

# Seller disclosure statement



Queensland  
Government

Property Law Act 2023 section 99

Form 2, Version 1 | Effective from: 1 August 2025

**WARNING TO BUYER** – This statement contains important legal and other information about the property offered for sale. You should read and satisfy yourself of the information in this statement before signing a contract. You are advised to seek legal advice before signing this form. You should not assume you can terminate the contract after signing if you are not satisfied with the information in this statement.

**WARNING** – You must be given this statement before you sign the contract for the sale of the property.

This statement does not include information about:

- » flooding or other natural hazard history
- » structural soundness of the building or pest infestation
- » current or historical use of the property
- » current or past building or development approvals for the property
- » limits imposed by planning laws on the use of the land
- » services that are or may be connected to the property
- » the presence of asbestos within buildings or improvements on the property.

You are encouraged to make your own inquiries about these matters before signing a contract. You may not be able to terminate the contract if these matters are discovered after you sign.

## Part 1 – Seller and property details

Seller **Kelli Louise Webb**

Property address  
(referred to as the  
"property" in this  
statement)

**80 ST JOHNS AV, ASHGROVE QLD 4060**

Lot on plan description

**281/RP42308 Ref 14305114**

Community titles scheme  
or BUGTA scheme:

Is the property part of a community titles scheme or a BUGTA scheme:

**Yes**

*If Yes, refer to Part 6 of this statement  
for additional information*

**No**

*If No, please disregard Part 6 of this statement  
as it does not need to be completed*

## Part 2 – Title details, encumbrances and residential tenancy or rooming accommodation agreement

**Title details**

**The seller gives or has given the buyer the following—**

A title search for the property issued under the *Land Title Act 1994*  
showing interests registered under that Act for the property.

**Yes**

A copy of the plan of survey registered for the property.

**Yes**

<b>Registered encumbrances</b>	<p>Registered encumbrances, if any, are recorded on the title search, and may affect your use of the property. Examples include easements, statutory covenants, leases and mortgages.</p> <p>You should seek legal advice about your rights and obligations before signing the contract.</p>
<b>Unregistered encumbrances (excluding statutory encumbrances)</b>	<p>There are encumbrances not registered on the title that will continue <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> to affect the property after <b>settlement</b>.</p> <p><b>Note</b>—If the property is part of a community titles scheme or a BUGTA scheme it may be subject to and have the benefit of statutory easements that are <b>NOT</b> required to be disclosed.</p> <p><b>Unregistered lease (if applicable)</b></p> <p>If the unregistered encumbrance is an unregistered lease, the details of the agreement are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» the start and end day of the term of the lease: <input type="text"/></li> <li>» the amount of rent and bond payable: <input type="text"/></li> <li>» whether the lease has an option to renew: <input type="text"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Other unregistered agreement in writing (if applicable)</b></p> <p>If the unregistered encumbrance is created by an agreement in writing, and is not an unregistered lease, a copy of the agreement is given, together with relevant plans, if any. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Unregistered oral agreement (if applicable)</b></p> <p>If the unregistered encumbrance is created by an oral agreement, and is not an unregistered lease, the details of the agreement are as follows:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>
<b>Statutory encumbrances</b>	<p>There are statutory encumbrances that affect the property. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p><i>If Yes, the details of any statutory encumbrances are as follows:</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>The following utility and infrastructure providers have identified that they have assets on or near the property. Please refer to the attached Statutory Encumbrance Maps for further information. NBN Co Queensland   Telstra QLD South East   Queensland Urban Utilities   Energex Queensland   APA Group Gas Networks   Brisbane City Council</p> </div>
<b>Residential tenancy or rooming accommodation agreement</b>	<p>The property has been subject to a residential tenancy agreement or a rooming accommodation agreement under the <i>Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008</i> during the last 12 months. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>If <b>Yes</b>, when was the rent for the premises or each of the residents' rooms last increased? (<i>Insert date of the most recent rent increase for the premises or rooms</i>) <input type="text" value="2024-01-16"/></p> <p><b>Note</b>—Under the <i>Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008</i> the rent for a residential premises may not be increased earlier than 12 months after the last rent increase for the premises.</p> <p>As the owner of the property, you may need to provide evidence of the day of the last rent increase. You should ask the seller to provide this evidence to you prior to settlement.</p>

## Part 3 – Land use, planning and environment

**WARNING TO BUYER** – You may not have any rights if the current or proposed use of the property is not lawful under the local planning scheme. You can obtain further information about any planning and development restrictions applicable to the lot, including in relation to short-term letting, from the relevant local government.

<b>Zoning</b>	<p>The zoning of the property is (<i>Insert zoning under the planning scheme, the Economic Development Act 2012; the Integrated Resort Development Act 1987; the Mixed Use Development Act 1993; the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 or the Sanctuary Cove Resort Act 1985, as applicable</i>):</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">LDR - LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL</div>		
<b>Transport proposals and resumptions</b>	<p>The lot is affected by a notice issued by a Commonwealth, State or local government entity and given to the seller about a transport infrastructure proposal* to: locate transport infrastructure on the property; or alter the dimensions of the property.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>The lot is affected by a notice of intention to resume the property or any part of the property.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p><i>If Yes, a copy of the notice, order, proposal or correspondence must be given by the seller.</i></p>		
* <i>Transport infrastructure</i> has the meaning defined in the <i>Transport Infrastructure Act 1994</i> . A <i>proposal</i> means a resolution or adoption by some official process to establish plans or options that will physically affect the property.			
<b>Contamination and environmental protection</b>	<p>The property is recorded on the Environmental Management Register or the Contaminated Land Register under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>.</p> <p><b>The following notices are, or have been, given:</b></p> <p>A notice under section 408(2) of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> (for example, land is contaminated, show cause notice, requirement for site investigation, clean up notice or site management plan).</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>A notice under section 369C(2) of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> (the property is a place or business to which an environmental enforcement order applies).</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>A notice under section 347(2) of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> (the property is a place or business to which a prescribed transitional environmental program applies).</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p>		
<b>Trees</b>	<p>There is a tree order or application under the <i>Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011</i> affecting the property.</p> <p><i>If Yes, a copy of the order or application must be given by the seller.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<b>Heritage</b>	<p>The property is affected by the <i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i> or is included in the World Heritage List under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwlth).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<b>Flooding</b>	<p>Information about whether the property is affected by flooding or another natural hazard or within a natural hazard overlay can be obtained from the relevant local government and you should make your own enquires. Flood information for the property may also be available at the <a href="#">FloodCheck Queensland</a> portal or the <a href="#">Australian Flood Risk Information</a> portal.</p>		
<b>Vegetation, habitats and protected plants</b>	<p>Information about vegetation clearing, koala habitats and other restrictions on development of the land that may apply can be obtained from the relevant State government agency.</p>		

## Part 4 – Buildings and structures

**WARNING TO BUYER** – The seller does not warrant the structural soundness of the buildings or improvements on the property, or that the buildings on the property have the required approval, or that there is no pest infestation affecting the property. You should engage a licensed building inspector or an appropriately qualified engineer, builder or pest inspector to inspect the property and provide a report and also undertake searches to determine whether buildings and improvements on the property have the required approvals.

<b>Swimming pool</b>	<p>There is a relevant pool for the property. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>If a community titles scheme or a BUGTA scheme – a shared pool is located in the scheme. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>Pool compliance certificate is given. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>OR</p> <p>Notice of no pool safety certificate is given. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p>
<b>Unlicensed building work under owner builder permit</b>	<p>Building work was carried out on the property under an owner builder permit in the last 6 years. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p><i>A notice under section 47 of the Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991 must be given by the seller and you may be required to sign the notice and return it to the seller prior to signing the contract.</i></p>
<b>Notices and orders</b>	<p>There is an unsatisfied show cause notice or enforcement notice under the <i>Building Act 1975</i>, section 246AG, 247 or 248 or under the <i>Planning Act 2016</i>, section 167 or 168. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p>The seller has been given a notice or order, that remains in effect, from a local, State or Commonwealth government, a court or tribunal, or other competent authority, requiring work to be done or money to be spent in relation to the property. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b></p> <p><i>If Yes, a copy of the notice or order must be given by the seller.</i></p>
<b>Building Energy Efficiency Certificate</b>	<p>If the property is a commercial office building of more than 1,000m<sup>2</sup>, a Building Energy Efficiency Certificate is available on the Building Energy Efficiency Register.</p>
<b>Asbestos</b>	<p>The seller does not warrant whether asbestos is present within buildings or improvements on the property. Buildings or improvements built before 1990 may contain asbestos. Asbestos containing materials (ACM) may have been used up until the early 2000s. Asbestos or ACM may become dangerous when damaged, disturbed, or deteriorating. Information about asbestos is available at the Queensland Government Asbestos Website (<a href="http://asbestos.qld.gov.au">asbestos.qld.gov.au</a>) including common locations of asbestos and other practical guidance for homeowners.</p>

## Part 5 – Rates and services

**WARNING TO BUYER** – The amount of charges imposed on you may be different to the amount imposed on the seller.

### Rates

#### Whichever of the following applies—

The total amount payable\* for all rates and charges (without any discount) for the property as stated in the most recent rate notice is:

Amount:

Date Range:

OR

The property is currently a rates exempt lot.\*\*

OR

The property is not rates exempt but no separate assessment of rates  is issued by a local government for the property.

\*Concessions: A local government may grant a concession for rates. The concession will not pass to you as buyer unless you meet the criteria in section 120 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* or section 112 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*.

\*\* An exemption for rates applies to particular entities. The exemption will not pass to you as buyer unless you meet the criteria in section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2009* or section 95 of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*.

### Water

#### Whichever of the following applies—

The total amount payable as charges for water services for the property as indicated in the most recent water services notice\* is:

Amount:

Date Range:

OR

There is no separate water services notice issued for the lot; however, an estimate of the total amount payable for water services is:

Amount:

Date Range:

\* A water services notices means a notice of water charges issued by a water service provider under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

## Part 6 – Community titles schemes and BUGTA schemes

(If the property is part of a community titles scheme or a BUGTA scheme this Part must be completed)

**WARNING TO BUYER** – If the property is part of a community titles scheme or a BUGTA scheme and you purchase the property, you will become a member of the body corporate for the scheme with the right to participate in significant decisions about the scheme and you will be required to pay contributions towards the body corporate’s expenses in managing the scheme. You will also be required to comply with the by-laws. By-laws will regulate your use of common property and the lot.

**For more information about living in a body corporate and your rights and obligations, contact the Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management.**

<b>Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997</b>	<b>The property is included in a community titles scheme.</b> <i>(If Yes, complete the information below)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<b>Community Management Statement</b>	<p>A copy of the most recent community management statement for the scheme as recorded under the <i>Land Title Act 1994</i> or another Act is given to the buyer.</p> <p><b>Note</b>—If the property is part of a community titles scheme, the community management statement for the scheme contains important information about the rights and obligations of owners of lots in the scheme including matters such as lot entitlements, by-laws and exclusive use areas.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	
<b>Body Corporate Certificate</b>	<p>A copy of a body corporate certificate for the lot under the <i>Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997</i>, section 205(4) is given to the buyer.</p> <p><i>If No</i>— An explanatory statement is given to the buyer that states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» a copy of a body corporate certificate for the lot is not attached; and</li> <li>» the reasons under section 6 of the <i>Property Law Regulation 2024</i> why the seller has not been able to obtain a copy of the body corporate certificate for the lot.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<b>Statutory Warranties</b>	<p><b>Statutory Warranties</b>—If you enter into a contract, you will have implied warranties under the <i>Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997</i> relating to matters such as latent or patent defects in common property or body corporate assets; any actual, expected or contingent financial liabilities that are not part of the normal operating costs; and any circumstances in relation to the affairs of the body corporate that will materially prejudice you as owner of the property. There will be further disclosure about warranties in the contract.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	
<b>Building Units and Group Titles Act 1980</b>	<b>The property is included in a BUGTA scheme</b> <i>(If Yes, complete the information below)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<b>Body Corporate Certificate</b>	<p>A copy of a body corporate certificate for the lot under the <i>Building Units and Group Titles Act 1980</i>, section 40AA(1) is given to the buyer.</p> <p><i>If No</i>— An explanatory statement is given to the buyer that states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» a copy of a body corporate certificate for the lot is not attached; and</li> <li>» the reasons under section 7 of the <i>Property Law Regulation 2024</i> why the seller has not been able to obtain a copy of the body corporate certificate for the lot.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note</b>—If the property is part of a BUGTA scheme, you will be subject to by-laws approved by the body corporate and other by-laws that regulate your use of the property and common property.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>

## Signatures – SELLER

*K. Webb*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of seller

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of seller

**Kelli Louise Webb**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Seller

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Seller

17-04-2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Signatures – BUYER

**By signing this disclosure statement the buyer acknowledges receipt of this disclosure statement before entering into a contract with the seller for the sale of the lot.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of buyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of buyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of buyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of buyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

CURRENT TITLE SEARCH  
QUEENSLAND TITLES REGISTRY PTY LTD



Request No: 55796484  
Search Date: 16/04/2026 12:31

Title Reference: 14305114  
Date Created: 22/05/1969

Previous Title: 12760080  
12760081

REGISTERED OWNER

Dealing No: 712335459 09/04/2009

KELLI LOUISE WEBB

ESTATE AND LAND

Estate in Fee Simple

LOT 281 REGISTERED PLAN 42308  
Local Government: BRISBANE CITY

EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES AND INTERESTS

1. Rights and interests reserved to the Crown by  
Deed of Grant No. 10046162 (POR 381)
2. MORTGAGE No 718551811 01/02/2018 at 12:02  
BANK OF QUEENSLAND LIMITED A.C.N. 009 656 740

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVICES - NIL  
UNREGISTERED DEALINGS - NIL

Caution - Charges do not necessarily appear in order of priority

\*\* End of Current Title Search \*\*

COPYRIGHT QUEENSLAND TITLES REGISTRY PTY LTD [2026]  
Requested By: D-ENQ INFOTRACK PTY LIMITED

42308  
A101074

42308

OT 31325, 215 & 71, Pop 165.  
OT 31324, 215 & 70, 381.  
Subs 299 & 310 See I.S. No. 999  
Lot 301 See I.S. No. 1000  
Lot 301 See I.S. No. 1000  
Lot 301 See I.S. No. 1000

**THIS PLAN should be ROLLED not folded.**

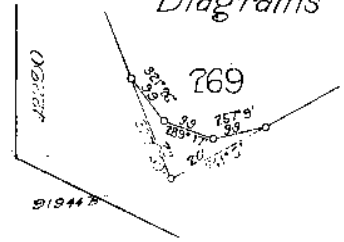
Carleil Hew of Brisbane  
Authorized Surveyor  
I have surveyed, measured, and marked on the ground the parcel of land here referred to, and that the measurements and boundaries given in this plan are correct; and I make the above declaration solemnly before the public, and by virtue of the commission of the "State Act of 1887".

Made and signed at Brisbane this 31<sup>st</sup> day of Oct. 1925, before me  
Signature of Registrar of Titles  
or of a Magistrate

Witnessed February 30

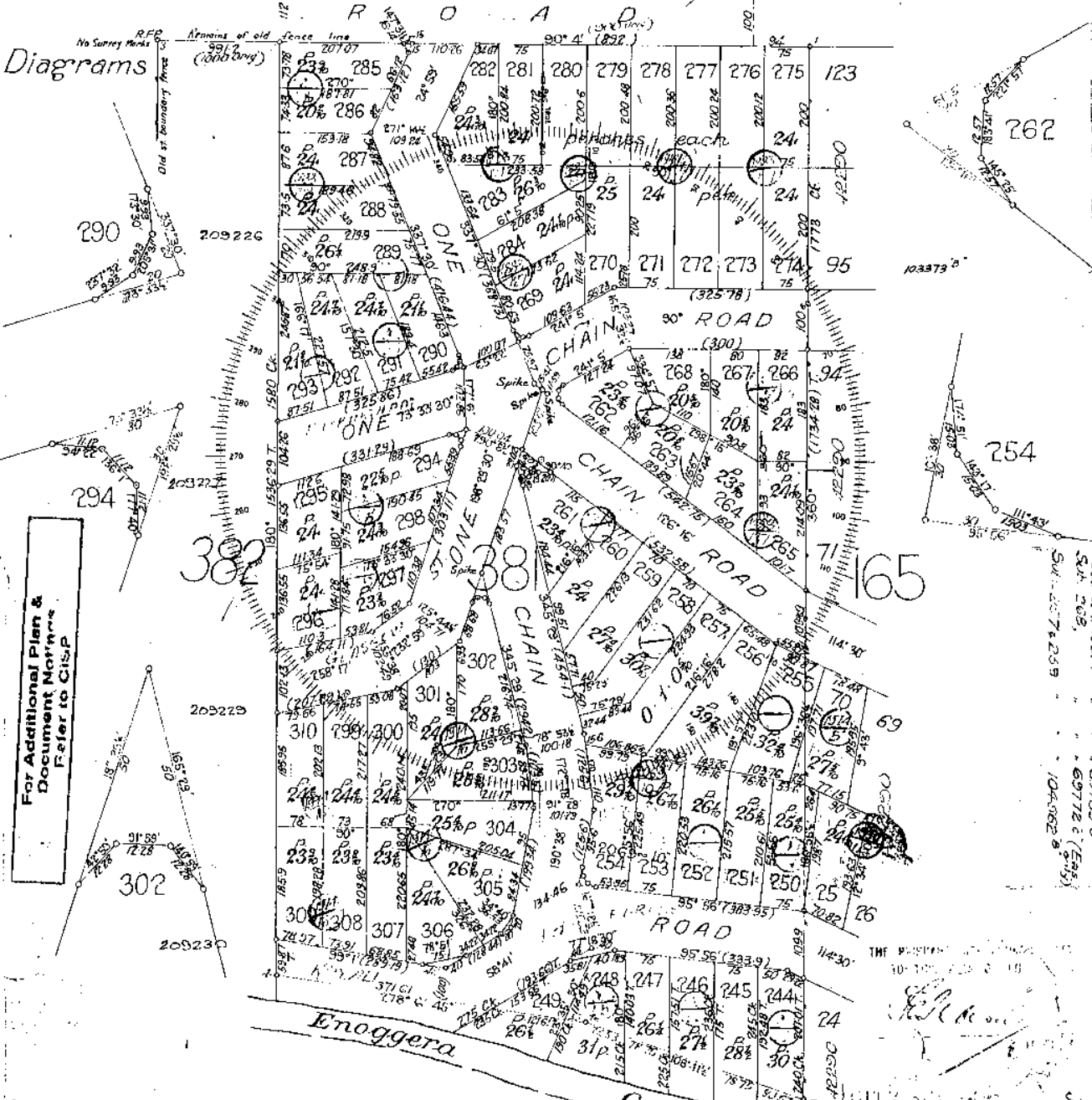
R. B. ...

Diagrams



135231<sup>B</sup> 371 106791<sup>B</sup>  
51.7253<sup>B</sup> 149936(comp)  
Enter of R.P.

Diagrams



For Additional Plan & Document Mof'n's Refer to Cisp

Diagrams - Scale 20 links to an inch.

ROAD decl. No. A-12424

SCALE 1/2 chains to an inch.

As Proprietor of this land, I agree to this Plan of subdivision, and dedicate the new roads shown hereon to public use.

Signature of Proprietor: H. M. Anglin

AMENDED RESOLUTION  
Note: This resolution shall be subject to amendment of the original Title Deed which will be evidenced by a further resolution.  
Survey of Lot (s) 244 to 310  
R.P. 42308

Received  
at 2.28.25

SURVEY

OF SUBDIVISIONS 25, 70 & 244-310

OF ALLOTMENT OR PORTION NO. 165 & 381

OF SECTION

COUNTY OF Stanleyp

PARISH OF Enoggera

Cat. No. 42308

42308

42308

42308

# UTILITY PLANS

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16-04-2026

**Enquiry Date:** 16-04-2026

**Address (Lot/Plan):**

80 ST JOHNS AV, ASHGROVE, QLD-4060, AUS

These plans expire 30 days from supply

In response to your request for Utility Plans, please find the following information:

- Responses from the affected utilities/asset owners.

The following utilities/asset owners have assets on or near your searched property:

Sequence Number	Authority Name	Contact Number
271390772	Queensland Urban Utilities	+61132657
271390770	Brisbane City Council	+61734038888
271390773	Telstra QLD South East	+611800653935
271390771	APA Group Gas Networks (70710)	+611800085628
271390769	NBN Co Qld	+611800687626



## General Information

Care will be needed to be undertaken if you/your client carry out any excavation works inside or outside the property boundary.

