to pay attention to the power lines above them! Overhead lines are often uninsulated, meaning when a person makes contact with them, either directly or indirectly, while handling something conductive — electricity could flow to and through that person to ground, causing them to be electrocuted.

## Task

Name five commonly performed tasks that could lead to accidental electrocution from overhead lines.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Tips to avoid electrocution

- If in doubt, stop what you're doing.
- Take a moment to first look up and survey the area directly over your head and above where you will be moving to identify overhead lines.
- Always assume overhead power lines are live and stay at least 4 meters away from the lines.

## Acknowledgement

I understand the information presented and the importance of following proper power line safety practices.

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

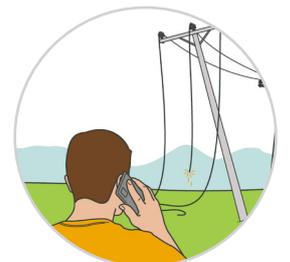
## safety tips



Watch out above



Stay 4m away from power lines



Treat downed lines as live