

# ASP General Information

## Network Compliance & Authorisations

Alert Number: GI21\_22

21 October 2022

### Subject: Contestable Vegetation Works Near Live Low Voltage Conductors

Dear ASPs,

The maintenance of vegetation near live Low Voltage overhead mains must be completed in accordance with the Standard Vegetation Control (SVC) as set out in Ausgrid's Electrical Safety Rules (ESR).

The ASP 1Xh – Vegetation Management Worker authorisation, enables an authorised individual to carry out contestable vegetation management work in the vicinity of Ausgrid's overhead **Low Voltage** assets only. This includes uninsulated LV conductors, LV ABC and service wire conductors. In the event the Vegetation works are within 3m of assets greater than LV (HV), the works cannot be undertaken by personnel holding a 1Xh authority. The works within 3m of HV will require an outage and details can be obtained from the Ausgrid website.

Where vegetation management is carried out in the vicinity of Live LV, in accordance with the Electricity Supply (Safety and Network Management) Regulation 2014, and within the Minimum Safe Working Distances (MSWD – ESR Table 23), the "Ordinary person" must maintain clearance of 3.0m (MSWD) from exposed LV conductors, while an "Authorised worker" can work within the 3m clearance although **MUST** maintain 0.5 m clearance from exposed LV conductors.

Prior to conducting contestable SVC work near Ausgrid's Low Voltage distribution network, the ASP/1 company must ensure that all individual employees or subcontractors undertaking the works meet the SVC requirements outlined in Ausgrid's ESR. These requirements include:

- UET20312 Certificate II in ESI – Powerline Vegetation Control (**non-electrical personal**)
- Hold A Current Standard Vegetation Control Authorisation
- Use Approved Standard Vegetation Control Work Procedures
- Class 1Xh Vegetation authorisation

Authorisation Class	Description
Class 1Xh Vegetation management worker	A non-electrically qualified individual who is authorised to conduct work in accordance with clause 8.2.8 near the network.

Ausgrid's ASP 1Xh authorisation **does not** permit workers to interfere with or carry out work on Ausgrid's mains and apparatus as this is outside the scope of their authorisation.

**Authorisation to carry out SVC does not amount to authorisation to carry out:**

- **Close Approach Vegetation Control works as defined in the ESR; or**
- **Work near or above High Voltage (HV) mains**

**Work within the clearances of SVC or near or above HV mains must only be carried out:**

- **With the mains isolated, earthed and under an access permit; or**
- **By Ausgrid in accordance with specific procedures.**

ASP 1Xh authorised workers must ensure that Minimum Safe Work Distances (MSWD) are understood and adhered to in regard to the tasks being performed at all times. The following ESR tables outline the Clearances required for Workers to maintain in various situations.

ESR - 10.5.5 TABLE 46 – Standard vegetation control from an insulated EWP

Insulated EWP		Insulated Mobile Plant Clearance (mm)	Using Insulating Tools / Equipment			Using Non-Insulating Tools / Equipment			
Voltage (kV)	Worker MSWD (mm)		Insulated Tool Clearance (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Below/ Beside (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Above (mm)	Non-Insulated Tool Clearance (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Below/ Beside (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Above (mm)	
LV (insulated)	500	Physical Clearance (No Contact)	300	No Clearance Required			500	No Clearance Required	
LV (bare)	1000		300			1000	1000	1000	

ESR - 10.5.5 Table 47 - Standard vegetation control from a tree (climber)

Climber		Using Insulating Tools/Equipment			Using Non-Insulating Tools/Equipment		
Voltage (kV)	Worker MSWD (mm)	Insulated Tool Clearance (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Below/ Beside (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Above (mm)	Non-Insulated Tool Clearance (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Below/ Beside (mm)	Vegetation Clearance Above (mm)
LV (insulated)	500	300	No Clearance Required		500	No Clearance Required	
LV (bare)	1000	300	No Clearance Required	Not Permitted	1000	1000	Not Permitted

Table 46 and Table 47 show the minimum safe working distances that must be observed for the relevant voltage by standard vegetation control authorised persons and the equipment they are using, and the minimum allowable vegetation clearances from the mains and apparatus.

The information referenced from the ESR and ES4 – Accredited Service Provider Authorisation are current at the time of publication of this document. Prior to undertaking these works the ASP1 are to ensure work is completed in accordance with current Ausgrid ESR.

For more information, please contact Ausgrid via [ASPAuthorisations@Ausgrid.com.au](mailto:ASPAuthorisations@Ausgrid.com.au)

## Ausgrid Contract Delivery