Utility Plans, provides a 'collated pack' of information, including plans/maps, detailing the location of utilities on or near to your property. This can include electricity, gas, water, sewerage, drainage, telecommunications and local government assets, depending upon what utilities are in the vicinity.

Any plans supplied are intended to assist you or your client in the prevention of damage to an underground asset. The plans do not have a guaranteed accuracy since they are supplied by each utility in question. If you or your client perform excavations, any such works are at your/your client's own risk. Prior to any such earth works being conducted on or in the vicinity of the property we recommend that you/your client contact a locator to accurately find and locate each utility to avoid any damage. In the event that a pipe/cable damage does occur from earthworks, you/your client will be responsible for any cost of repair.

Due to the age of some pipes and cables, it is impossible for all plans to have the precise location of all underground utilities. The accuracy and/or completeness of the information supplied cannot be guaranteed as property boundaries, depths and other features may change over time. Therefore, plans are indicative only. Each utility does not warrant that the plans are accurate and accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracy shown on the plans. It is your responsibility to locate underground utilities carefully via potholing prior to any excavation process, and to exercise due care during that excavation.

This report is based on information supplied by each utility – which is current at the time of request. Also please note that plans are supplied with a validity period of 30 days from date of supply.

**This content was sent by email from Queensland Urban Utilities in response to your Before You Dig enquiry.**

Original subject BYDA Response for Job No 52901299, Sequence No 271390772  
Original sender UrbanUtilities@ticketaccess.pces.com.au  
Received 16 Apr 2026 12:58:34pm AEST



GPO Box 2765  
Brisbane QLD 4001

Date: 16 Apr 2026

## Before You Dig Australia Response

**Please DO NOT SEND A REPLY to this email as it has been automatically generated and replies are not monitored.**

Dear Soft Reg

We appreciate your diligence in contacting the Before You Dig Australia service (BYDA) prior to engaging in work or activities which may affect the water and sewerage infrastructure of Urban Utilities.

<b>Job Number:</b>	52901299
<b>Sequence Number:</b>	271390772
<b>Enquiry Date:</b>	16/4/2026 12:58:00 pm
<b>Enquiry Location:</b>	80 ST JOHNS AV ASHGROVE QLD 4060

**WARNING: When working in the vicinity of Urban Utilities' assets you have a legal *Duty of Care* that must be observed.**

**Our records indicate the presence of infrastructure owned by Urban Utilities within your nominated search area, as shown on the attached plan.**

Please note that you may be liable for any loss or damage to our infrastructure which is caused by any works or activities which you undertake over or near such infrastructure. Additionally, your works or activities may conflict with other works scheduled in your nominated search area. To avoid any unnecessary impacts, before any undertaking you must obtain the following approvals:

- And/or a Urban Utilities Network Access Permit for self assessable works or activities that are within two metres of our infrastructure (refer to [Urban Utilities Network Access Permit Webpage](#))
- Either a Build Over Asset (BOA) Approval for assessable building works undertaken within specified distances of our infrastructure (refer to [DHPW BOA Factsheet](#))

We have provided additional information about your responsibilities in relation to our infrastructure in the Important Information sheet attached to this letter. By accessing BYDA to obtain our records about our infrastructure, you warrant that you have read

the sheet and agree to the terms and conditions set out therein.

For further enquiries or assistance with interpretation of plans and search content please contact our BYDA Support Team by email [networkaccess@urbanutilities.com.au](mailto:networkaccess@urbanutilities.com.au). Alternatively, you can write to us at Urban Utilities, PO Box 2765, Brisbane QLD 4001.

Thank you for taking the time to consult the BYDA service.

Yours sincerely

Before You Dig Australia Support Team  
**Urban Utilities**  
[networkaccess@urbanutilities.com.au](mailto:networkaccess@urbanutilities.com.au)

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To best manage the risk of damage and liability, we recommend that you engage the services of a [BYDA Certified Locator](#)

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#### Important Notice

This enquiry response, including any associated documentation, has been assessed and compiled from the information detailed within the BYDA enquiry outlined above. **Please ensure that the BYDA enquiry details and this response accurately reflect your proposed works.**

This response is intended for use only by the addressee. If you have received the enquiry response in error, please let us know by telephone and delete all copies; you are advised that copying, distributing, disclosing or otherwise acting in reliance on the response is expressly prohibited.

**Disclaimer:** While reasonable measures have been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this plan response, neither Urban Utilities nor PelicanCorp shall have any liability whatsoever in relation to any loss, damage, cost or expense arising from the use of this plan response or the information contained in it or the completeness or accuracy of such information. Use of such information is subject to and constitutes acceptance of these terms.

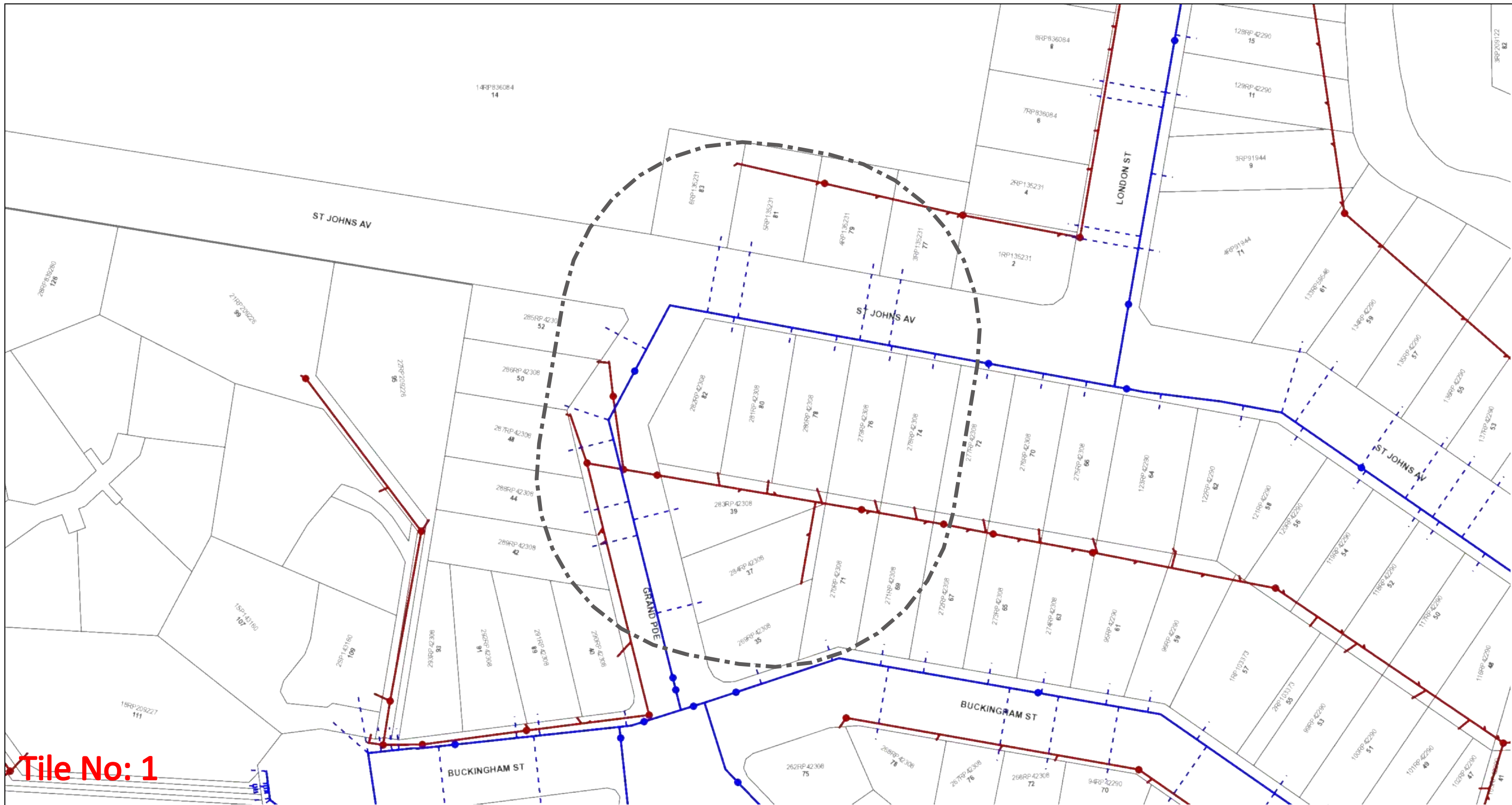
If you are unable to launch any of the files for viewing and printing, you may need to download and install free viewing and printing software such as [Adobe Acrobat Reader \(for PDF files\)](#)

PelicanCorp


Compiled with TicketAccess by PelicanCorp



# Urban Utilities - Water, Recycled Water and Sewer Infrastructure



Tile No: 1

 <p><b>UrbanUtilities</b></p> <p>N</p> <p>Map Scale 1:1000</p>	<p><b>Before You Dig Australia- Urban Utilities Water, Recycled Water and Sewer Infrastructure</b></p> <p><b>BYDA Reference No: 271390772</b></p> <p>Date BYDA Ref Received: 16/04/2026 Date BYDA Job to Commence: 18/04/2026 Date BYDA Map Produced: 16/04/2026</p> <p>This Map is valid for 30 days      Produced By: Urban Utilities</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Sewer</th> <th>Water</th> <th>Recycled Water</th> </tr> <tr> <td>● Infrastructure</td> <td>● Infrastructure</td> <td>● Infrastructure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>● Major Infrastructure</td> <td>● Major Infrastructure</td> <td>● Major Infrastructure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>— Network Pipelines</td> <td>— Network Pipelines</td> <td>— Network Pipelines</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▨ Network Structures</td> <td>▨ Network Structures</td> <td>▨ Network Structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>- - - Water Service (Indicative only)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Sewer	Water	Recycled Water	● Infrastructure	● Infrastructure	● Infrastructure	● Major Infrastructure	● Major Infrastructure	● Major Infrastructure	— Network Pipelines	— Network Pipelines	— Network Pipelines	▨ Network Structures	▨ Network Structures	▨ Network Structures		- - - Water Service (Indicative only)		<p>While reasonable measures have been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this plan response, neither Urban Utilities nor PelicanCorp shall have any liability whatsoever in relation to any loss, damage, cost or expense arising from the use of this plan response or the information contained in it or the completeness or accuracy of such information. Use of such information is subject to and constitutes acceptance of these terms.</p> <p>The plans are indicative and approximate only and provided without warranties of any kind, express or implied including in relation to accuracy, completeness, correctness, currency or fitness for purpose.</p> <p>Urban Utilities takes no responsibility and accepts no liability for any loss, damage, costs or liability that may be incurred by any person acting in reliance on the information provided on the plans.</p> <p>This plan should be used as guide only. Any dimensions should be confirmed on site by the relevant authority.</p> <p>Based on or contains data provided by the State of Queensland (Department of Natural Resources and Mines) [2020]. In consideration of the State permitting the use of this data you acknowledge and agree that the State gives no warranty in relation to the data (including accuracy, liability in negligence) for any loss, damage or costs (including consequential damage) relating to any use of the data. Data must not be used for direct marketing or be used in breach of the privacy laws. © State of Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines [2020]</p> <p>For further information, please call Urban Utilities on 13 26 57 (8am-6pm weekdays). Faults and emergencies 13 23 64 (24/7). <a href="http://www.urbanutilities.com.au">www.urbanutilities.com.au</a></p> <p>ABN 86 673 835 011</p>
Sewer	Water	Recycled Water																			
● Infrastructure	● Infrastructure	● Infrastructure																			
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▨ Network Structures	▨ Network Structures	▨ Network Structures																			
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### Legend

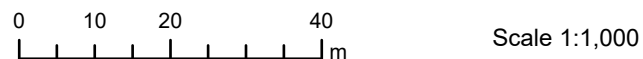
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- Stormwater Maintenance Hole
- Stormwater Gully Pit
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**Enquiry Details:**

Impact	affected
Sequence Number	271390771
Enquirer Id	3576757
Activity	Conveyancing
Job Number	52901299
User Reference	ITJOB 191863600
Message	899977 0 [Contact: ]

**Site Details:**

Address	80 ST JOHNS AV ASHGROVE QLD 4060
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**Enquirer's Details:**

Contact	Soft Reg
Company	
Email	Soft.Reg.3576757@mail.au.pac.pcges.com.au
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APA Group



# Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets

## 400-STD-AM-0001

Revision 2

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<b>APPROVAL DATE:</b>	18/08/2023

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## DOCUMENT CONTROL & APPROVAL INFORMATION

### Summary of Changes

Below is a brief summary of the changes made to the document since the previous issued version.

Revision	Description	Date	Author
0.0	Issue for Use	29.06.2018	Matthew Read
1.0	Issued for Use – document periodic update / major overhaul	01.03.2022	Kahil Parsons
2.0	Removal of incorrect table 2 references to 1. proximity of HV cables 2. Updating separation distances to AS2885.3 BYDA reference update Table 4 Note	16.08.2023	Dale Russell

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The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for third parties planning to install new infrastructure or conduct works near existing APA Networks (**APA**) operated assets.

It is intended that this document will be provided to third parties proposing works around existing gas assets for their use during the design and planning phase following initial planning BYDA enquiries. This document does not provide authorisation to undertake the works but provides APA requirements to ensure that any review and acceptance of proposed works is completed as quickly as possible.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of this Document

This document addresses APA's requirements for considering how a third party's proposed works and APA managed works may impact APA Networks operated assets under the following parts:

**Part 1** – APA Notification and Authorisation Requirements

**Part 2** – Design and Asset Protection Requirements

**Part 3** – Construction and Land Use Requirements

**Part 4** – Alteration of Existing Gas Assets

APA Networks acts as the asset operator on behalf of entities Australian Gas Networks (**AGN**), Allgas, APA, Origin and Queensland Nitrates (**QNP**) and operates in New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. The criteria provided in this document only applies to the assets managed by APA Networks on behalf of these companies.

APA also owns and operates natural gas transmission infrastructure on all mainland states and territories of Australia. These assets are operated by a separate APA entity and are out of scope for this document.

A glossary of all terms and abbreviations used in this document is contained in **Section 7**.

A list of all relevant external standards and APA reference documents is contained in **Section 8**.

## 1.2 Asset Types

APA Networks' operated gas assets include buried pipe, above and below ground stations (e.g. pressure regulation, valves, meters), electrical cables, cathodic protection systems (e.g. test points, anode beds), pits and electrical cabinets. Depending on the gas type and the operating pressure, gas assets are classified as natural gas transmission, natural gas distribution and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (**LPG**) distribution as shown in **Figure 1**.

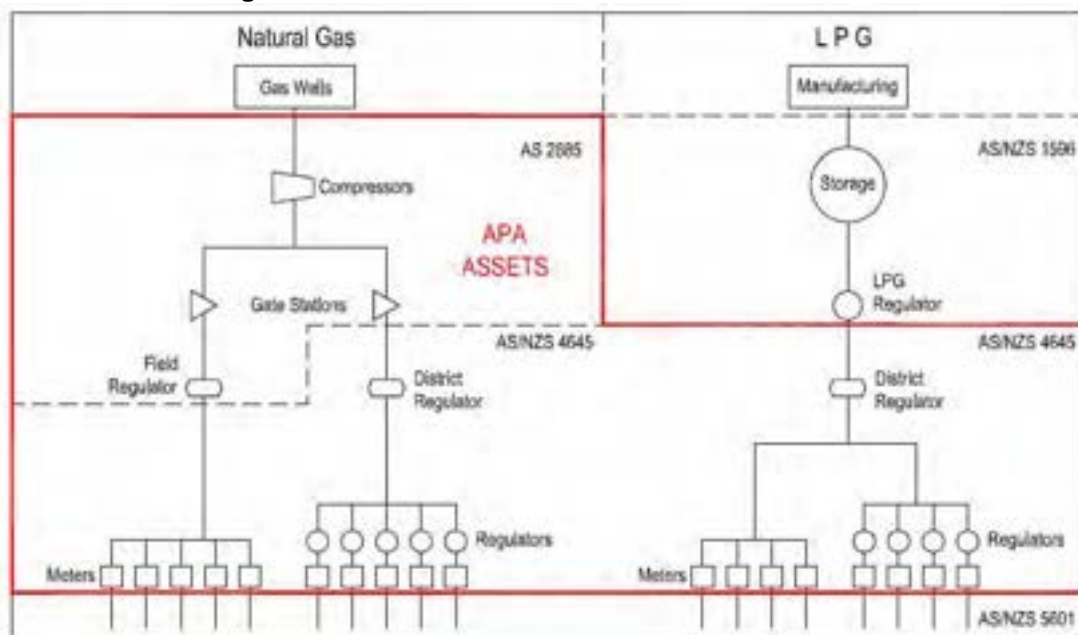


Figure 1 Asset Types and Standards Operated by APA Networks

### 1.2.1 Natural Gas Transmission

Natural gas transmission pressure assets operate at pressures above 1,050 kPag, and are generally used for transporting large quantities of gas across country. Design, construction and operation of these assets is governed by the AS 2885 suite of Australian Standards (**AS**).

Due to the higher pressure and energy density, there are severe safety, supply and environmental consequences which can result from third party interference. Hence, more stringent requirements and controls are applied to third party works in the vicinity of these assets.

Buried transmission pipelines are constructed from coated steel pipe where the appearance can vary depending on the year of construction, but will generally appear as yellow, black or grey when physically exposed.

### 1.2.2 Natural Gas Distribution

Natural gas distribution pressure assets operate at pressures below or equal to 1,050 kPag from offtakes of transmission pressure assets, and are generally used to supply consumers such as businesses and homes. Design, construction and operation of these assets is governed by the AS/NZS 4645 suite of Australian Standards.

Due to the lower energy density compared to transmission assets, less stringent requirements and controls are applied to distribution assets. Some distribution assets are deemed critical by APA Networks due to the safety and supply implications that may arise due to a third party strike. These critical distribution assets will be defined on BYDA responses, and some of the controls which are applied to transmission pressure assets (e.g. permit and site watch) will be required.

Buried distribution pressure pipes may be constructed from the following materials and physical appearances when exposed:

- Cast Iron (black);
- Polyethylene (PE) (yellow or black with yellow stripes);
- Steel coated or uncoated (generally yellow, black or grey); and
- Other plastic such as Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) or nylon (yellow).

Some legacy materials such as cast iron and nylon may require additional protection during construction works due to the unpredictable nature of the materials.

### 1.2.3 LPG Distribution

LPG distribution pressure assets operate at pressures below 140 kPag from storage compounds and are generally used to supply consumers such as businesses and homes in parts of Queensland, South Australia and Northern Territory. Design, construction and operation of these assets is governed by the AS/NZS 4645 suite of Australian Standards.

**Additional safety considerations are required in addition to the requirements for natural gas, as LPG is heavier than air and will pool at the leak point and can accumulate in a trench or excavation.**

The same materials used for buried distribution pressure pipes (**Section 1.2.2**) may be used on LPG distribution networks.

## 1.3 Damage and Emergencies

If you smell gas or damage has occurred, or is suspected, on any gas asset call APA emergency number **1800 GAS LEAK (1800 427 532) or 1800 808 526 for LPG assets.**

Any unreported damage has the potential to escalate and endanger public safety.

Where damage has resulted in a release of gas, you are advised to take the following immediate action:

- Clear the area of all people. Do not under any circumstance re-enter the damage area;
- Where safe to do so, shut off or remove all ignition sources and devices in the area e.g. naked flames, vehicle engines, power tools, mobile phones;
- Do not attempt to stop the flow or repair the damage;
- Allow the gas to vent to air; and
- Once clear of the area, contact the emergency number **1800 427 532** or **1800 808 526 for LPG assets.**

The conditions in this document or as provided by APA Networks are intended to protect the gas assets as well as keep safe any construction crews or general public in the vicinity. Depending on the circumstances, some variation to the conditions in this document may be required or may be provided by an approved APA Networks site watch representative. It is legislated in all jurisdictions that the direction provided by APA is followed.

## 1.4 General Duty of Care and Responsibility to Obtain Information

Anybody working near a gas asset, or responsible for such work, has a duty of care to exercise caution, to maintain a safe working environment and to meet requirements of all relevant laws and Occupational Health and Safety legislation.

