

Working around services



Objective

To prevent fatalities, eliminate or minimise the risk of injuries and incidents from work near underground and overhead services.

Requirements

At Haslin Constructions:

1. We conduct and document risk assessments to identify all reasonably foreseeable hazards associated with underground and overhead services.
2. Where we cannot eliminate the risks, effective and appropriate control measures are established, implemented, maintained, monitored and reviewed in line with the hierarchy of controls, including de-energisation, isolation or relocation of services.
3. We obtain and verify current underground essential services information of the work area, including adjacent areas. We establish a process to positively identify and expose underground or hidden services. We communicate this information to all relevant workers and stakeholders involved in the activity prior to the commencement of the activity.
4. We establish safe working distances and exclusion zones for proximity of persons, cranes, mobile plant, material and tools to carry out work safely, in line with relevant legislative requirements.
5. We liaise with the relevant asset owner (e.g. electricity, gas and telecommunications) regarding proposed work as defined by the asset owner or legislation.
6. When required, we ensure electrical safety observers are available and competent to assist the work activity around underground and overhead services.
7. We develop and implement a framework to ensure all workers involved in work in or near underground and overhead services are trained and competent.
8. Before any work starts, we apply appropriate permit, permission and approval processes to validate the risks related to underground and overhead services are adequately controlled.
9. We ensure persons approving, authorising or supervising work are competent and trained in relevant work procedures.
10. We plan and regularly test emergency and rescue arrangements related to incidents and potential scenarios with underground and overhead services.