

WORKING SAFELY NEAR OVERHEAD POWER LINES

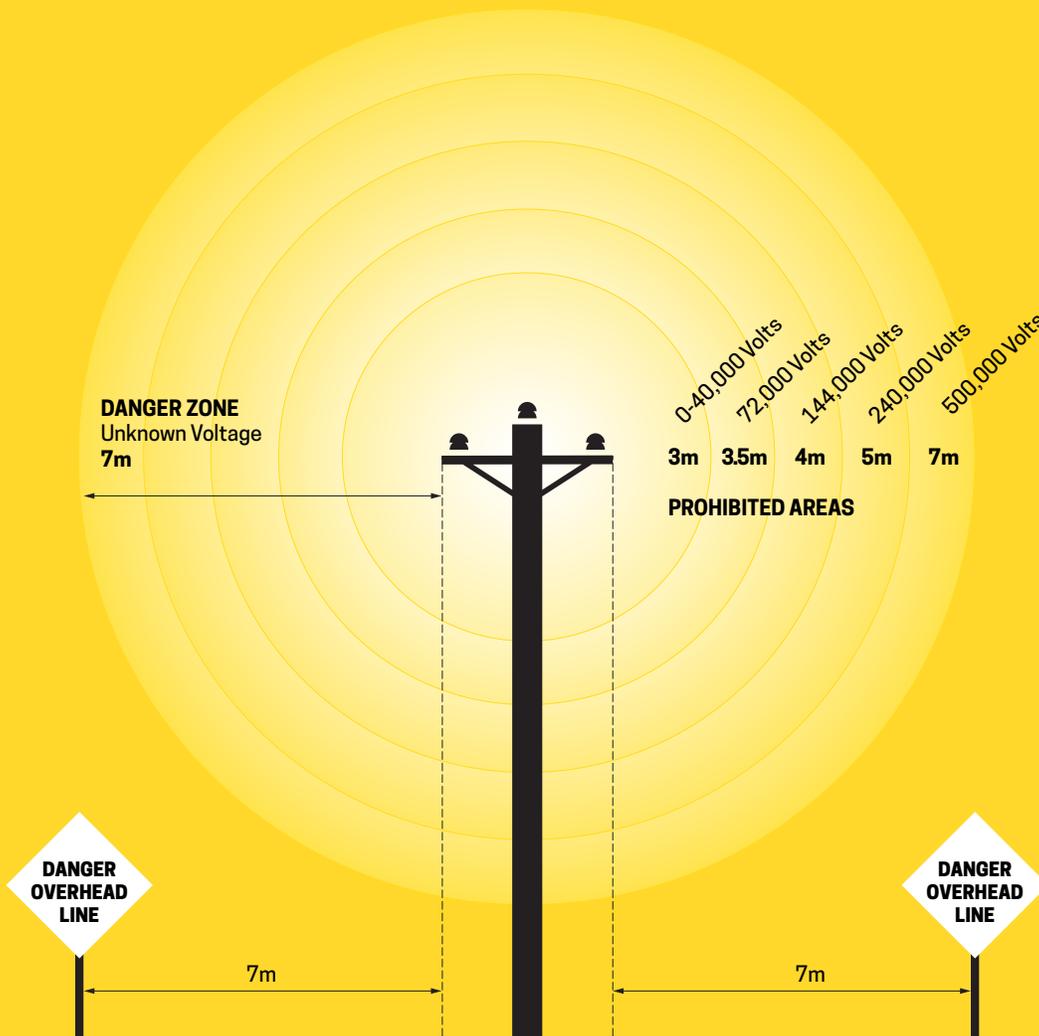
If you think power line safety doesn't concern you, think again. In 2022, there were more than 80 power line contacts in Edmonton, that's more than one per week. The hard costs are very real: lost time, damaged equipment, and the cost of power line repairs. The potential human impacts – injury or death to you or a member of your crew – are unbearable.

THE GOOD NEWS: power line contacts are preventable.

STAY 7 METRES SAFE

Overhead power lines can be dangerous because there is usually no protection on the wire. Since electricity looks for the shortest path to the ground, if a person or their equipment gets too close to an overhead power line they can be its path to the ground. This shock can cause serious injury or death.

EPCOR's power lines range from 2,400 to 500,000 volts. If the construction phase of your project might result in workers or equipment operating within 7 metres (m) of an overhead power line, you must contact EPCOR at 780-412-4500 or fill out the form at epcor.com/powersafety – and request a Safety Codes Consult.



LEGISLATIVE WORK REQUIREMENTS

Before you finalize your work plans ensure they meet the Alberta Electrical Utility Code's clearance requirements. Ensuring minimum clearance between overhead power lines and any structures will help reduce the risks associated with working in close proximity to electrical infrastructure.

- Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Code, Part 17 Overhead Power Lines, Safe limit of approach distances (Section 225).
- Alberta Electrical and Utility Code (AEUC),
 - Activities near overhead power lines (Section 2-014)
 - Buildings and objects near overhead equipment or lines (Section 2-016)
 - Moving equipment or buildings (Section 2-018).

HOW WE CAN HELP

EPCOR's safety experts are ready to provide you with the information you need to ensure every worksite is safe so you can protect your livelihood and the lives of your crew. It's as simple as making one call – 780-412-4500 or filling out the form at epcor.com/powersafety – and requesting a Safety Codes Consult. associated with working in close proximity to electrical infrastructure.

ON SITE SAFETY CODES CONSULTATION

Our Safety Codes Officers can come to your worksite free of charge and provide you guidance on what you can do to keep your crew safe around power equipment. Request a consultation today if your work requires:

- excavation near underground electrical facilities. We can help you understand what's showing on your locate slip and provide guidance about how to safely expose the power lines.
- digging within 1 m of a power pole. We can have a crew on site to hold the pole in place while you complete your work.
- working within 7 m of an overhead power line can put you at risk of coming in contact with energized power equipment. We have many options that can be put into place to reduce the risk of a contact with our equipment (power line isolation, line protection, etc.).

ONLINE RESOURCES

We provide online resources for learning how to work safely around overhead and underground equipment on epcor.com/powersafety. There is even a guidebook for working in close proximity to power lines that you can print out.

POWER LINE SAFETY AWARENESS SESSION

Book a power line safety awareness session for your team with our Senior Advisor of Public Safety, by calling EPCOR at 780-412-4500 or filling out the form at epcor.com/powersafety – and requesting a Safety Awareness Session.



This document provides information regarding safe work practices in relation to EPCOR power facilities. Employers and contractors have responsibilities under the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety (Alberta OHS) Act, Code, and Regulation. When there is a conflict between this document and any bylaws, legislation, or regulation, the relevant law prevails. Any reliance placed on this information is strictly at your own risk. EPCOR does not assume any responsibility or liability for any action, loss or damage that arises out of, or is in connection with the information contained in this document.