For general enquiries about results from BYDA please contact:

- [DBYDNetworksAPA@apa.com.au](mailto:DBYDNetworksAPA@apa.com.au) for Northern Territory, South Australia, Southern New South Wales and Victoria, and;
- [PermitsQLD@apa.com.au](mailto:PermitsQLD@apa.com.au) for Queensland and Northern NSW (incl. Tamworth).

The third party shall make contact with APA through the BYDA process if any clarification is required to determine the approval processes for any proposed land use changes (within the Measurement Length), design works and construction activities within 3 m of a gas asset or within a pipeline easement.

Any works proposed by the third party will only be authorised if APA is satisfied that the works will not affect the integrity of the APA Networks operated assets.

Any person undertaking work near an APA Networks operated asset, or responsible for such work, must ensure that they familiarise themselves with APA requirements.

Working around any gas asset, especially transmission pressure pipelines, without appropriate planning and controls as specified by APA Networks can be extremely dangerous. Damage to a gas asset could result in:

- Possible explosion and fire with the risk of loss of equipment, property, personal injury, and death;
- Loss of gas supply to thousands of customers;
- Substantial repair and gas restoration liability costs to the authority or principal responsible; and,
- Prosecution under the relevant laws governing pipeline and gas safety.

**Prior to the commencement of any works within the Protected Zone of transmission pressure or critical gas assets, the Contractor performing the work must receive an Authority to Work Permit (ATWP).**

Any works within the Protected Zone of critical assets must comply with any conditions attached to an ATWP and depending upon the nature of the asset and works supported by an approved construction methodology.

Written authorisation in the form of the ATWP must be kept on site at all times, and the holder of the authorisation must comply with all the conditions of the ATWP. The performance of any works near critical APA Networks operated assets without a valid ATWP and full compliance with its conditions will constitute a safety incident and may also result in an infringement notice and associated penalties issued by the regulator of the APA Networks asset.

### 1.4.1 Additional Transmission Pressure Pipeline Requirements

Where the works proposed by the third party may result in a change in land use within the Measurement Length for a transmission pressure pipeline (as defined in AS/NZS 2885.6 for Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum), such works may also be subject to formal approval requirements through APA Networks and applicable local and state government planning processes. This may also require a Safety Management Study (**SMS**) Report to be completed and approved by APA Networks. The SMS Report is generated from an SMS workshop involving an SMS facilitator, the third party and APA Networks. APA Networks is the owner of the SMS Report and any resulting recommendations/ actions must be implemented to the satisfaction of APA prior to the commencement of any physical works.

Certain categories of development/ land use change are not appropriate to be located within the Measurement Length of transmission pressure pipelines. In certain circumstances, the otherwise unacceptable risks associated with such developments may be alleviated with the aid of installing protective slabbing over the asset or undertaking other protection and mitigation measures.

## 2 PROTECTION PROCESS

APA is committed to working cooperatively with third parties to ensure that existing gas assets will be appropriately protected from any proposed works.

The process to be followed for any proposed works is outlined in **Table 1**. This table cross references the relevant section of this document which provides any specific requirements for each gas asset classification. The steps in this table are to be followed in conjunction with the process outlined by BYDA<sup>1</sup>, a flow chart is also provided in **APPENDIX A**.

**Table 1 Protection Process Summary**

Section	Step	Purpose
3	<b>Notification and Authorisation</b>	<p><b>Identify and locate existing gas assets in the vicinity of any proposed works.</b></p> <p>Submit BYDA requests to obtain indicative plans of gas assets.</p> <p>Notify APA Networks and obtain approval to verify the exact position by physically proving the position of gas assets at the cost of the third party.</p>
4	<b>Design and Protection Requirements</b>	<p><b>Review APA Networks design and protection requirements for any proposed infrastructure near gas assets.</b></p> <p>If acceptable clearance is available in accordance with this section review impact of construction methodology on existing gas assets.</p> <p>If acceptable clearance is not available in accordance with this section and the proposed infrastructure cannot be modified, alteration or protection of the existing gas assets will be required at the cost of the third party.</p>
5	<b>Construction and Land Use Requirements</b>	<p><b>Review construction methodology for adverse impact to existing gas assets.</b></p> <p>Some additional protection measures may be required depending on the existing gas assets, the construction methodology and whether land use changes are required.</p> <p>If works meet the requirements of this document, submit work package to APA Networks for review and approval. If approval is given, then undertake works in accordance with APA Networks conditions/ permits. If approval is not given modify work package accordingly.</p> <p>If works do not meet the requirements of this document or APA Networks approval cannot be reached, alteration or protection of the existing gas assets will be required.</p>
6	<b>Alteration</b>	<p><b>Request alteration of existing gas infrastructure if there is insufficient clearance or construction methods will adversely impact existing gas assets.</b></p> <p>Alteration of existing gas assets are fully recoverable and may result in delays if not identified early.</p>

### 2.1 Assessment Information

Throughout the protection process, APA Networks assessment may be required to determine if the proposed works/ installation has sufficient separation or if work can be undertaken with a suitable construction methodology. If APA Networks assessment is required, the following information must be provided to enable an efficient and comprehensive review.

- Due dates or a work program;
- The location / address and extent of proposed works;

<sup>1</sup> BYDA process is available at <https://www.1100.com.au/safety-information/digging-safely/>

- Scope / description of the work impacting APA assets;
- A work package containing detailed design or construction issue drawings with the location of APA assets and the extent of works marked and / or georeferenced. Sufficient details must be provided on the plans to verify locations against APA information, which is typically measured from property boundaries. Plan and cross sectional drawings are typically required, including any proving locations;
- The proposed construction methodology (if available); and
- For critical assets only, a completed permit request form. This form is automatically provided in response to a BYDA enquiry when it is required, with direction for this form included in the BYDA response (refer to **Section 5.2**).

If the information provided is incomplete, or irrelevant information is provided, it may result in a delay of the assessment process and provision of a response. Due to the varying nature of potential works, it is not possible to develop a comprehensive listing of information that will be required for each work type, but the above is provided as a general guideline for what will normally be required.

## 3 PART 1 - APA NOTIFICATION AND AUTHORISATION REQUIREMENTS

### 3.1 BYDA Request

The fastest method for obtaining APA Network gas asset locations is to lodge a BYDA request. A response can be expected from APA within two business days, and may include one of three responses as outlined in **APPENDIX A**, depending on the location of the works in relation to existing APA operated gas assets in the vicinity.

For some BYDA requests, APA Networks may provide different responses to different assets affected by the proposed works. In all instances it is the responsibility of the third party to review and follow the direction of all BYDA responses.

The information provided by APA Networks in response to a BYDA request, along with any other plans or subsequent information provided by APA, show only the indicative location of the asset at the time and are a guide only. In most instances it will be necessary to prove the location of all buried assets within the proposed work area.

The following items must be considered when using asset information provided by APA Networks:

- Gas service lines from buried distribution pressure supply mains to consumers may not be shown on plans. Service lines are usually laid at right angles from main to a meter position, except where road conduits are provided; and
- Plans become rapidly outdated and so should be used within 30 days and then destroyed. It is the responsibility of the third party to contact APA Networks to seek the updated or renewal of any information after this time.

APA shall not be liable or responsible for the accuracy of any information supplied.

### 3.2 Provings and Site Identification

Electronic location (e.g. ground penetrating radar, pipe locators) of gas assets is required to verify the onsite locations and any plans that have been provided.

Physical proving of existing gas assets is required at key locations to verify that the separation and protection criteria provided in this document have been achieved. The location and quantity of provings will depend on the scope of proposed work, but provings will at least be required at infrastructure crossing points or where changes to surface level condition are planned.

Additional verifications are required for works parallel and in close vicinity to existing gas assets. Physical provings at maximum 10 m intervals along straight sections of pipe, along with all bends, branch lines and customer service offtakes to verify asset locations.

**Note:** Live service offtakes which no longer supply consumers may protrude from the gas asset and are not traceable or identifiable from records.

**Note:** The maximum physical proving intervals for straight sections of pipe may be adjusted based upon the discretion of APA personnel for extenuating circumstances.

The following items must be considered when proving the location of an existing gas asset:

- Provings must be conducted safely and in accordance with the requirements of **Section 5.5.2**. If damage to a gas asset does occur it should be reported immediately to APA as described in **Section 1.3**.
- Permit and site watch by an APA Networks representative may be required for some proving activities in accordance with **Section 5.2**.

### 3.3 APA Notification and Authorisation Process

Prior to the third party undertaking any works/ activities or as part of the planning and design phase, the third party shall ensure a BYDA request is submitted. The automated response received from the BYDA system will be tailored based on the criticality of the assets.

For assets operated at distribution pressures and not considered critical mains, a Duty of Care Notice is provided with the BYDA response for the third party to consider. Site watch may be necessary under a duty of care notice where additional protection or other integrity concerns require it.

In the event that works are conducted within the Protected Zone of a transmission pipeline and/ or critical distribution main, these works will require a review approval received from APA prior to commencement of works. Works subject to this requirement are deemed to include, but not limited to, the following activities that fall under **Table 3**;

- Non Destructive Digging (**NDD**);
- Mechanical excavation including trenchless excavation i.e. drilling (boring, horizontal direction drilling (**HDD**), pipeline bursting and tunnelling) for installing infrastructure such as the following;
  - o Roadways, driveways, railways, pavements;
  - o Electrical equipment (cables, overhead transmission lines, telecommunication cable or power poles);
  - o Installation of culverts/ pipes (water, drainage, sewer or reticulation);
  - o Landscaping.

APA will not approve certain activities and structures in the transmission pipeline easement (if applicable), including the following;

- Permanent storage;
- Installation of billboard structures;
- Use and storage for explosives, flammables or corrosives;
- Blasting;
- Structures forming part of any house, house extensions, carports or entertainment areas;
- Dams and other manmade water features. Locations of dams off the pipeline easement/ protected zone must not create run off or drainage towards the pipeline easement;
- Chemically treated effluent coming in contact with the pipeline easement/ protected zone;
- Garbage, sand fill, refuse disposal;
- Airstrips.

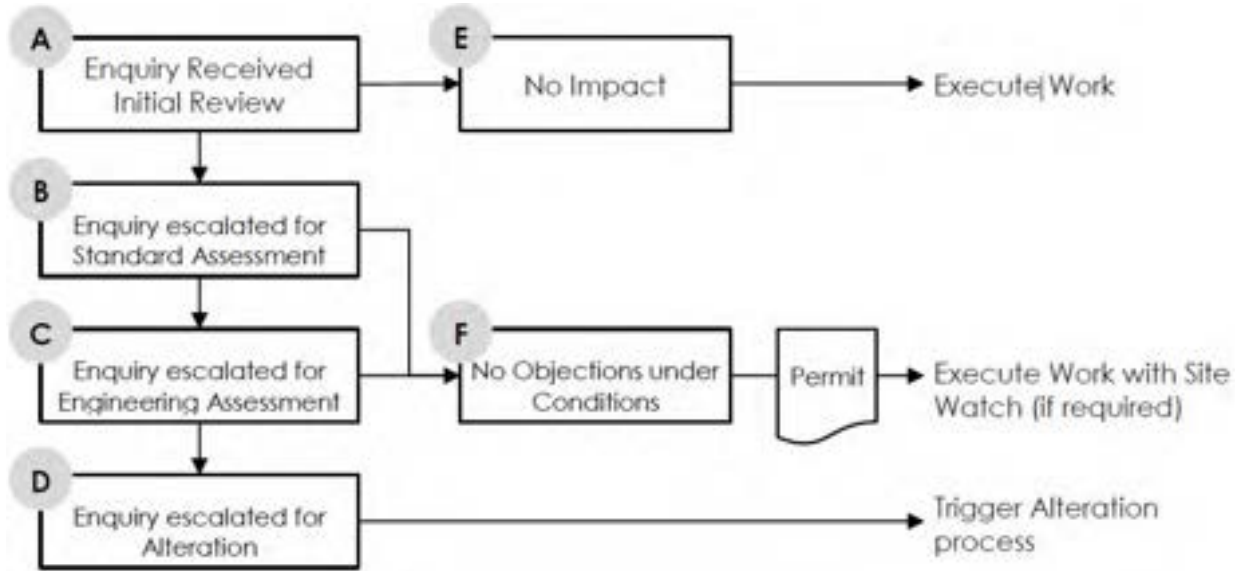
The Third Party must submit an enquiry to APA at the earliest possible stage to allow sufficient time for assessment. Submissions should include the following information;

- Land description and map identifying location of the proposed works;
- Types of works to be carried out;
- Intended future use of the land (where relating to change in land use)
- Type and weight of machinery that will be used;
- Any plans or diagrams of the works;
- Timeframe for the works.

The sequence of obtaining APA approval is as follows;

- a) Submit enquiry for Initial Review – The Third Party submits the request prior to works commencing and APA Networks will complete an 'Initial Review'. The third party must not progress any works on site until they receive a response from APA Networks. The two possible outcomes of this stage are a 'No Impact' response or;
- b) Enquiry Escalated for Standard Assessment – The request will be forwarded to APA Networks Field or System Operations personnel for a more detailed appraisal, which may involve contacting the third party, site visits, locating of assets of site, and/or request for additional information. The third party must not progress any work on site until they receive a response from APA Networks. The two possible outcomes of this stage are a 'No Objection under standard conditions' response or;
- c) Enquiry Escalated for Engineering Assessment – The request has been forwarded to the Integrity Third Party Engagement team for additional appraisal and determination of specific conditions. The third party must not progress any works on site until they receive a response from APA Networks. The two possible outcomes of this stage are a 'No Objection under special conditions response' or;

- d) Enquiry Escalated for Alteration – The Integrity Third Party Engagement team triggers the alteration process for this enquiry. The third party will be contacted for additional information and must not progress any work on site until they receive a response from APA Networks.
- e) No Impact – The third party receives a ‘No Impact’ response and can proceed with the works under appropriate APA Networks requirements e.g. Duty of Care, Authority to Work Permit and/or Site Watch.
- f) No Objection Under Conditions – The third party will receive a No Objection under standard or special conditions response and can progress with the planning of the works under the conditions specified in the response and appropriate APA Networks requirements e.g. Duty of Care, Authority to Work Permit and/or Site Watch.



**Figure 2 Stages for Third Party Works Authorisation Request**

For works around APA Networks transmission pipelines or critical mains the documents take precedence in the following order;

- APA Authority to Work Permit (**ATWP**)
- APA accepted Third Party Construction Drawings
- APA accepted Third Party Construction Methodology
- APA Networks Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets (this document)
- APA accepted Third Party Safe Work Method Statement (**SWMS**) (if applicable)

### 3.4 Commercial Agreement and Service Delivery

APA will undertake a review of Third Party Works, as required. At APA’s discretion cost recovery for these works may be required. Where APA Networks requires cost recovery a commercial service agreement in the form of a Works Agreement will be required.

**Note:** Any third party works requiring blasting, seismic and/or tunnelling work near APA Networks operated assets will not be considered “low risk” and cost recovery for detailed review maybe required.

### 3.5 Decommissioned Gas Assets

Decommissioned gas assets that remain in the ground are not always shown on BYDA plans.

Where unknown assets are identified or suspected on site but are not on APA plans, they must be treated as being live. In this instance, the third party must contact all utility owners and operators in the area of the BYDA and notify them of the findings.

Following review, if APA accepts that it is a decommissioned gas asset, the asset must be treated as per the requirements of this document. APA will take no further action where it is not considered to be a decommissioned gas asset.

In some cases, decommissioned gas assets are required for future use by APA (sometimes noted as “Idle” on APA plans). These assets must be treated as live using the same criteria outlined in this document, and must not be removed or altered without APA’s express written approval.

Where APA confirms there is no future use of a decommissioned gas asset (sometimes noted as “Abandoned” on APA plans), removal of the asset can be undertaken by the third party under the following conditions:

- For assets considered by APA to be decommissioned gas assets, APA must be engaged to verify that the asset is gas free;
- End caps must be permanently sealed, using an APA approved methodology, on any decommissioned sections that are to be left in place to prevent future water ingress into the remaining sections of the decommissioned gas asset;
- An as-built drawing must be submitted by the third party for any section(s) of a decommissioned gas asset removed by the third party or its sub-contractors to ensure BYDA can be updated accordingly; and
- Payment for costs associated with any verification or alteration activities must be provided prior to APA undertaking works.

## 4 PART 2 - DESIGN AND ASSET PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Standard Clearances

Minimum clearance dimensions outlined in this section must be met to allow for safe future maintainability and protection of existing gas assets. If separation clearances cannot be achieved, APA will review the proposed infrastructure on a case-by-case basis to determine whether a resolution can be achieved before alteration of any existing gas assets is considered. Authorisation of works by APA is still required, regardless of being able to achieve the required separation distances.

Clearances specified in **Table 2** are measured from the closest edges of the existing gas asset to the proposed infrastructure. Depending on the exact nature of proposed infrastructure, additional clearance may be required.

**Note:** Clearances specified herein are from gas assets, third party utilities may have their own standard separations that exceed APA's minimums specified in **Table 2**.

The future access zone required around a gas asset depends upon a number of factors such as size, operating pressure, depth and soil conditions, but typically this access zone is at least 1000 mm either side and 700 mm below the gas asset. As an aid for design and / or installation, the minimum clearances presented in **Table 2** are provided to allow for safe future access to gas assets. These minimum clearances assume that the asset have been proven and the location verified. There may be circumstances where additional clearances are required.

**Table 2 Minimum Clearances**

Clearance Type (Note 2, 9)	Minimum Transmission Pressure Asset Clearance	Minimum Distribution Pressure Asset Clearance
Any installation up to 0.6 metres wide which is crossing the gas asset	500 mm Vertical <b>(Note 2)</b>	300 mm Vertical <b>(Note 2)</b>
Any installation over 0.6 metres wide which is crossing the gas asset	500 mm Vertical	300 mm Vertical <b>(Note 2)</b>
Any installation laid by trenchless excavation e.g. HDD, boring, etc.	3000 mm Vertical	600 mm Vertical
	Refer to <b>Section 5.6</b> for minimum horizontal separation distances	
Any installation laid parallel to a steel gas asset	600 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 2, 3)</b>	
Any installation laid parallel to any gas asset other than steel	N/A	300 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 2, 3)</b>
Trenching separation from edge of gas asset to edge of trench <b>(Note 4)</b>	500 mm Horizontal	300 mm Horizontal
Underground electrical cables laid parallel to any gas asset other than steel	N/A	300 mm Horizontal
Electrical conduits and cables (<11 kV) laid parallel to a steel gas asset	Engineering assessment required <b>(Note 2, 3)</b>	
Electrical conduits and cables (≥ 11kV) laid parallel to a steel gas asset	<b>(Note 2, 3)</b> Engineering assessment required <b>(Note 7)</b>	

Electrical earthing systems near a steel gas asset	High Voltage: Engineering Assessment Required Low Voltage: 300 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 7)</b>	
Electrical earthing system near any gas asset other than steel	N/A	300 mm Horizontal
<b>Clearance Type (Note 2, 9)</b>	<b>Minimum Transmission Pressure Asset Clearance</b>	<b>Minimum Distribution Pressure Asset Clearance</b>
Undisturbed cover from the top of the gas asset to the underside of trenching or road pavement boxing	500 mm Vertical	300 mm Vertical <b>(Note 1)</b>
Distance from predominant building line	3000 mm Horizontal Where applicable outside pipeline easement	Refer to <b>Section 4.2</b>
Distance from Sensitive Use Locations (Refer <b>Section 7</b> for Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations)	APA Engineering Assessment Required <b>(Note 8)</b>	N/A
Canopies longer than 15 m parallel to the edge of the gas asset	3000 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 10)</b>	Refer to <b>Table 4 (Note 10)</b>
Any installation that could add excessive loads to the gas asset or restrict access to the gas asset	3000 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 2)</b>	
Any installations that may need require underpinning were APA to expose the gas asset	3000 mm Horizontal	
Any temporary stake, e.g. star picket	300 mm Horizontal	
Electrical poles including street lighting and traffic signals	3000 mm Horizontal Where applicable outside pipeline easement	1000 mm <b>(Note 3, 5, 6, 7)</b>
Fence post, including road safety barriers	3000 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements	500 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements
Pile or pier	3000 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements	500 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements
Permanent Heavy Vehicle Loads (Greater than 4.5T)	Refer to <b>Section 4.7</b> Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Loads	
Tree Root Barrier	3000 mm Horizontal	1000 mm Horizontal Refer to <b>Section 4.3</b> Landscaping Plans
Separation distances for vegetation	Refer to <b>Section 4.3</b> Landscaping Plans	

**Note 1:** For distribution main crossings, where the vertical separation distance is less than 300 mm physical protective slabbing, e.g. HDPE or concrete, shall be installed where the other utility is crossing beneath the APA pipeline/distribution main.

HDPE or concrete, shall be installed where the other utility is crossing above the APA pipeline/distribution main.

No protective slabbing is required for utility crossings greater than 500 mm separation.

**Note 2:** Structures and large utilities crossing APA Networks operated assets need to be self-supporting so that future repairs or maintenance of the asset can occur as per **Section 4.2 Third Party Assets and Structures**.

**Note 3:** Horizontal separation includes utility surface access pits, thrust blocks and/ or footings.

**Note 4:** Additional horizontal separation may be required depending on the extent of the planned works, local soil conditions and trench stability of the existing gas asset. This is particularly relevant where works occur within the angle of repose of the existing gas asset (e.g. parallel trenching that is deeper than the existing gas asset) and may result in undermining.

**Note 5:** In accordance with 'AS/NZS 4853 – Electrical hazards on metallic pipelines' without further information and APA engineering assessment, no electrical power poles for 66kV or above are permitted within the following separation distances of steel gas assets;

- If the power line has an Overhead Earth Wire (**OHEW**) – 15 m;
- If power line does not have an OHEW – 100 m;

**Note 6:** Where electrical poles (including street lighting and traffic signals) are proposed which place the gas asset within the no dig zone specified by the electrical authority either of the following shall occur;

- a) The poles shall be designed with deeper foundations to be self-supporting if the gas asset needs to be excavated. Or;
- b) For non-metallic assets relocated into a conduit that extends past the no dig zone.

**Note 7:** Clearance for electrical cables and earthing systems from steel gas assets must be reviewed in accordance with **Section 4.6 Earthing and Electrical Effects**. Electrical cables, substations and/or earthing systems installed in the vicinity of steel gas assets require an Earth Potential Risk (**EPR**) and Low Frequency Induction (**LFI**) assessment to AS/NZS 4853.

**Note 8:** Requires a setback distance to stay away from the Measurement Length (refer to **Table 14 Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations**). Alternatively, the setback distance may be reduced if protection slabbing is installed along the Sensitive Use Location where interaction with the Measurement Length occurs. This may also be limited to the development area subject to APA engineering assessment.

**Note 9:** Pipeline protection needs to be assessed and shown on the design plans with design clearances. This includes recoating, bridge slab or asset strike protection slab.

**Note 10:** Clearance may be dependent on demonstrating that there is sufficient continuous ventilation.

For construction and land use activities around gas assets the minimum horizontal clearances referenced in **Table 3** must be followed.

**Table 3 Minimum Clearances for Construction Works and Land Use Activities**

Construction and Land Use Activities	Minimum Horizontal Clearance	
	Transmission Pressure & Critical Distribution Mains	Non-Critical Distribution Pressure Mains
Excavation without APA representative present ( <b>Note 1</b> )	3000 mm	N/A
Trenchless Excavation ( <b>Note 1</b> )	3000 mm Refer to <b>Section 5.6</b>	1000 mm Refer to <b>Section 5.6</b>
Temporary Heavy Vehicle Traffic (greater than 4.5T)	If the load has not been assessed, maintain a Horizontal separation of 3000 mm.  APA engineering assessment must be completed if crossing asset.  Refer to <b>Section 4.7</b> Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings	Refer to <b>Section 4.7</b> Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings
Installation of Piles, Piers or Poles	Refer to <b>Table 2</b> and <b>Section 5.7</b>	
Hot Works from Construction Activities	Any hot works within 5000 mm of an open trench containing gas asset or where cover is less than 300 mm. Refer to <b>Section 5.8. (Note 2)</b>	
Compaction	<b>Section 5.10</b> for Compaction Limits Maximum Compaction Limits	
Vibration Limits	No vibration within 3000 mm of the pipeline and greater distance to comply with <b>Section 5.9</b>	
Blasting, Seismic Survey or the use of Explosives	Approval required for works within 100m. Refer to <b>Section 5.11</b> .	
Lifting over exposed gas asset	Not permitted over the gas asset. Refer to <b>Section 5.12</b> for Suspended Materials above Gas Assets and No Go Zones for Cranes.	
Clearance of crane outriggers to gas assets	Not permitted within 3000 mm of gas asset. Refer to <b>Section 5.12</b> for Suspended Materials above Gas Assets and No Go Zones for Cranes.	
Clearance of temporary material from pipeline	Not permitted within 3000 mm of gas assets. Refer to <b>Section 5.13</b> for Temporary Materials.	

**Note 1:** Excavation covers NDD, mechanical excavation and trenchless excavation (boring, HDD, pipeline bursting and tunnelling).

**Note 2:** Horizontal separation distance also applies to any pits or valve covers.

## 4.2 Third Party Assets and Structures

Structures, including but not limited to buildings, walls, canopies, footings, pile caps or retaining walls, must not transfer any load to or be installed over any gas asset.

The design of any third party asset or structure must take into account future safe access of any gas assets in the vicinity. The proposed third party asset or structure must be installed in a way that prevents the angle of repose from encroaching into the future access zone as specified in **Section 4.1** around the existing gas asset.

Any third party asset or structure installed within proximity to a transmission pipeline or critical distribution pressure main must be designed to be self-supporting and allow for a minimum excavation window 1m on either side of the asset and 700 mm below the edge of the asset, for maintenance of the asset. This self-supporting design information is required to be shown on the construction drawings supported by geotechnical data and calculations. Construction of structures on pipeline easements are not permitted without explicit consent from APA.

Distribution pressure gas mains must be offset from the expected predominant building line at a distance in accordance with **Table 4**. Transmission pressure gas assets shall be per **Table 2**.

**Table 4 Minimum Building Offset Distances for Distribution Pressure Gas Mains**

Diameter (DN)	MAOP (kPag)			
	≤210	>210 ≤ 420	>420 ≤ 600	>600
≤110	0.5 m	0.5 m	1.0m	3 m
>110 ≤ 160	0.5 m	0.5 m	3 m	5 m
>160	0.5 m	3 m	3 m	8 m

Gas assets may be located underneath curbing or strip footings for road safety barriers for short sections up to 10 m to allow for tapers. The integrity of the gas asset to be located underneath the curbing or strip footing may require inspection, repair, recoating and / or slabbing depending on the existing condition and extent of proposed works.

Posts or poles which are located in road reserve, or otherwise exposed to vehicle impact, must be designed such that there will be no damage to the gas asset in the event of a vehicle impact.

For works in Victoria, consent from the relevant State Minister is required under Section 120 of the *Pipelines Act 2005* (VIC) for the erection of structures or buildings within 3,000 mm of a transmission pressure asset. Ministerial consent must be arranged through Energy Safe Victoria (**ESV**) following review and acceptance of the proposed designs by APA Networks.

## 4.3 Landscaping Plans

Vegetation may limit line of site, access and passage along an existing gas asset alignment, while the associated roots may damage existing buried pipe, coating or other ancillary equipment (e.g. cables). Above ground gas infrastructure may also be exposed to hazards from falling vegetation and increased fire risk. Additionally, trees and tree roots may limit access to the gas asset in an emergency, during normal operations and when make new connections or modifications.

Landscaping plans which include vegetation should select tree species which do not have vigorous root activity and do not exceed above 5m in height when fully mature when planted within 3m of gas assets. The pre-selection of trees considered suitable for planting within road reserves and near gas assets should also consider interference with, or damage to, other underground and overhead services.

For all landscaping works within 3 m of transmission pressure or critical distribution pressure gas assets the following details must submitted to APA for review and approval prior to planting.

- Tree species – botanical and common name
- Mature tree buttress and canopy diameter
- Mature tree height

- Maximum root ball diameter
- Offset from gas asset
- Method of protection to gas asset

Trees to be planted within 3 m of transmission pressure or critical distribution pressure gas assets, should also adhere to **Table 5** below.

**Note:** Horizontal separation is measured from pipe edge to edge of mature trunk or mature drip line, whichever is the greater.

Strata cells are not considered an appropriate protection from tree roots. If strata cells are to be installed in the vicinity of existing buried gas assets, the controls identified in **Table 5** must be used for protection.

**Table 5 Protection of Distribution Gas Assets from Vegetation**

Vegetation Types	Requirements	Horizontal Separation from Pipe Edge to Vegetation			
		Greater than 3 m	1.5 to 3m	1.5 to 0.5 m	<0.5 m
Trees or Large Shrubs	Min. separation of 3 m is required between trees and pipe if no protection methods are utilised.				
Medium and Small Shrubs	Within 1.5 m – 0.5 m protection methods must be utilised.				
Ground cover and grasses	No protection methods required.				
Gas Protection Methods					
	No protection methods required, provided separation limits are followed.				
	Within 3 m, tree species which have mature buttress diameters less than 0.15 m and do not have invasive or deep roots may be accommodated without protection methods after consultation with APA Networks ( <b>Note 1</b> ). For trees with mature buttress diameters greater than 0.15 m one of the following gas protection methods must be implemented; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lowering or relocation of the gas asset to a minimum of 1.2 m cover.</li> <li>2. Installation of new gas conduit beyond the structural root zone (<b>SRZ</b>) of the mature tree species for future use. (<b>Note 2</b>)</li> <li>3. Installation of a root barrier system. System to be 1 m deep or extend 250mm below the gas asset, whichever is the greater.</li> </ol>				
	Within 1.5 m installation of a root barriers system is mandatory and gas protection methods are as follows; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Installation of a robust root barrier system. System to be 1 m deep or extend 250 mm below the gas asset, whichever is the greater.</li> </ol> <b>AND</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Lowering or relocation of the gas asset to a minimum of 1.2 m cover.</li> </ol> <b>OR</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Installation of new gas conduit beyond the SRZ of the mature tree species for future use. (<b>Note 2</b>)</li> </ol>				
	Planting directly over gas assets is not permitted in any location, as it prevents emergency and maintenance access. Tree roots can damage gas asset resulting in gas leaks.				

**Note 1:** Refers to the minimum 1.5 m structural root zone for a mature buttress diameter less than 0.15 m mandated under AS 4970 – Protection of trees on development sites.

**Note 2:** Suitable protection method for PE mains only. Conduits to be recorded in Geographic Information System (GIS) for future referencing.

**Note 3:** On transmission pressure assets vegetation must not limit line of site along the buried gas assets alignment, all signage must remain each in sight of the other.

#### 4.4 Surface Levels and Conditions

Decreases or increases to surface levels must consider depth of cover requirements for gas assets specified in **Table 6**. This is in addition to maintaining a minimum working cover from the top of the gas asset to the underside of trenching or road box out works during construction as specified in **Table 2**. Vehicles must not cross gas assets at covers less than those specified in **Table 6** unless in accordance with **Section 5.10** for Compaction Limits or **Section 4.7** for Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings.

Where existing surfaces are to be modified, finished cover levels are not to be reduced to less than existing levels, unless meeting the minimum requirements of **Table 6**. The requirement for, and the extent of, protective slabbing over any APA Networks operated asset will be determined by APA at its sole discretion with adherence to minimum depth of cover without physical protection as the preference. Depending on the location, local councils and relevant road/ rail authorities may have minimum depth of cover requirements that APA are required to meet which are more stringent than those listed in **Table 6**. Depth of cover requirements for individual consumer offtakes (service connections) are also provided in **Table 7**.

Details of any additional fill proposed to be placed on or within 3 metres of a gas asset, or within any applicable easement, must be clearly shown on plans and must be approved by APA Networks in writing. A maximum depth of cover of 2,500 mm for transmission pressure assets and 2000 mm for distribution assets apply in all locations; however, it is preferred not to exceed 1500 mm for both types of assets.

**Table 6 Minimum Depth of Cover Requirements for Pipelines and Mains**

Asset Location	Minimum Depth of Cover (Note 3)	
	Transmission Pressure Asset	Distribution Pressure Asset
Under Minor Road Pavement ( <b>Note 1</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,200 mm</li> <li>1,200 mm to 1,000 mm with physical protection slabbing and APA engineering load assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>750 mm</li> <li>750 mm to 600 mm with physical protection slabbing and APA engineering load assessment</li> </ul>
Under Major Road Pavement ( <b>Note 2</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,200 mm</li> <li>1200 mm to 1,000 mm with bridging slabs (<b>Note 4</b>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,200 mm</li> <li>1200 mm to 750 mm with bridging slabs (<b>Note 4</b>)</li> </ul>
In Road Reserve but not Under Road Pavement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>900 mm</li> <li>900 mm to 750 mm with protective slabbing contingent upon pipeline location class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>750 mm</li> <li>750 mm to 600 mm with protective slabbing</li> </ul>
Not in Road Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>900 mm</li> <li>750 mm with protective slabbing contingent upon pipeline location class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>750 mm for &gt; 210 kPa</li> <li>600 mm for ≤ 210 kPa</li> </ul>
Railway Reserve	2000 mm ( <b>Note 5</b> )	
Large Open Drain or Major Water Crossing	2000 mm ( <b>Note 6</b> )	

**Note 1:** Minor road pavements typically are owned by local councils.

**Note 2:** All roads owned by state and federal authorities are major roads. Roads owned by council may be major or minor roads. Covers less than 1200 mm may require dispensation from the relevant road authority.

**Note 3:** Protective slabbing must be installed where minimum depth of cover requirements cannot be met or are required to meet specific safety requirements. Bridging slabbing for transmission pressure assets may be replaced with protection slabbing following APA engineering assessment.

**Note 4:** The requirement for bridging slabs can be downgrade to physical protection slabbing where APA engineering assessment is completed and approved.

**Note 5:** Installation within railway reserve shall be in accordance with both AS 4799 and the respective operating standard for the gas assets i.e. AS 2885 and AS 4645.

**Note 6:** The minimum depth of cover of 2,000 mm shall consider future scour of the drain or waterway crossing. For man-made drains the depth of cover can be reduced to 1200 mm if sealed (i.e. concreted) and appropriately designed. For transmission pressure assets, waterway crossings shall be designed in accordance with AS 2885.1 – 2018 Clause 5.8.6.2. For all assets, as a minimum the following shall be considered;

- a) A hydrological investigation to determine the stream power under peak stream, watercourse or waterway flows. The investigation shall determine the 1 in 100 year flood and the probable maximum flood and intermediate (optional) flood conditions.
- b) A geotechnical investigation to determine the physical parameters of the crossings, and using the information from the hydrological investigation, the erosion potential. This assessment should also consider the meander potential of the watercourse so that the limits of special construction can be defined.

**Table 7 Minimum Depth of Cover Requirements for Customer Offtakes (Services)**

Asset Location	Customer Offtake size	
	≤ DN50	> DN50 and ≤ DN110 (Note 1)
Roadway	450 mm	600 mm
Private Property	300 mm	450 mm

**Note 1:** Customer offtakes (services) with diameters greater than DN110 shall have depth of cover in accordance with **Table 6**.

Changes to surface conditions (e.g. changing from nature strip to road pavement) or which place the gas asset in an inaccessible position (e.g. with excessive cover) may require slabbing, recoating and / or relocation. Changes to surrounding surface levels or conditions must also consider drainage and the potential to result in erosion of cover for gas assets. Additionally, gas fittings such as valves, stopple fittings or flanges must not be located underneath road pavement. An APA Engineering assessment will be required if this is not feasible, refer to **Section 6**.

Where a new hardstand surface is installed on non-metallic distribution pressure mains (e.g. a painted concrete driveway), consideration should be given to including a casing or enveloper pipe to APA requirements for insertion of future gas assets. This will ensure that the new hardstand surface is not modified as part of the future gas installation. Where a casing or enveloper pipe is installed for future insertion works surveyed as-constructed records are to be provided to APA Networks for incorporation into the GIS records.

For transmission pressure gas assets, any landscaping material should be level within the easement or a minimum of 3 m (but preferably 6 m) to each side of the pipeline, to permit excavating equipment to operate without having to destroy the adjacent landscaping.

## 4.5 Casings Vent Stacks

Casings provide mechanical protection and protection to gas assets from external loadings. Some cased crossings are sealed and fitted with a casing vent stack, which gas leaks are identified via.

The following APA requirements are to be applied for works near casing vent stacks:

- Casing vent stacks cannot be removed unless an alternative arrangement has been approved by APA Networks or they have been assessed as being redundant;
- Unfettered access is to be maintained to casing vent stacks; and
- Minimum distance from casing vent stack discharge point to any electrical installation or overhead structure must be 1000 mm.

## 4.6 Earthing and Electrical Effects

Steel gas assets are susceptible to adverse effects from electrical sources such as above and below ground cables, substations, transformers, earth rods, cathodic protection systems or electrified tram / train lines.

Without any further information or engineering assessment, earthing systems for distribution ( $\geq 11\text{kV}$ ) and transmission ( $\geq 66\text{kV}$ ) power lines must satisfy the Earth Potential Rise (EPR) Level 1 (Conservative) compliance of AS/NZS 4853 – 2012 Table 4.3 & 4.5 which specifies separation distances from pipe appurtenances (e.g. valves, regulators, isolation joints), access points or earth points (including cathodic protection test points). For the potential hazards to be accepted as low risk on the basis of a Level 1 assessment the separation between a conductive structure or substation and pipeline subject to EPR shall be greater than the values given in **Table 8** below.

**Table 8 Separation Distances for Pipeline Subject to EPR from Power Lines (Level 1 Assessment)**

Fault Current or Actual Current (A)  (Note 2, 3)	Separation Required (m) - Note 1				
	Distribution ( $\geq 11\text{kV}$ )	Power Line	Transmission ( $\geq 66\text{kV}$ )	Power Line	
	100 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	500 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	100 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	500 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	
150	40	190	N/A	N/A	
300	80	390	N/A	N/A	
500	130	660	N/A	N/A	
750	200	1,000	N/A	N/A	
1,000	270	1,300	60	310	
3,000	N/A	N/A	190	940	
6,000	N/A	N/A	380	1,900	
10,000	N/A	N/A	635	>3,500	

**Note 1:** Earth resistivity of 500  $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  shall be used for dry sand or rock and 100  $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  for all other cases.

**Note 2:** If the fault current is unknown for a distribution power line ( $\geq 11\text{kV}$ ), a fault current of 1000 A shall be used for the first pass assessment.

**Note 3:** If the transmission power line ( $\geq 66\text{kV}$ ) uses an OHEW, uses values up to 3,000 A (this assumes a current split of 30% of 10 kA). For lines without an OHEW, use values up to 10,000 A for current going down the structure.

Without any further information or engineering assessment, distribution ( $\geq 11$  kV) and transmission ( $\geq 66$  kV) power lines parallel to steel gas assets must satisfy the Low Frequency Induction (LFI) Level 1 (Conservative) compliance of AS/NZS 4853 – 2012 Table 4.2 & 4.4 which specifies maximum acceptable power line to pipeline exposure length.

Per AS/NZS 4853 – 2012 the pipeline expose length (average separation for the parallel section) under LFI conditions shall be less than the values given in **Table 9** below.

**Table 9 Exposure Length for Pipeline Subject to LFI from Power Lines (Level 1 Assessment)**

Power line to pipeline separation (m)	Exposure Length (m) – Note 1		
	Distribution Power Line ( $\geq 11$ kV) – 100 $\Omega$ .m	Power Line	Transmission Power Line ( $\geq 66$ kV) – 100 $\Omega$ .m
5	180		95
10	210		110
20	240		127
50	310		165
100	400		210
200	550		290
500	950		500

**Note 1:** Without soil resistivity data, assessments are to be completed assuming 100  $\Omega$ .m. If soil resistivity data is available refer to AS/NZS 4853 – 2012.

Where AS/NZS 4853 Level 1 EPR or LFI requirements cannot be achieved a Level 2 and/or 3 assessment will be required.

The third party must provide to APA detailed plans of any source(s) of earthing and/ or electrical effects proposed to be located in the vicinity of steel gas assets, with an assessment report compliant with AS/NZS 4853 Electrical Hazards on Metallic Pipelines. This assessment report is to determine any effects to existing cathodic protection or induced voltage mitigation systems from these types of installations. The third party must address any relevant requirements and any recommendations and/or actions must be implemented to the satisfaction of APA Networks. All cost association with the study, and implementing its recommendations and/ or actions are to be borne by the third party. The third party must also complete validation testing upon completion of construction and provide all findings/ reports to APA Networks.

Hazards which may arise due to electrical systems located in the vicinity of steel gas assets include the following:

- Accidental contact between gas assets and electrical systems;
- Capacitive coupling;
- Conductive coupling;
- Electromagnetic induction;
- Low Frequency Induction (LFI);
- Earth Potential Rise (EPR), including due to fault current or lightning discharge; and,
- Adverse cathodic protection interference in excess of those allowed under AS 2832.1 or relevant state regulations

## 4.7 Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings

Vehicle crossings over existing gas assets are limited to light vehicles (Gross Vehicle Mass not greater than 4.5 tonnes unless advised otherwise by APA Networks in writing) on unsealed surfaces or Heavy Vehicles (compliant General Access Vehicles) on established road pavements.

Any proposed new crossings must be assessed and authorised in writing by APA Networks.

A maximum surface pressure of 400 kPa is allowable directly above buried gas assets. However, any surface pressure exceeding this limit or where cover over the gas asset has been reduced from **Table 6** will require an APA Engineering Assessment and approval.

Where soil conditions exhibit poor compaction and load bearing characteristics, such as wet soil conditions, equipment is not permitted to cross the gas asset irrespective of weight without establishing a stable sealed surface or road plates.

Crane footings or bog mats must not be placed where the angle of repose can influence an existing gas asset without express written approval by APA. Where the existing gas asset is within the angle of response, the maximum surface pressure due to the crane must be provided.

## **5 PART 3 - CONSTRUCTION AND LAND USE REQUIREMENTS**

Extreme care should be exercised at all times when working around existing gas assets, as repair works will be fully chargeable and may result in delays to any works. Refer to the duty of care outlined in **Section 1.4** and the requirements of this section when selecting construction methods.

### **5.1 Land Use Change**

Where works proposed by a third party may result in a change in land use within the Measurement Length (as defined in AS/NZS 2885.6 for Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum) of transmission assets, such works may also be subject to formal approval requirements through APA Networks and applicable local and state government planning processes.

This may also require a Safety Management Study (SMS) report be completed and approved by APA Networks. This SMS report is generated from an SMS workshop involving an independent SMS facilitator, third party and APA Networks. APA Networks is the owner of the SMS report and any resulting recommendation/ actions must be implemented to the satisfaction of APA Networks prior to the commencement of any physical works.

Certain categories of development, such as Sensitive Use Locations (refer to **Table 14 Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations**), are not appropriate to be located with the Measurement Length. In certain circumstances, the otherwise unacceptable risks associated with such developments may be alleviated with the aid of installing protective slabbing over the transmission pipeline or undertaking other protection and mitigation measures.

Sensitive Use Locations near transmission pipelines are designated under AS/NZS 2885.6 and identify land where the consequences of a Failure Event may be increased because it is developed for use by sectors of the community who may be unable to protect themselves from the consequences of a pipeline Failure Event.

Sensitive uses are defined as follows;

- Schools, which includes colleges
- Hospitals and aged care facilities such as nursing homes, elderly people's homes
- Prisons and jails
- Sheltered housing
- Buildings with five or more stories
- Large community and leisure facilities, large open air gatherings
- Day care facilities
- Other potentially difficult to evacuate facilities
- Other structures as defined by relevant local councils.

For further information regarding the SMS process, refer to APA Networks Encroachment and Land Use Change SMS Trigger Procedure, **400-PR-L-0003**.

### **5.2 Permits and Site Watch**

Transmission pressure assets and critical distribution pressure assets, must have a permit issued prior to proposed works in the vicinity of the existing assets, including any proving activities. Following the issue of a permit, a site watch inspector may be required to verify that the activities are carried out appropriately.

Other distribution pressure assets not considered critical will only require site watch as determined by APA Networks.

Where a permit is required, the response provided to the BYDA enquiry will include the relevant forms and process to be followed for submitting a permit request.

While BYDA recommends completing the request two business days prior to undertaking works, this is to ensure that the location information is obtained. This may not allow sufficient time for APA Networks to supply site watch. Further delays may be experienced if the proposed works are significantly complicated, do not meet the requirements of this document or if insufficient information is provided.

**It is an offence in all jurisdictions to undertake activities in the vicinity of transmission pipelines without prior authorisation by the operator.**

### 5.3 Coating Surveys and Leakage Surveys

Where proposed works have potential to indirectly damage pipe coating (i.e. due to compaction) or result in a leak of the gas asset (e.g. vibration of cast iron pipes), additional monitoring activities such as Direct Current Voltage Gradient (**DCVG**) or leakage surveys may be required.

If required, chargeable DCVG surveys will be conducted prior to works to establish any existing coating faults which exist on the gas asset. A subsequent DCVG survey will be conducted at the conclusion of works, and where new faults have developed on the gas asset, repairs shall be made with costs charged to the works owner. Surveys can be conducted prior to finalising road surfaces to avoid costly repairs.

A similar chargeable survey program can be applied where leakage surveys are required. However, additional surveys may be necessary throughout works to ensure work crews do not operate in a gaseous environment once leaks are caused.

### 5.4 Pipeline Repairs, Recoating and Slabbing

Buried steel assets operated by APA Networks are coated to provide protection from corrosion.

Where the surface conditions above a buried steel pipe are changed which may limit future access to the existing gas asset an assessment of the coating condition will likely be triggered.

The requirement for pipeline recoating is assessed by APA Networks on a case by case basis, based on the proposed works, but will generally be dependent on the following:

- The asset class;
- The existing coating type, age and condition;
- Increase in loading that can bring forward any pipeline anomalies; and,
- Changes limiting access to the existing asset(s), such as the installation of slabbing, road pavement, culverts, embankment ramps or any other feature.

A chargeable coating survey carried out in accordance with **Section 5.3** may be required to assess the condition of the existing gas asset coating.

Recoating and/ or associated slabbing works over any gas asset will be determined by APA Networks Engineering Assessments and any applicable risk assessments (Safety Management Study or Formal Safety Assessment).

Pipeline repairs, recoating and slabbing that form part of any third party commercial agreement will be charged to the third party.

The requirement for, and the extent of, slabbing over any APA Networks operated asset will be determined by APA at its sole discretion and may depend on factors other than only changes in depth of cover discussed in **Section 4.4**. Slabbing may be required for the following reasons:

- Removable protective slab to provide protection from third party mechanical excavation;
- Bridging slab to provide protection from external loadings e.g. insufficient depth of cover combined with vehicle traffic.

Slabbing must be installed with adequate separation from the pipe, which may impact the undisturbed cover requirement, and cannot be installed directly underneath road pavement or at surface level.

Any bridging slab designs prepared by a third party must be accompanied by certification from the registered practising structural engineer (Registered Professional Engineer Queensland (**RPEQ**) required for works in Queensland, and so on as required for other States and Territories) confirming that the design is adequate to prevent pipeline loading.

## **5.5 Exposure of Buried Gas Assets**

### **5.5.1 General**

Excavation works covers Non-Destructive Digging (**NDD**) and mechanical excavation. All such excavations must be completed in accordance with APA's direction.

The Third Party or its Contractor can perform exposure works on APA Networks operated assets via NDD using vacuum excavation and subsequent mechanical excavation works under the following conditions:

- **A current BYDA request is available for the works.**
- An approved Authority to Work Permit (**ATWP**) is issued for works near transmission pipelines or critical mains.
- APA Site Watch Officer is present for works near transmission pipelines or critical mains as outlined on the ATWP.
- The Third Party (or its Contractor) shall ensure they have their own SWMS, Risk Assessment, Environmental Management Plan, Tool Box Talk, Traffic Management and Pre-Start in line with their own corporate policy in place prior to works commencing.
- All underground assets have been identified by surface marking where within or close to the excavation area prior to proceeding with planned proving works (i.e. hand or NDD (e.g. Hydro-Vacuum Excavation). Any non-recorded assets should be identified prior to breaking ground (e.g. excavation or cutting).
- A check for gas leaks has been conducted prior to the commencement of work.
- If the mechanical excavation operator cannot see the spotter (where applicable, APA Site Watch Officer), he or she must stop moving immediately and not resume movement until contact has been established. Spotters must be aware of their surroundings and should never walk into the path of a vehicle, moving equipment or a swinging load. They need to scan the ground to become aware of any trip or fall hazards.
- If excavations are greater than 1.5 m or ground conditions are considered unstable benching/ battering/ shoring must be utilised. Additionally, appropriate ladders/ ramps or steps must be utilised to ensure safe access and egress.
- **Under no circumstances is mechanical equipment to be used within 300 mm of any gas asset.**

### **5.5.2 Physically Proving Gas Assets**

Prior to mechanical excavation of the gas assets, the asset shall be physically proven by NDD or through the use of hand excavation. The method used will vary based on the criticality of the asset. The requirements in **Section 5.5.1** shall be implemented prior to physically proving the gas asset.

#### **Technique 1 – Vacuum Excavation (Critical and Non-Critical Gas Assets)**

A vacuum truck can be used to prove and expose the gas asset. Please ensure the requirements detailed in **Section 5.5.3** are adhered to.

#### **Technique 2 – Hand Excavation (Critical and Non-Critical Gas Assets)**

If the anticipated depth of cover of the gas asset is less than 1m (measured from the top of pipe) then hand excavation shall be used to expose the gas asset. The use of round edge shovels should be used to avoid damage to the pipe or coating. In the event that the anticipated depth of cover of the gas asset is greater than 1m then mechanical excavation can be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of **Section 5.5.4** but must stop when within 1m of the gas asset (i.e. 1.3m anticipated depth means that 300 mm of cover can be removed by mechanical excavation and the

remainder by hand excavation as described above. The anticipated depth shall be based on the shallowest result from BYDA or pipe locator.

### **Technique 3 – Hand + Excavation (Non-Critical Gas Assets ONLY)**

If the gas asset is deemed non-critical then a combination of hand digging and excavation can be used. This technique requires the third party to hand excavate 300 mm then mechanically excavate the first 150 mm. In this technique the hand excavation shall always lead the mechanical excavation by 150 mm. Once within 300 mm of the gas asset then only hand excavation is allowed.

### **5.5.3 Hydro-Vacuum Excavation**

Where hydro-vacuum excavation is used in the vicinity or to expose existing gas assets, the following conditions must be applied:

- Ensure the general requirements in **Section 5.5.1** are adhered to prior to the works commencing.
- Root cutting heads shall not be used at any time.
- When locating pipelines and mains, a maximum water pressure of 2500 PSI (17200 kPa) may be used to a depth no greater than 450 mm. Below this depth, the maximum water pressure shall be set in accordance with **Table 10** for the asset type in the vicinity.
- When locating customer offtakes (services), a maximum water pressure of 2500 PSI (17200 kPa) may be used to a depth no greater than 300 mm. Below this depth, the maximum water pressure shall be set in accordance with **Table 10** for the asset type in the vicinity.
- Where air is used in place of water the air pressure shall not exceed 175 PSI (1200 kPa).
- A minimum distance of 200 mm shall be maintained between the nozzle tip and subsoil and vertical movements avoided (i.e. nozzle shall not touch or be inserted into soil).
- The wand shall never remain motionless during excavation. Aiming directly at the gas asset shall be avoided at all times.
- NDD vacuum equipment must not come into contact (impact) with the pipe or coating.
- Once a gas asset has been exposed via hydro-vacuum methods, a visual check must be undertaken to ensure no damage has occurred to the pipe or its coating. Damage caused to the pipe coating by the third party will be chargeable.
- A dead man trigger or similar, shall be installed and used on the wand.
- If conduits are to be installed for identification of the gas assets location the conduit shall be offset to one side and recorded or a flexible conduit installed over the gas asset. The placement of PVC pipes directly on the gas asset may cause damage to the pipe coating and require repair at the contractor's expense.
- Vacuum excavated holes shall be cleaned of any rocks and debris and backfilled with a minimum 300 mm of sand.

Personnel operating NDD equipment shall monitor ground conditions to determine and adjust for the lowest water pressure setting and vacuum used to adequately expose the gas asset. The objective shall be to use the lowest possible pressure and vacuum required to adequately excavate in order to minimise risk of coating and/or pipe damage. **Table 10** provides the maximum water pressure to be used for various pipe and coating types.

**Table 10 Maximum Water Pressure for Hydro-Vacuum Excavation**

Pipe / Coating Type		Max. Water Pressure (PSI)	Pipe / Coating Type	Max. Water Pressure (PSI)
Steel	Coal Tar Enamel Coated	1,000	<b>Steel – Mummified fittings</b> (e.g. valves, flanges)	Not Permitted
	Polyethylene Tape Coated	1,000	<b>Cast Iron</b>	1,000
	Polyethylene Coated	2,000	<b>Polyethylene</b>	2,000
	Trilaminate Coated	2,000	<b>Nylon or PVC</b>	1,500
	FBE or HBE Coated	2,000	<b>Unknown Material or Steel Pipe Coating</b>	1,000
	Uncoated	2,500		

**5.5.4 Mechanical Excavation**

Prior to commencing any excavation works the general requirements in **Section 5.5.1** must be adhered to.

Where works are to be carried out within 3 m of the gas alignment and to 1 m of the known gas main depth, the contractor is required to pothole and expose the gas asset as outlined in **Section 5.5.5**.

Prior to the mechanical excavation commencing ensure the excavator is in working order and all pre-start equipment checks are completed.

Excavators with general purpose buckets (e.g. mud bucket, general purpose teeth) up to 30 tonnes are permitted to conduct mechanical excavations in the vicinity of existing APA gas assets in accordance with APA requirements. Any variation of excavator size or bucket type will require assessment and approval by APA Networks. Buckets with any type of tiger or penetration teeth are not permitted unless explicitly approved by APA Networks.

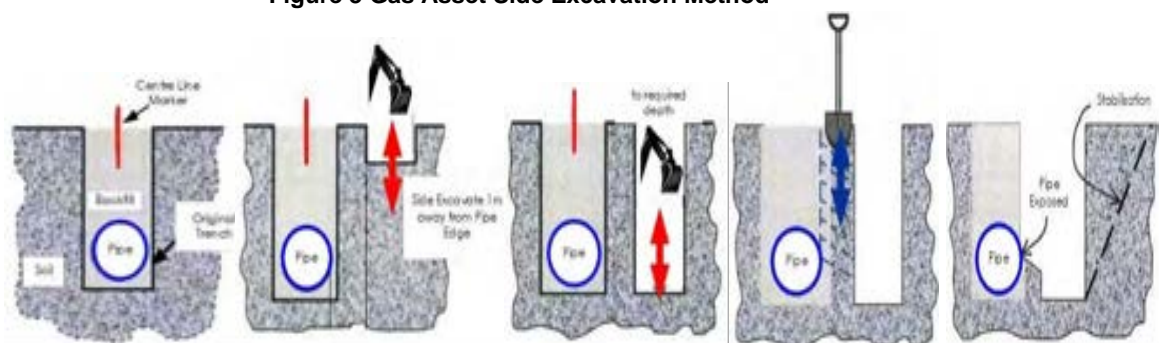
**Critical Gas Assets**

No mechanical equipment shall be used within 1 m of the potholed depth of the critical gas asset, except under explicit on site direction from an APA representative (i.e. APA Site Watch).

**Under no circumstances is mechanical equipment to be used within 300 mm of any gas asset.**

Once the gas asset has been positively proven, as outlined in **Section 5.5.2**, mechanical excavations can commence at a minimum of 300 mm offset from the outer edge of the pipe. The third party shall not mechanical excavate directly over a critical gas asset, with hand excavation only directly over the alignment or to expose the asset.

**Figure 3 Gas Asset Side Excavation Method**



### Non-Critical Gas Assets

Mechanical excavation is permitted directly over the top of non-critical gas assets however **under no circumstances is mechanical excavation equipment to be used within 300 mm of any gas asset.** If the third party is in doubt with regards to the criticality of the gas asset, then the excavation method outlined for critical gas assets shall be used.

Prior to the mechanical excavation commencing, the asset shall be physically proved as outlined in **Section 5.5.2**. Once the depth has been physically proven the third party can proceed with excavating around the gas asset until within 300 mm. From this point hand excavation or NDD is required.

#### 5.5.6 Protection During Exposure

Additional protection measures are required where an exposed gas asset may be subject to impact from construction activities, sagging of exposed pipe and trench instability. Any works requiring exposure and protection of the gas asset should have an accompanying methodology and approval by APA Networks.

Physical protection (e.g. structural steel protection, sandbags, wrapped with split PVC pipe) should be installed around the exposed gas asset when exposed, particularly when new infrastructure is planned to be installed crossing below the gas asset. If the gas asset is to be exposed for longer than one day or otherwise left unattended, suitable barricades, security fencing and/ or steel plates will be required to provide protection from vehicles, dropped objects (such as construction materials) or vandalism.

Unsupported exposed pipe lengths require protection from sagging by using suitable supports such as sandbags or slings. Where slings or other support types come into contact with the gas asset, protection methods must be employed (e.g. wrapped with split PVC pipe) to prevent damage to the existing pipe or coating. Exposed unsupported joints must also be identified and supported during works. The maximum allowable length of exposed pipe without support is provided in **Table 11**.

**Table 11 Maximum Unsupported Lengths of Exposed Pipe**

Gas Asset Diameter (mm)	Steel Maximum Unsupported Length (mm)	Polyethylene Maximum Unsupported Length (mm)	Other Material Maximum Unsupported Length (mm)
≤20	2,000	1,500	1,500 <b>(Note 1)</b>
>20 & ≤63	2,800	2,000	
>63 & ≤100	3,600	3,000	
>100 & ≤150	4,200		
>150 & ≤250	5,000		
>250	5,700		

**Note 1:** Particular care should be taken for other materials include cast iron, PVC or nylon due to the unpredictable nature of the joints.

Additional protection and support during trench or bell-hole excavation works to minimise ground instability may also be necessary to protect the integrity of existing gas assets during exposure works. Trenches are to be inspected prior to commencing works each day and monitored by the onsite party responsible for the excavation. APA shall be notified of any condition likely to affect the stability of trench.

Any deep excavations, within 3 m of a gas asset, shall be designed and constructed such that the effects of subsidence, collapse or extreme weather will not affect the gas asset. Any such excavations prepared by a third party must be accompanied by certification from a registered practising engineer (RPEQ required for works in Queensland, and so on as required for other States and Territories) confirming that the design is adequate to protect the gas asset.

### 5.5.7 Backfill and Reinstatement

Prior to backfilling, a minimum of 150 mm of bedding sand must be placed around all gas assets. Bedding sand shall be in accordance with APA specification **400-SP-L-0002**, which can be provided to third parties upon request. The bedding must be compacted in accordance with **Section 5.10**, including suitable compaction and backfill of the underside of the gas asset to prevent any further vertical movement during subsequent layers above the asset. APA may require geo-fabric installation between different trench reinstatement products to prevent sand migration in which nonwoven fabric is required and needs to extend 1000 mm past either side of the utility crossing.

The bedding material shall be clean, free from all sharp objects, sandbags, clay material, vegetable matter, building debris and disused road paving material to the specification provided by APA. Recycled bedding material and stabilised sand must not be used unless explicitly approved by APA.

The remainder of the excavation shall be backfilled and compacted in accordance with **Section 5.10**, at maximum increments of 300 mm to a density which is similar to the surrounding sub-grade material. Only clean fill material shall be used, preferably the same as the natural soil in the area, and free from ash, weeds and pest plants, salt or any chemicals which could harm the gas assets. Where required, concrete slabbing shall be installed in accordance with **Section 5.4**.

In all circumstances gas warning tape / marker board shall be installed in accordance with the following requirements:

- Gas warning tape installed at 300 mm below finished surface level.
- Gas marker board installed 300 mm above the top of the pipe.

Note, where gas warning tape cannot be installed 300 mm below the finished surface level due to road pavement box out, marker board is to be installed 50 mm below the box out work zone.

In situations where a physical protection slab or bridging slab has been utilised an additional layer of gas marker board must be installed 50 mm above the slabbing.

The excavated area is to be reinstated to the original condition or as approved by APA and the relevant local council, road authority or landowner as applicable. Any marker signs removed during excavation works must also be reinstated in original positions. Additional marker signs may be required at new infrastructure crossings as directed by APA.

## 5.6 Trenchless Excavation

Trenchless excavation covers horizontal directional drilling (**HDD**), boring, pipe bursting and tunnelling. These activities are considered high risk that require additional controls to prevent damage to existing gas assets. This includes proving the existing gas asset location and depth for all horizontal bores, as well as providing a witness trench to verify that the bore will pass the asset with sufficient separation.

A witness trench must be used in addition to live electronic tracking of the bore head. The witness trench must be prepared to the specification provided in **Table 12**. The progressive measurement of the length of the bore must also be made and plotted along its proposed direction to ensure the bore head has not missed the witness trench. The bore head must be exposed in the witness trench, when the crossing is above the existing gas asset.

For all assets installed via trenchless excavation a vertical separation aligning with the maximum borehole diameter (e.g. reamed diameter) shall be demonstrated. For transmission pressure and distribution pressure assets this vertical separation distance is 1000 mm and 600 mm, respectively.

If the works run parallel to a transmission pressure or critical gas assets a minimum separation distance of 3 m must be maintained. For non-critical gas assets, the minimum separation distance of 1 m must be maintained. For works running parallel to gas assets, proving of the actual location of the gas asset must occur every 4 m.

**Note:** It is expected that HDD operators working near gas assets hold the national competency RIICCM202 – Identify, location and protect underground service.

**Table 12 Minimum Witness Trench Dimensions**

Crossing Type	Witness Trench Depth	Witness Trench Dimensions
Crossing Above Existing Gas Asset	To bottom (invert) of gas asset	Witness trench shall be 1000 mm to 2000 mm in front of the gas asset on the approach side. Witness trench shall be min. 1500 mm long and 300 mm wide centred on bore centre line.
Crossing Below Existing Gas Asset	To bottom (invert) of gas asset plus 500 mm	

Dispensation may be considered where detailed long sections are provided for assessment by APA and where depths of existing gas assets or separation to the bore are greater than 2500 mm.

Pipe bursting is not permitted within 1000 mm of an existing gas asset.

### 5.7 Piles, Piers or Poles

No piling such as pile-driving, sheet-piling or hammer-piling is permitted within 15 m of an existing gas asset unless explicit consent has been provided by APA. In all instances, vertical bored (augured) piles, piers or poles are preferred.

Where installation of piles, piers or poles are proposed between 500 mm and 1000 mm clearance from a gas asset (distribution and transmission pressures, respectively), the area directly below the proposed pile, pier or post location must be excavated to a level equivalent to the bottom (invert) of the existing gas asset, and works started from that depth.

**Note:** Proving of the gas asset must be completed in accordance with the requirements set out in **Section 5.5.2** prior to the commencement of any works.

Temporary steel plates may also be installed between the gas asset and the proposed pile, pier or post used for vertical bore methods within this clearance to provide extra protection.

**Note:** Direct vibration monitoring on the gas main may be required depending upon the installation method utilised. Refer to **Section 5.9** for APA Networks vibration limits.

### 5.8 Hot Works for Construction Activities

Typical hot works include grinding, welding, thermal or oxygen cutting or heating, and other related heat producing or spark-producing operations. Heat sources or hot works must not impact gas assets, taking into consideration that the ground or adjacent structures may also be capable of transmitting heat.

In order to safely undertake hot works, response procedures in the event of fire or flammable gas detection must be prepared and monitoring for flammable gases must be undertaken during works.

APA must approve any hot works where there is less than 300 mm ground cover to buried gas assets, or within 5,000 mm of any exposed gas assets (including any pits or valve covers). A heat shield or barrier may be required to provide protection if it cannot be demonstrated that works can be undertaken without impacting the gas asset.

### 5.9 Vibration Limits

Significant vibration may arise from activities such as blasting, piling, tunnelling and HDD/boring.

To avoid damage to existing APA Networks operated pipes and coatings, the following vibration limits must not be exceeded at any point on the pipe:

- a) For cast iron mains: 5 mm/s maximum Peak Particle Velocity (**PPV**) measured on the pipe.
- b) For steel pipe with a coal tar enamel (**CTE**) coating or with poor coating health: 10 mm/s maximum PPV measured on the pipe.
- c) For non-coal tar enamel pipe coatings and other pipe materials (i.e. steel, PE, PVC or Nylon): 20 mm/s maximum PPV measured on the pipe.

d) For blasting, the above vibration limits can be increased if supported by calculations in accordance with Design Guidelines for Buried Steel Pipeline – American Lifelines Alliance American Society of Civil Engineers (**ASCE**) and approved in writing by an APA Networks Integrity Engineer.

**Note:** Cast iron mains are particularly susceptible to damage by vibration. The PPV limit may not prevent leaks from cast iron and may require additional gas leakage survey activities during works in accordance with **Section 5.3**.

For vibration monitoring adopt an alarm at 80% of the acceptable PPV value and when the alarm is activated, the work must stop and be re-assessed. Short incursions up to 100% are acceptable, for sustained periods of vibration longer than 5 minutes, works must be stopped.

The zone of influence for vibration assessment undertaken by the third party is shown below;

- For compaction, refer to **Table 13**.
- For trenchless excavation (HDD/ boring), refer to **Section 5.6**.
- For piling refer to **Section 5.7**.
- For blasting refer to **Section 5.11**.

## 5.10 Compaction Limits

Compaction activities such as establishing a base course for a road pavement may result in damage to the pipes and coatings of existing gas assets. Compaction limits in the vicinity of existing gas assets are summarised in **Table 13**.

**Table 13 Maximum Compaction Limits**

Horizontal Separation (m)	Minimum Cover to Top of Gas Asset (mm)	Compaction Limits
≤3 (Note 1)	300	Small handheld compactor only
	500	Large handheld compactor Maximum 4 tonne tandem drum static roller
	750	Maximum 8 tonne tandem drum static roller
	1200	Maximum 10 tonne tandem drum static roller subject to APA approval
>3 & ≤10	All	Maximum 8 tonne tandem drum vibrating roller
>10 & ≤15	All	Maximum 10 tonne tandem drum vibrating roller
>15	All	Any compaction method

**Note 1:** Compaction within 3 m of gas assets is limited to static rollers. If vibration compaction is necessary a robust vibration assessment and construction methodology signed off by an RPEQ for works in Queensland, and so on as required for other States and Territories, will need to be produced by the third party for review and approval by an APA Networks Integrity Engineer.

## 5.11 Blasting / Seismic Survey / Explosives

Blasting, seismic survey or the use of explosives is not permitted within 100 m of a gas asset unless explicit approval is provided by APA Networks. The size and quantity of the explosives to be used will determine how close to the pipeline blasting will be permitted. In all cases, blasting methods must be arranged to limit ground vibrations so that the peak particle velocity does not exceed acceptable limits. At no stages will blasting be permitted within 3 m of the pipeline.

### **5.12 Suspended Materials above Gas Assets and No Go Zones for Cranes**

Where gas assets are exposed, no cranes, excavators or backhoes are permitted to carry or suspend materials directly over or across a gas asset without an APA Networks approved lifting plan and SWMS.

Outriggers must be set up outside a 3 m radius from gas assets unless otherwise approved by APA Networks in writing.

### **5.13 Temporary Materials**

In all instances it is preferred that temporary materials (e.g. soil, shipping containers) are not stored on top of transmission pressure and critical gas assets. Temporary material must not restrict access and should be placed at least 1,500 mm from the alignment of these assets unless otherwise approved by APA Networks.

## **6 PART 4 - ALTERATION OF EXISTING GAS ASSETS**

Where the proposed third party works do not comply with the requirements of this document, and adequate additional controls or a specialised engineering solutions cannot be developed, alteration of the existing gas assets will be required.

Gas asset alterations will only be undertaken under a Recoverable Works Agreement (**RWA**) appropriate to the scope and extent of the works required.

An Early Works Agreement (**EWA**) may also be required where works are proposed which require proving, engineering design activities or purchase of long lead items. This will allow for completion of these items prior to execution of a RWA and avoid delaying works.

If either or both these agreements are required, then APA Networks will enter negotiations with the relevant third party and any costs will be payable by that third party.

## 7 GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**Table 14** Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Term/ Abbreviation	Meaning
AGN	Australian Gas Networks
APA	Each entity that forms part of the APA Group
APA Engineering Assessment	Covers technical assessments which may involve field integrity assessments that may or may not include the use of specialist Consultants managed by APA.
APA Networks Operated Assets	APA Networks acts as the asset operator on behalf of entities Australian Gas Networks (AGN), Allgas, APA, Origin and Queensland Nitrates (QNP) and operates in New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria.
APA Permit Issuing Officer	The APA Permit Issuing Officer is responsible for opening the Permit To Work, validating APA Networks assets have been located and being the Site Watch for works within the gas Easement or Protected Zone.
AS	Australian Standard
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
ATWP	Authority to Work Permit
CTE	Coal Tar Enamel
Damage	Physical damage to and interference with APA's assets. Damage includes reducing design life, coating damage, dents, scratches, rupture, cutting of cathodic protection cables. Damage can also include potential impacts that APA pipelines can have on third party assets.
BYDA	Before You Dig Australia (previously known as Dial Before You Dig (DBYD))
DCVG	Direct Current Voltage Gradient
Depth of Cover	Vertical distance from the existing natural ground surface to the top of the buried gas asset
EPR	Earth Potential Rise
ESV	Energy Safe Victoria
EWA	Early Works Agreement

Excavation	Excavation refers to manual digging or mechanised digging operation with plant or equipment which involves trenching and trenchless excavation. Trenchless excavation covers boring, Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), pipe bursting and tunnelling.
FBE	Fusion Bonded Epoxy
GIS	Geographic Information System
HBE	High Build Epoxy
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
Hot Works	Hot works are defined as grinding, welding, thermal or oxygen cutting or heating, and other related heat-producing or spark-producing operations. Heat sources or hot works must not impact pipelines, taking into consideration that the ground or adjacent structures may also be capable of transmitting heat.
LFI	Low Frequency Induction
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
MAOP	Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure
Measurement Length	<p>The maximum length of pipeline route which presents an extended source of hazard on the basis that an event of failure could affect any part of the development or specific location relevant to the development.</p> <p>The maximum length corresponds to the heat radiation hazard associated with a 4.7 kW/m<sup>2</sup> heat radiation contour for an ignited full bore rupture calculated in accordance with AS/NZS 2885.6. If the pipeline is designed as a no rupture pipe, then the measurement length corresponds to a credible leak size.</p>
NDD	Non-Destructive Digging (NDD) refers to either hand digging or Non-Destructive Pot Holing using a vacuum pipe connected to a vacuum truck with either a water lance or air lance. Hydro-Vacuum Excavation consists of a water lance and vacuum truck and is used to physically prove existing assets.
OHEW	Overhead Earth Wire
PE	Polyethylene
Pipe Bursting	Pipe bursting refers to a pipe being inserted to a larger pipe that results in the larger pipe being damaged. For an example of pipe bursting, refer to the following You-Tube video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HX5beh0ubGY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HX5beh0ubGY</a>
Pipeline Easement	The pipeline area shown on a survey plan and referenced on the property title.
Predominate Building Line	The expected predominate building line relates to the façade of the building, not necessarily the property boundary.
Protected Zone	A Protected Zone is an area extending both horizontally and longitudinally along a gas asset. It is the area where loads and/or any hot works may potentially cause damage to the gas asset.

	The Protected Zone refers to works near APA Networks gas assets or works within the vicinity of the gas assets that may cause an unacceptable risk to the asset in accordance with Table 2 Minimum Clearances or Table 3 Minimum Clearances for Construction Works and Land Use Activities
PTW	Permit to Work
PPV	Peak Particle Velocity
PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride
QNP	Queensland Nitrates Plant
RPEQ	Registered Profession Engineer Queensland
RWA	Recoverable Works Agreement
Sensitive Use Locations	<p>This is designated as Class “S” as per AS/NZS 2885.6 Pipelines - Gas and liquid petroleum - Pipeline safety management and refers to the sub location class.</p> <p>Sensitive Use Location Class (S) identifies land where the consequences of a FAILURE EVENT may be increased because it is developed for use by sectors of the community who may be unable to protect themselves from the consequences of a pipeline FAILURE EVENT.</p> <p>Sensitive uses are defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools which includes colleges</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Aged care facilities such as nursing homes, elderly people’s homes</li> <li>• Prisons and jails</li> <li>• Convalescent homes</li> <li>• Sheltered housing</li> <li>• Buildings with five or more stories</li> <li>• Large community and leisure facilities, large open air gatherings</li> <li>• Day care facilities</li> <li>• Other potentially difficult to evacuate facilities</li> <li>• Other structures as defined by relevant local councils.</li> </ul> <p>The Sensitive Use Location Class “S” must be assigned to any section of a gas transmission pipeline where there is a sensitive development within the applicable Measurement Length.</p>

Site Watch	<p>An APA Site Watch representative can be the Permit Issuing Officer for excavation work within a gas Easement or Protected Zone and is referred to as the primary spotter for excavation works.</p> <p>The secondary spotter is provided by the Contractor.</p> <p>The primary spotter has the ultimate decision regarding works within the gas Easement or Protected Zone which includes the method of excavation, starting and stopping excavation work.</p> <p>The APA Site Watch representative is the nominated competent person responsible for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making themselves highly visible and everyone on the job site should be aware of the Site Watch's role;</li> <li>• Communication to personnel operating mobile plant and equipment ensuring minimum clearance to above and below ground assets is maintained and the construction methodology is adhered to and complies with APA Networks requirements.</li> </ul> <p>Ensuring personnel do not encroach within the swing radius of the operating machinery.</p>
SMS	Safety Management Study
SMWS	Safe Work Method Statement used by APA or Contractors to execute field work. The risks and associated control measures risk assessments should be transferred to SWMS.
SRZ	Structural Root Zone
Structures	Structures refer to third party structures which includes, but is not limited to; temporary or permanent buildings, walls, canopies, footings, pile caps or retaining walls
Third Party	The person or entity and their agents or Contractors that propose to undertake work near APA assets.
Third Party Assets	Third Party Assets include roads, utilities and structures.
Third Party Excavation	Third Party Excavation which is <b>not</b> associated with APA (e.g. road works, utility installation, private development, fencing).
Third Party Works Classification	<p>The Third Party Work Classification as shown in <b>Section 3.3</b> covers the following three work classifications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No Impact to gas assets</li> <li>2. No Objection Under Conditions</li> <li>3. Enquiry Escalated for Alteration</li> </ol>
Transmission Pipeline	Gas transmission pipeline which includes all associated equipment such as cathodic protection, earthing grid, instrumentation and electrical cables.
Utilities	Includes water, wastewater, drainage, telecommunications cables, power poles and cables owned by individuals or organisations other than APA Networks.
Voltage	<p>Difference of potential normally between conductors or between conductors and earth as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Extra-low voltage – Not exceeding 50V a.c. or 120 V ripple-free d.c.</li> <li>b) Low voltage – Exceeding extra-low voltage, but not exceeding 1000 V a.c. or 1500 V d.c.</li> </ol>



	c) High voltage – Exceeding low voltage.
Works	The development of any type of buildings, structures and other obstructions (including residential buildings, pools, sheds, carports, major developments, transport infrastructure, services, stockpiles, trees), and any work that causes changes to the ground (including movement of heavy vehicles, blasting, tunnelling, pile driving, ground compaction, earthworks, open and trenchless excavations)

## 8 DOCUMENT REFERENCES

**Table 15 Document References**

<b>External Standards</b>	
API RP 1102	Steel Pipeline Crossing Railroads and Highways
AS 2832.1	Cathodic protection of metals: Pipes and cables
AS 2885.0	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: General requirements
AS/NZS 2885.1	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Design and Construction
AS/NZS 2885.2	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Welding
AS 2885.3	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Operations and Maintenance
AS 2885.5	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Field Pressure Testing
AS/NZS 2885.6	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Pipeline safety management
AS/NZS 4645.1	Gas Distribution Networks - Network Management
AS/NZS 4645.2	Gas Distribution Networks - Steel Pipe Systems
AS/NZS 4645.3	Gas Distribution Networks - Plastics Pipe Systems
AS 4799	Installation of Underground Utility Services and Pipelines Within Railway Boundaries
AS 4827.1	Coating defect surveys for buried pipelines Part 1: Direct current voltage gradient (DCVG)
AS/NZS 4853	Electrical Hazards on Metallic Pipelines
AS 4970	Protection of trees on development sites
<b>Standard Policies, Procedures, Specifications, Guidelines, Forms and Templates</b>	
400-SP-L-0002	Networks Bedding Material Specification
400-PR-L-0003	Encroachment and Land Use Change SMS Trigger Procedure



# APA

Australia's energy  
infrastructure partner



# Before You Dig Australia

Classification: Networks

<b>Enquiry date</b>	16/04/2026
<b>Sequence number</b>	271390771
<b>Work site address</b>	80 ST JOHNS AV ASHGROVE QLD 4060





**For your immediate information**  
**THERE IS A GAS PIPELINE OR GAS ASSETS**  
**located in close vicinity to your works.**

**Enquiry Date:** 16/04/2026  
**Enquirer:** Soft Reg  
**Sequence Number:** 271390771  
**Work Site Address:** 80 ST JOHNS AV  
ASHGROVE  
QLD 4060

Thank you for your Before You Dig enquiry regarding the location of gas assets.

**We confirm there are Gas Assets located in close vicinity of the above location.**  
**Caution: Damage to gas assets may result in explosion, fire and personal injury.**

Please ensure you read all the relevant information contained in this response to your BYDA enquiry including reviewing the **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets** and clearly understand and comply with all requirements relating to your scope of work.

**If you have any queries relating to this information, or you are unable to comply with requirements of the APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets contact the APA Before You Dig Officer**

- Phone 1800 085 628
- Email [BYDA\\_APA@apa.com.au](mailto:BYDA_APA@apa.com.au)

**for clarification before proceeding with any work.**

## Before You Dig Checklist

---



### 1. Plan

- Review maps provided with this BYDA response and confirm the location of your work site is correct.
  - Review the **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets** and clearly understand requirements relating to my scope of work.
- 



### 2. Prepare

- Electronically locate gas assets and mark locations.
  - Note: Look for visible evidence of gas assets at the worksite which may not be shown on plans.
- 



### 3. Pothole

- Physically confirm ('prove') the location of gas assets by potholing by hand excavation or non-destructive vacuum excavation methods in accordance with **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets**.
  - Road authorities, councils, utilities and their authorised contractors and agents are responsible to pothole or use other suitable methods to verify the location and depth of all gas assets, including gas (inlet) services, prior to commencing any works.
- 



### 4. Protect

- Protect gas assets by maintaining clearances whilst excavating and following conditions provided by APA.
  - Where required by APA, only conducting work in proximity to gas assets while Site Watch is on site.
  - Where applicable, APA Authority To Work permit conditions are clearly understood and complied with.
  - Strap and support exposed mains and inlet services. Cover exposed mains to prevent damage until the excavation can be permanently restored.
- 



### 5. Proceed

- Only proceed with your work once you have completed all the planning, preparation, potholing and protection requirements.
  - APA BYDA response (including maps) are on site for reference at all times, and less than 30 days old.
-

## Contacts

Contacts APA Group	
Enquiry	Contact Numbers
General enquiries or feedback regarding this information or gas assets.	APA – Before You Dig Officer Phone: 1800 085 628 Email: <a href="mailto:BYDA_APA@apa.com.au">BYDA_APA@apa.com.au</a>
Gas Emergencies	Phone: 1800 GAS LEAK (1800 427 532)

## Site Watch

Site Watch is where an APA field officer attends your work site to monitor and ensure controls are in place to protect critical gas assets from damage during work.

The following rates\* apply for this service (1 hour minimum charge):

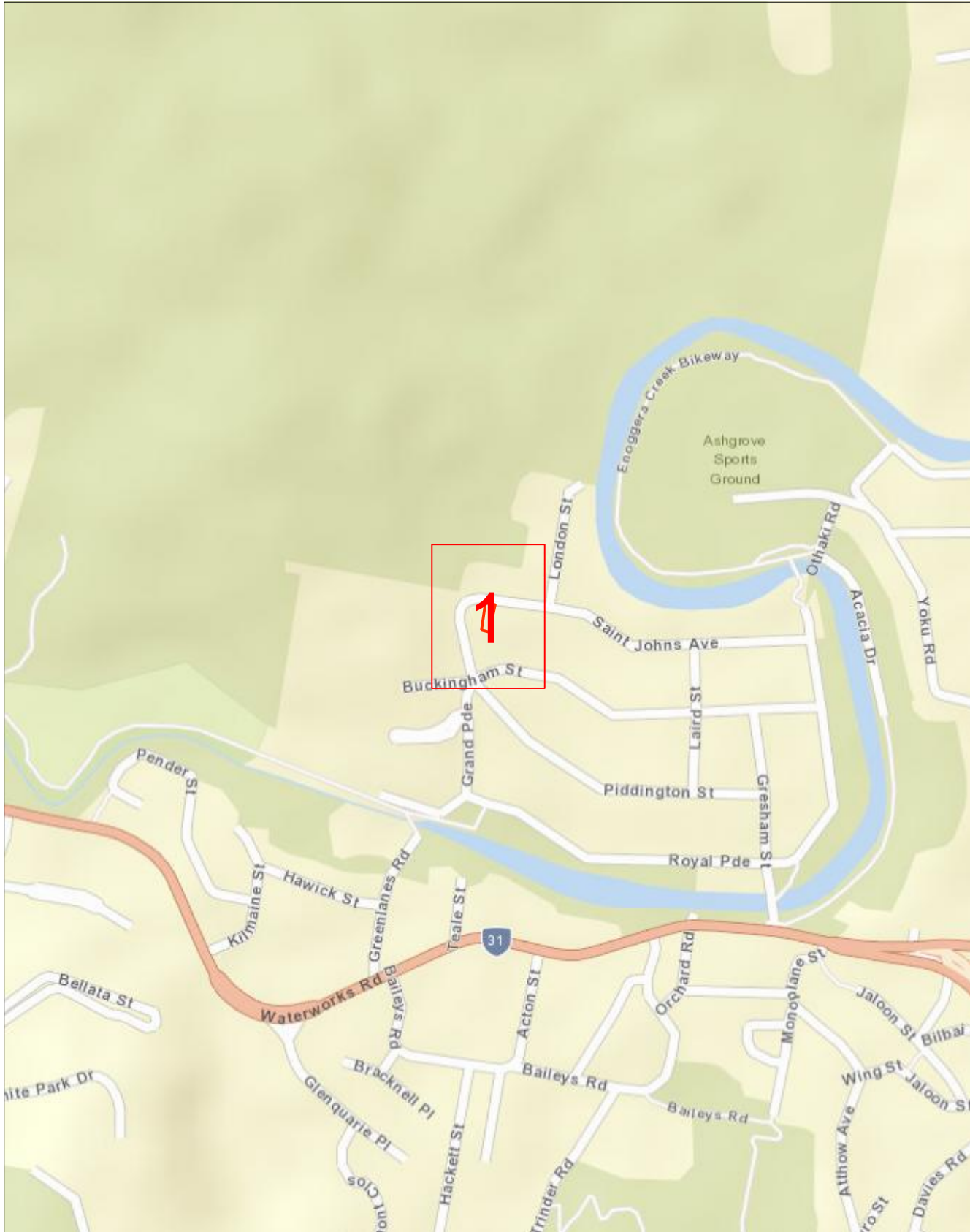
Item	Rate (excl. gst)
Site Watch – Business Hours	\$143.42 per hour
Site Watch – After Hours	\$175.06 per hour
Cancellation Fee	\$286.84
<i>Fee applies where cancelations received after 12pm (midday), 1 business day prior to the booking.</i>	

Contact APA – Before You Dig officer for state specific hours of business.

*\*The specified rates do not apply to Origin Energy LPG assets. All charges and invoicing related to these assets will be administered directly by Origin Energy. For further information contact Origin Energy.*

Site 80 ST JOHNS AV  
Address: ASHGROVE  
QLD 4060

Sequence 271390771  
Number:



Scale 1: 6000

Map Sources: Esri, Garmin, HERE, FAO, NOAA, USGS,  
© OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

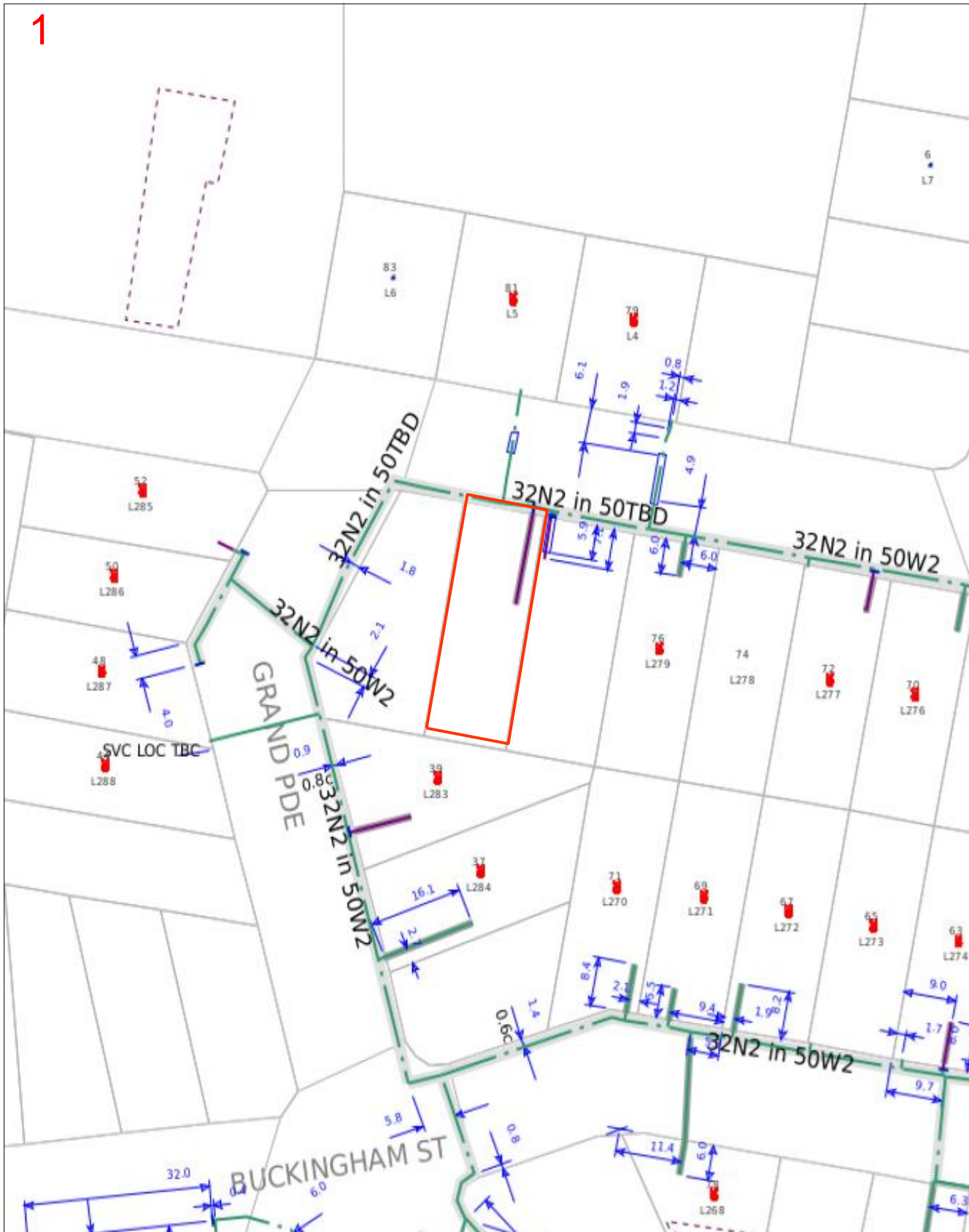


Enquiry Area



Map Key Area





Scale 1: 700

Map Sources: Esri, Garmin, HERE, FAO, NOAA, USGS,  
© OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Enquiry Area



Map Key Area



# Legend

## PIPE LEGEND: GAS TYPE AND PRESSURE

	Low pressure	Medium pressure	High pressure	Transmission
Natural gas				
Natural gas – proposed				
LPG (yellow dash)	<i>not applicable</i>			<i>not applicable</i>
Hydrogen blended (aqua dash)	<i>not applicable</i>			<i>not applicable</i>

## PIPE LEGEND: SPECIAL DESIGNATION

	Low pressure	Medium pressure	High pressure	Transmission
Critical main (yellow highlight)				
Casing (grey highlight)				<i>not applicable</i>

These designations typically apply to any pipe type and pressure

## PIPE LEGEND: OTHER STATUS

Abandoned pipe	
Idle or inactive pipe	

## ABBREVIATION

BoK	Back of kerb	FoK	Front of kerb
C	Depth of cover	NTI	Not tied in
CP	Cathodic protection		

## OBJECT SYMBOLS

Valve		CP test station		Syphon	
Buried valve		CP anode		Marker	
Regulator station		CP bond wire		Part service <sup>A</sup>	
Gas connected property		CP rectifier terminal		<sup>A</sup> A live gas service terminated underground within the property boundary, available for future extension to the gas meter.	

## PIPE CODE AND MATERIAL

P*	Polyethylene (PE)	CU	Copper
P3	Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)	N2	Nylon
S*	Steel	W2	Wrought galv iron
C*	Cast iron	W3	PE coat wrought galv iron

## INTERPRETATION EXAMPLE

	High pressure, 40 mm polyethylene in an 80 mm cast iron casing
	Medium pressure, 63 mm steel

Pipe diameter in millimetres is shown before pipe code.  
40P6 = 40 mm nominal diameter

*This map was created in colour and should be printed in colour*

## Important information

- Refer to requirements relating to construction, excavation and other work activities in the **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets** document with this BYDA response.
- BYDA enquiries are valid for 30 days. If your works commence after 30 days from the date of this response a new enquiry is required to validate location information.
- For some BYDA enquiries, you may receive two (2) responses from APA. Please read both responses carefully as they relate to different assets.
- Gas (inlet) services connecting Gas Assets in the street to the gas meter on the property are not marked on the map. South Australia Only – if a meter box is installed on the property, a sketch of the gas service location may be found inside the gas meter box. APA does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of these sketches.

### Free Gas Pipeline Awareness Training and Information

#### PROFESSIONALS

APA offers online and in-person toolbox forums to support safe work near underground gas assets. Topics include distribution and transmission pipelines, the permit process, and gas emergencies, with content suited for companies of all sizes. A Continuing Professional Development certificate is available upon completion.

Scan the QR code to register for an online toolbox, or email [damageprevention@apa.com.au](mailto:damageprevention@apa.com.au) to request an in-person presentation.

#### HOMEOWNERS

If you're working near your home's gas pipes stay safe and view APA's video guide '**Working Safely Near Gas Lines: A DIY Homeowner's Guide**' which offers simple tips to avoid damaging gas pipes.

Scan the QR code to view the video, or for more information email [damageprevention@apa.com.au](mailto:damageprevention@apa.com.au)



## Disclaimer and legal details

- This information is valid for 30 days from the date of this response.
- This information has been generated by an automated system based on the area highlighted in your BYDA request and has not been independently verified.
- Map location information is provided as AS5488-2022 Quality Level D, as such supplied location information is indicative only.
- Whilst APA has taken reasonable steps to ensure that the information supplied is accurate, the information is provided strictly on the condition that no assurance, representation, warranty or guarantee (express or implied) is given by APA in relation to the information (including without limitation quality, accuracy, reliability, completeness, currency, sustainability, or suitability for any particular purpose) except that the information has been disclosed in good faith.
- Any party who undertakes activities in the vicinity of APA operated assets has a legal duty of care that must be observed. This legal obligation requires all parties to adhere to a standard of reasonable care while performing any acts that could foreseeably harm these assets.



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Australia's energy  
infrastructure partner

**This content was uploaded by APA Group Gas Networks (70710) in response to your Before You Dig enquiry.**

Uploaded

16 Apr 2026 12:58:47pm

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is an automated response. Please **DO NOT REPLY to this email**. If you require further information in relation to this Before You Dig response, please contact [BYDA\\_APA@apa.com.au](mailto:BYDA_APA@apa.com.au)

**Enquiry Details:**

Impact	affected
Sequence Number	271390771
Enquirer Id	3576757
Activity	Conveyancing
Job Number	52901299
User Reference	ITJOB 191863600
Message	899977 0 [Contact: ]

**Site Details:**

Address	80 ST JOHNS AV ASHGROVE QLD 4060
---------	--

**Enquirer's Details:**

Contact	Soft Reg
Company	
Email	Soft.Reg.3576757@mail.au.pac.pcges.com.au
Phone	+61384135200
Address	610 Victoria Street Richmond VIC 3121


APA Group



# Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets

## 400-STD-AM-0001

Revision 2

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<b>APPROVER TITLE:</b>	Team Lead – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Engagement
<b>APPROVAL SIGNATURE:</b>	
<b>APPROVAL DATE:</b>	18/08/2023

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## DOCUMENT CONTROL & APPROVAL INFORMATION

### Summary of Changes

Below is a brief summary of the changes made to the document since the previous issued version.

Revision	Description	Date	Author
0.0	Issue for Use	29.06.2018	Matthew Read
1.0	Issued for Use – document periodic update / major overhaul	01.03.2022	Kahil Parsons
2.0	Removal of incorrect table 2 references to 1. proximity of HV cables 2. Updating separation distances to AS2885.3 BYDA reference update Table 4 Note	16.08.2023	Dale Russell

### Printed Working Copy

All printed copies of this document are to be used as reference copies only.

It is the responsibility of those with printed copies to ensure that the document is current.

### Responsibility

Any amendments to this document will be the responsibility of the document owner.

### Control

Controlled Networks documents including templates are published on the Networks National Document Library (NNDL).

All native copies of published controlled Networks documents are managed by [NetworksDocLibrary@apa.com.au](mailto:NetworksDocLibrary@apa.com.au) in accordance with 400-PR-QM-0001, Networks Controlled Documents Development and Review procedure.

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## TERMS OF USE

The “Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets Standard” is used for APA Networks excavations or third party excavations near APA Network operated assets. This guideline must only be used by the person or entity who received it directly from APA (“You”) to ensure the latest version is used.

APA Networks has provided this document to You subject to the terms of use set out below. By retaining possession of this document, You acknowledge and agree to the following conditions;

1. The information contained in this document relates only to APA Networks operated assets (as defined in this document) and does not relate to any other utility assets owned or operated by APA, such as APA Gas Transmission Pipelines.
2. This Guidelines document is provided to You to assist in the development of design plans, construction and land use activities.
3. This Guidelines document does not override or supersede APA’s Permit to Work (**PTW**) or Excavation policies and procedures.
4. Any proposed works in the vicinity of APA Networks operated assets may also require approval from other utility providers or government agencies. APA Networks has no responsibility for, and makes no representation in relation to, any requirements that may be necessary to obtain such approvals.
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The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for third parties planning to install new infrastructure or conduct works near existing APA Networks (**APA**) operated assets.

It is intended that this document will be provided to third parties proposing works around existing gas assets for their use during the design and planning phase following initial planning BYDA enquiries. This document does not provide authorisation to undertake the works but provides APA requirements to ensure that any review and acceptance of proposed works is completed as quickly as possible.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of this Document

This document addresses APA's requirements for considering how a third party's proposed works and APA managed works may impact APA Networks operated assets under the following parts:

**Part 1** – APA Notification and Authorisation Requirements

**Part 2** – Design and Asset Protection Requirements

**Part 3** – Construction and Land Use Requirements

**Part 4** – Alteration of Existing Gas Assets

APA Networks acts as the asset operator on behalf of entities Australian Gas Networks (**AGN**), Allgas, APA, Origin and Queensland Nitrates (**QNP**) and operates in New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. The criteria provided in this document only applies to the assets managed by APA Networks on behalf of these companies.

APA also owns and operates natural gas transmission infrastructure on all mainland states and territories of Australia. These assets are operated by a separate APA entity and are out of scope for this document.

A glossary of all terms and abbreviations used in this document is contained in **Section 7**.

A list of all relevant external standards and APA reference documents is contained in **Section 8**.

## 1.2 Asset Types

APA Networks' operated gas assets include buried pipe, above and below ground stations (e.g. pressure regulation, valves, meters), electrical cables, cathodic protection systems (e.g. test points, anode beds), pits and electrical cabinets. Depending on the gas type and the operating pressure, gas assets are classified as natural gas transmission, natural gas distribution and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (**LPG**) distribution as shown in **Figure 1**.

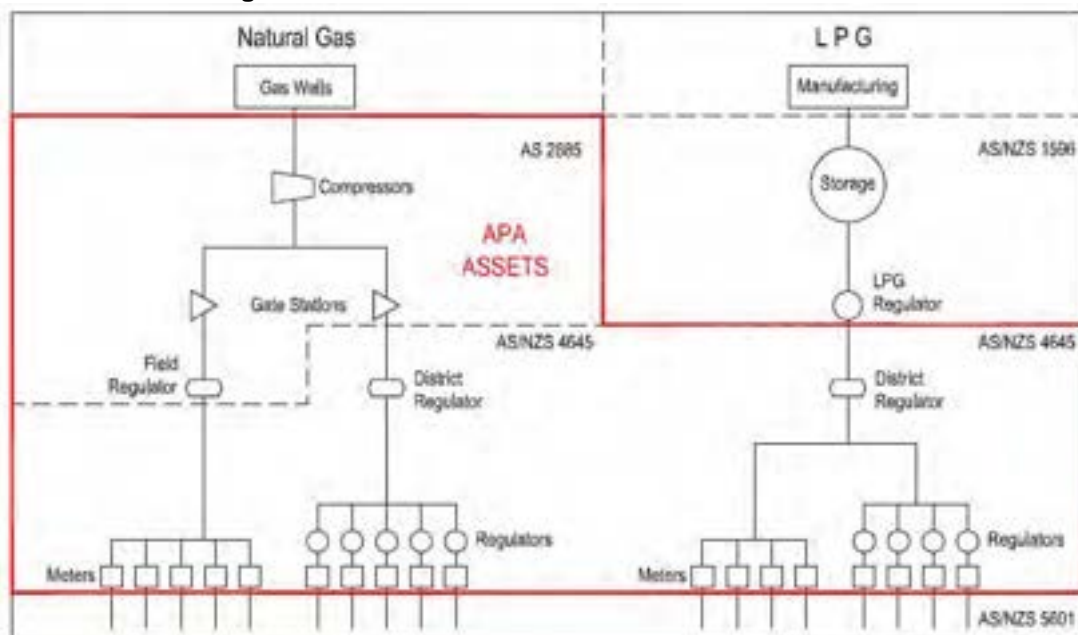


Figure 1 Asset Types and Standards Operated by APA Networks

### 1.2.1 Natural Gas Transmission

Natural gas transmission pressure assets operate at pressures above 1,050 kPag, and are generally used for transporting large quantities of gas across country. Design, construction and operation of these assets is governed by the AS 2885 suite of Australian Standards (**AS**).

Due to the higher pressure and energy density, there are severe safety, supply and environmental consequences which can result from third party interference. Hence, more stringent requirements and controls are applied to third party works in the vicinity of these assets.

Buried transmission pipelines are constructed from coated steel pipe where the appearance can vary depending on the year of construction, but will generally appear as yellow, black or grey when physically exposed.

### 1.2.2 Natural Gas Distribution

Natural gas distribution pressure assets operate at pressures below or equal to 1,050 kPag from offtakes of transmission pressure assets, and are generally used to supply consumers such as businesses and homes. Design, construction and operation of these assets is governed by the AS/NZS 4645 suite of Australian Standards.

Due to the lower energy density compared to transmission assets, less stringent requirements and controls are applied to distribution assets. Some distribution assets are deemed critical by APA Networks due to the safety and supply implications that may arise due to a third party strike. These critical distribution assets will be defined on BYDA responses, and some of the controls which are applied to transmission pressure assets (e.g. permit and site watch) will be required.

Buried distribution pressure pipes may be constructed from the following materials and physical appearances when exposed:

- Cast Iron (black);
- Polyethylene (PE) (yellow or black with yellow stripes);
- Steel coated or uncoated (generally yellow, black or grey); and
- Other plastic such as Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) or nylon (yellow).

Some legacy materials such as cast iron and nylon may require additional protection during construction works due to the unpredictable nature of the materials.

### 1.2.3 LPG Distribution

LPG distribution pressure assets operate at pressures below 140 kPag from storage compounds and are generally used to supply consumers such as businesses and homes in parts of Queensland, South Australia and Northern Territory. Design, construction and operation of these assets is governed by the AS/NZS 4645 suite of Australian Standards.

**Additional safety considerations are required in addition to the requirements for natural gas, as LPG is heavier than air and will pool at the leak point and can accumulate in a trench or excavation.**

The same materials used for buried distribution pressure pipes (**Section 1.2.2**) may be used on LPG distribution networks.

## 1.3 Damage and Emergencies

If you smell gas or damage has occurred, or is suspected, on any gas asset call APA emergency number **1800 GAS LEAK (1800 427 532) or 1800 808 526 for LPG assets.**

Any unreported damage has the potential to escalate and endanger public safety.

Where damage has resulted in a release of gas, you are advised to take the following immediate action:

- Clear the area of all people. Do not under any circumstance re-enter the damage area;
- Where safe to do so, shut off or remove all ignition sources and devices in the area e.g. naked flames, vehicle engines, power tools, mobile phones;
- Do not attempt to stop the flow or repair the damage;
- Allow the gas to vent to air; and
- Once clear of the area, contact the emergency number **1800 427 532 or 1800 808 526 for LPG assets.**

The conditions in this document or as provided by APA Networks are intended to protect the gas assets as well as keep safe any construction crews or general public in the vicinity. Depending on the circumstances, some variation to the conditions in this document may be required or may be provided by an approved APA Networks site watch representative. It is legislated in all jurisdictions that the direction provided by APA is followed.

## 1.4 General Duty of Care and Responsibility to Obtain Information

Anybody working near a gas asset, or responsible for such work, has a duty of care to exercise caution, to maintain a safe working environment and to meet requirements of all relevant laws and Occupational Health and Safety legislation.

For general enquiries about results from BYDA please contact:

- [DBYDNetworksAPA@apa.com.au](mailto:DBYDNetworksAPA@apa.com.au) for Northern Territory, South Australia, Southern New South Wales and Victoria, and;
- [PermitsQLD@apa.com.au](mailto:PermitsQLD@apa.com.au) for Queensland and Northern NSW (incl. Tamworth).

The third party shall make contact with APA through the BYDA process if any clarification is required to determine the approval processes for any proposed land use changes (within the Measurement Length), design works and construction activities within 3 m of a gas asset or within a pipeline easement.

Any works proposed by the third party will only be authorised if APA is satisfied that the works will not affect the integrity of the APA Networks operated assets.

Any person undertaking work near an APA Networks operated asset, or responsible for such work, must ensure that they familiarise themselves with APA requirements.

Working around any gas asset, especially transmission pressure pipelines, without appropriate planning and controls as specified by APA Networks can be extremely dangerous. Damage to a gas asset could result in:

- Possible explosion and fire with the risk of loss of equipment, property, personal injury, and death;
- Loss of gas supply to thousands of customers;
- Substantial repair and gas restoration liability costs to the authority or principal responsible; and,
- Prosecution under the relevant laws governing pipeline and gas safety.

**Prior to the commencement of any works within the Protected Zone of transmission pressure or critical gas assets, the Contractor performing the work must receive an Authority to Work Permit (ATWP).**

Any works within the Protected Zone of critical assets must comply with any conditions attached to an ATWP and depending upon the nature of the asset and works supported by an approved construction methodology.

Written authorisation in the form of the ATWP must be kept on site at all times, and the holder of the authorisation must comply with all the conditions of the ATWP. The performance of any works near critical APA Networks operated assets without a valid ATWP and full compliance with its conditions will constitute a safety incident and may also result in an infringement notice and associated penalties issued by the regulator of the APA Networks asset.

### 1.4.1 Additional Transmission Pressure Pipeline Requirements

Where the works proposed by the third party may result in a change in land use within the Measurement Length for a transmission pressure pipeline (as defined in AS/NZS 2885.6 for Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum), such works may also be subject to formal approval requirements through APA Networks and applicable local and state government planning processes. This may also require a Safety Management Study (**SMS**) Report to be completed and approved by APA Networks. The SMS Report is generated from an SMS workshop involving an SMS facilitator, the third party and APA Networks. APA Networks is the owner of the SMS Report and any resulting recommendations/ actions must be implemented to the satisfaction of APA prior to the commencement of any physical works.

Certain categories of development/ land use change are not appropriate to be located within the Measurement Length of transmission pressure pipelines. In certain circumstances, the otherwise unacceptable risks associated with such developments may be alleviated with the aid of installing protective slabbing over the asset or undertaking other protection and mitigation measures.

## 2 PROTECTION PROCESS

APA is committed to working cooperatively with third parties to ensure that existing gas assets will be appropriately protected from any proposed works.

The process to be followed for any proposed works is outlined in **Table 1**. This table cross references the relevant section of this document which provides any specific requirements for each gas asset classification. The steps in this table are to be followed in conjunction with the process outlined by BYDA<sup>1</sup>, a flow chart is also provided in **APPENDIX A**.

**Table 1 Protection Process Summary**

Section	Step	Purpose
3	<b>Notification and Authorisation</b>	<p><b>Identify and locate existing gas assets in the vicinity of any proposed works.</b></p> <p>Submit BYDA requests to obtain indicative plans of gas assets.</p> <p>Notify APA Networks and obtain approval to verify the exact position by physically proving the position of gas assets at the cost of the third party.</p>
4	<b>Design and Protection Requirements</b>	<p><b>Review APA Networks design and protection requirements for any proposed infrastructure near gas assets.</b></p> <p>If acceptable clearance is available in accordance with this section review impact of construction methodology on existing gas assets.</p> <p>If acceptable clearance is not available in accordance with this section and the proposed infrastructure cannot be modified, alteration or protection of the existing gas assets will be required at the cost of the third party.</p>
5	<b>Construction and Land Use Requirements</b>	<p><b>Review construction methodology for adverse impact to existing gas assets.</b></p> <p>Some additional protection measures may be required depending on the existing gas assets, the construction methodology and whether land use changes are required.</p> <p>If works meet the requirements of this document, submit work package to APA Networks for review and approval. If approval is given, then undertake works in accordance with APA Networks conditions/ permits. If approval is not given modify work package accordingly.</p> <p>If works do not meet the requirements of this document or APA Networks approval cannot be reached, alteration or protection of the existing gas assets will be required.</p>
6	<b>Alteration</b>	<p><b>Request alteration of existing gas infrastructure if there is insufficient clearance or construction methods will adversely impact existing gas assets.</b></p> <p>Alteration of existing gas assets are fully recoverable and may result in delays if not identified early.</p>

### 2.1 Assessment Information

Throughout the protection process, APA Networks assessment may be required to determine if the proposed works/ installation has sufficient separation or if work can be undertaken with a suitable construction methodology. If APA Networks assessment is required, the following information must be provided to enable an efficient and comprehensive review.

- Due dates or a work program;
- The location / address and extent of proposed works;

<sup>1</sup> BYDA process is available at <https://www.1100.com.au/safety-information/digging-safely/>

- Scope / description of the work impacting APA assets;
- A work package containing detailed design or construction issue drawings with the location of APA assets and the extent of works marked and / or georeferenced. Sufficient details must be provided on the plans to verify locations against APA information, which is typically measured from property boundaries. Plan and cross sectional drawings are typically required, including any proving locations;
- The proposed construction methodology (if available); and
- For critical assets only, a completed permit request form. This form is automatically provided in response to a BYDA enquiry when it is required, with direction for this form included in the BYDA response (refer to **Section 5.2**).

If the information provided is incomplete, or irrelevant information is provided, it may result in a delay of the assessment process and provision of a response. Due to the varying nature of potential works, it is not possible to develop a comprehensive listing of information that will be required for each work type, but the above is provided as a general guideline for what will normally be required.

## 3 PART 1 - APA NOTIFICATION AND AUTHORISATION REQUIREMENTS

### 3.1 BYDA Request

The fastest method for obtaining APA Network gas asset locations is to lodge a BYDA request. A response can be expected from APA within two business days, and may include one of three responses as outlined in **APPENDIX A**, depending on the location of the works in relation to existing APA operated gas assets in the vicinity.

For some BYDA requests, APA Networks may provide different responses to different assets affected by the proposed works. In all instances it is the responsibility of the third party to review and follow the direction of all BYDA responses.

The information provided by APA Networks in response to a BYDA request, along with any other plans or subsequent information provided by APA, show only the indicative location of the asset at the time and are a guide only. In most instances it will be necessary to prove the location of all buried assets within the proposed work area.

The following items must be considered when using asset information provided by APA Networks:

- Gas service lines from buried distribution pressure supply mains to consumers may not be shown on plans. Service lines are usually laid at right angles from main to a meter position, except where road conduits are provided; and
- Plans become rapidly outdated and so should be used within 30 days and then destroyed. It is the responsibility of the third party to contact APA Networks to seek the updated or renewal of any information after this time.

APA shall not be liable or responsible for the accuracy of any information supplied.

### 3.2 Provings and Site Identification

Electronic location (e.g. ground penetrating radar, pipe locators) of gas assets is required to verify the onsite locations and any plans that have been provided.

Physical proving of existing gas assets is required at key locations to verify that the separation and protection criteria provided in this document have been achieved. The location and quantity of provings will depend on the scope of proposed work, but provings will at least be required at infrastructure crossing points or where changes to surface level condition are planned.

Additional verifications are required for works parallel and in close vicinity to existing gas assets. Physical provings at maximum 10 m intervals along straight sections of pipe, along with all bends, branch lines and customer service offtakes to verify asset locations.

**Note:** Live service offtakes which no longer supply consumers may protrude from the gas asset and are not traceable or identifiable from records.

**Note:** The maximum physical proving intervals for straight sections of pipe may be adjusted based upon the discretion of APA personnel for extenuating circumstances.

The following items must be considered when proving the location of an existing gas asset:

- Provings must be conducted safely and in accordance with the requirements of **Section 5.5.2**. If damage to a gas asset does occur it should be reported immediately to APA as described in **Section 1.3**.
- Permit and site watch by an APA Networks representative may be required for some proving activities in accordance with **Section 5.2**.

### 3.3 APA Notification and Authorisation Process

Prior to the third party undertaking any works/ activities or as part of the planning and design phase, the third party shall ensure a BYDA request is submitted. The automated response received from the BYDA system will be tailored based on the criticality of the assets.

For assets operated at distribution pressures and not considered critical mains, a Duty of Care Notice is provided with the BYDA response for the third party to consider. Site watch may be necessary under a duty of care notice where additional protection or other integrity concerns require it.

In the event that works are conducted within the Protected Zone of a transmission pipeline and/ or critical distribution main, these works will require a review approval received from APA prior to commencement of works. Works subject to this requirement are deemed to include, but not limited to, the following activities that fall under **Table 3**;

- Non Destructive Digging (**NDD**);
- Mechanical excavation including trenchless excavation i.e. drilling (boring, horizontal direction drilling (**HDD**), pipeline bursting and tunnelling) for installing infrastructure such as the following;
  - o Roadways, driveways, railways, pavements;
  - o Electrical equipment (cables, overhead transmission lines, telecommunication cable or power poles);
  - o Installation of culverts/ pipes (water, drainage, sewer or reticulation);
  - o Landscaping.

APA will not approve certain activities and structures in the transmission pipeline easement (if applicable), including the following;

- Permanent storage;
- Installation of billboard structures;
- Use and storage for explosives, flammables or corrosives;
- Blasting;
- Structures forming part of any house, house extensions, carports or entertainment areas;
- Dams and other manmade water features. Locations of dams off the pipeline easement/ protected zone must not create run off or drainage towards the pipeline easement;
- Chemically treated effluent coming in contact with the pipeline easement/ protected zone;
- Garbage, sand fill, refuse disposal;
- Airstrips.

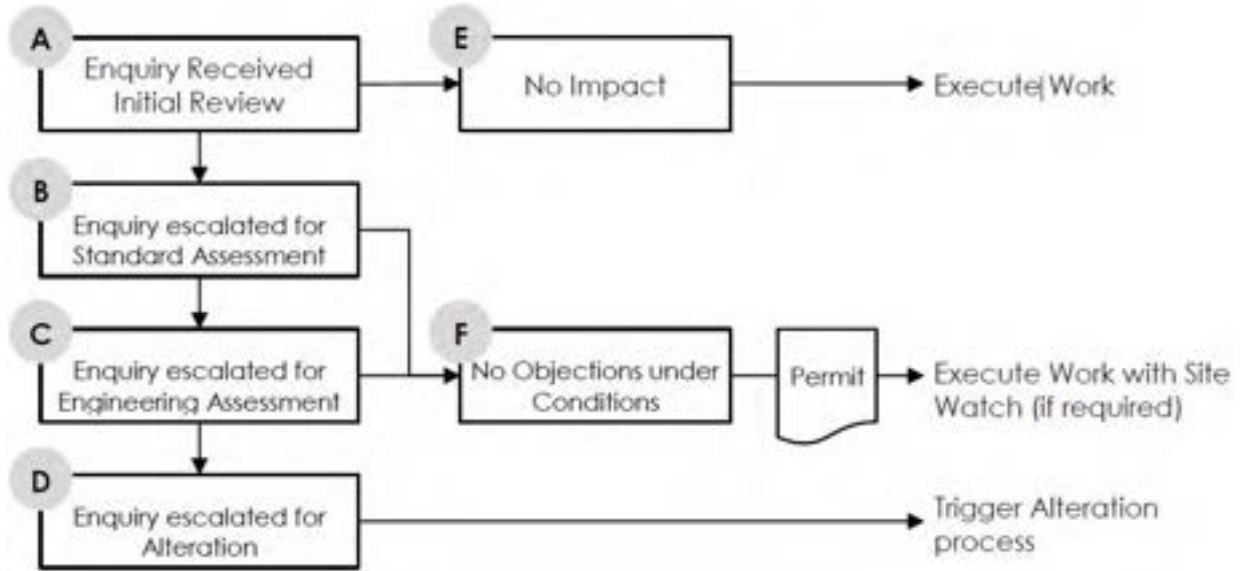
The Third Party must submit an enquiry to APA at the earliest possible stage to allow sufficient time for assessment. Submissions should include the following information;

- Land description and map identifying location of the proposed works;
- Types of works to be carried out;
- Intended future use of the land (where relating to change in land use)
- Type and weight of machinery that will be used;
- Any plans or diagrams of the works;
- Timeframe for the works.

The sequence of obtaining APA approval is as follows;

- a) Submit enquiry for Initial Review – The Third Party submits the request prior to works commencing and APA Networks will complete an 'Initial Review'. The third party must not progress any works on site until they receive a response from APA Networks. The two possible outcomes of this stage are a 'No Impact' response or;
- b) Enquiry Escalated for Standard Assessment – The request will be forwarded to APA Networks Field or System Operations personnel for a more detailed appraisal, which may involve contacting the third party, site visits, locating of assets of site, and/or request for additional information. The third party must not progress any work on site until they receive a response from APA Networks. The two possible outcomes of this stage are a 'No Objection under standard conditions' response or;
- c) Enquiry Escalated for Engineering Assessment – The request has been forwarded to the Integrity Third Party Engagement team for additional appraisal and determination of specific conditions. The third party must not progress any works on site until they receive a response from APA Networks. The two possible outcomes of this stage are a 'No Objection under special conditions response' or;

- d) Enquiry Escalated for Alteration – The Integrity Third Party Engagement team triggers the alteration process for this enquiry. The third party will be contacted for additional information and must not progress any work on site until they receive a response from APA Networks.
- e) No Impact – The third party receives a ‘No Impact’ response and can proceed with the works under appropriate APA Networks requirements e.g. Duty of Care, Authority to Work Permit and/or Site Watch.
- f) No Objection Under Conditions – The third party will receive a No Objection under standard or special conditions response and can progress with the planning of the works under the conditions specified in the response and appropriate APA Networks requirements e.g. Duty of Care, Authority to Work Permit and/or Site Watch.



**Figure 2 Stages for Third Party Works Authorisation Request**

For works around APA Networks transmission pipelines or critical mains the documents take precedence in the following order;

- APA Authority to Work Permit (**ATWP**)
- APA accepted Third Party Construction Drawings
- APA accepted Third Party Construction Methodology
- APA Networks Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets (this document)
- APA accepted Third Party Safe Work Method Statement (**SWMS**) (if applicable)

### 3.4 Commercial Agreement and Service Delivery

APA will undertake a review of Third Party Works, as required. At APA’s discretion cost recovery for these works may be required. Where APA Networks requires cost recovery a commercial service agreement in the form of a Works Agreement will be required.

**Note:** Any third party works requiring blasting, seismic and/or tunnelling work near APA Networks operated assets will not be considered “low risk” and cost recovery for detailed review maybe required.

### 3.5 Decommissioned Gas Assets

Decommissioned gas assets that remain in the ground are not always shown on BYDA plans.

Where unknown assets are identified or suspected on site but are not on APA plans, they must be treated as being live. In this instance, the third party must contact all utility owners and operators in the area of the BYDA and notify them of the findings.

Following review, if APA accepts that it is a decommissioned gas asset, the asset must be treated as per the requirements of this document. APA will take no further action where it is not considered to be a decommissioned gas asset.

In some cases, decommissioned gas assets are required for future use by APA (sometimes noted as “Idle” on APA plans). These assets must be treated as live using the same criteria outlined in this document, and must not be removed or altered without APA’s express written approval.

Where APA confirms there is no future use of a decommissioned gas asset (sometimes noted as “Abandoned” on APA plans), removal of the asset can be undertaken by the third party under the following conditions:

- For assets considered by APA to be decommissioned gas assets, APA must be engaged to verify that the asset is gas free;
- End caps must be permanently sealed, using an APA approved methodology, on any decommissioned sections that are to be left in place to prevent future water ingress into the remaining sections of the decommissioned gas asset;
- An as-built drawing must be submitted by the third party for any section(s) of a decommissioned gas asset removed by the third party or its sub-contractors to ensure BYDA can be updated accordingly; and
- Payment for costs associated with any verification or alteration activities must be provided prior to APA undertaking works.

## 4 PART 2 - DESIGN AND ASSET PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Standard Clearances

Minimum clearance dimensions outlined in this section must be met to allow for safe future maintainability and protection of existing gas assets. If separation clearances cannot be achieved, APA will review the proposed infrastructure on a case-by-case basis to determine whether a resolution can be achieved before alteration of any existing gas assets is considered. Authorisation of works by APA is still required, regardless of being able to achieve the required separation distances.

Clearances specified in **Table 2** are measured from the closest edges of the existing gas asset to the proposed infrastructure. Depending on the exact nature of proposed infrastructure, additional clearance may be required.

**Note:** Clearances specified herein are from gas assets, third party utilities may have their own standard separations that exceed APA's minimums specified in **Table 2**.

The future access zone required around a gas asset depends upon a number of factors such as size, operating pressure, depth and soil conditions, but typically this access zone is at least 1000 mm either side and 700 mm below the gas asset. As an aid for design and / or installation, the minimum clearances presented in **Table 2** are provided to allow for safe future access to gas assets. These minimum clearances assume that the asset have been proven and the location verified. There may be circumstances where additional clearances are required.

**Table 2 Minimum Clearances**

Clearance Type (Note 2, 9)	Minimum Transmission Pressure Asset Clearance	Minimum Distribution Pressure Asset Clearance
Any installation up to 0.6 metres wide which is crossing the gas asset	500 mm Vertical <b>(Note 2)</b>	300 mm Vertical <b>(Note 2)</b>
Any installation over 0.6 metres wide which is crossing the gas asset	500 mm Vertical	300 mm Vertical <b>(Note 2)</b>
Any installation laid by trenchless excavation e.g. HDD, boring, etc.	3000 mm Vertical	600 mm Vertical
	Refer to <b>Section 5.6</b> for minimum horizontal separation distances	
Any installation laid parallel to a steel gas asset	600 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 2, 3)</b>	
Any installation laid parallel to any gas asset other than steel	N/A	300 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 2, 3)</b>
Trenching separation from edge of gas asset to edge of trench <b>(Note 4)</b>	500 mm Horizontal	300 mm Horizontal
Underground electrical cables laid parallel to any gas asset other than steel	N/A	300 mm Horizontal
Electrical conduits and cables (<11 kV) laid parallel to a steel gas asset	Engineering assessment required <b>(Note 2, 3)</b>	
Electrical conduits and cables (≥ 11kV) laid parallel to a steel gas asset	<b>(Note 2, 3)</b> Engineering assessment required <b>(Note 7)</b>	

Electrical earthing systems near a steel gas asset	High Voltage: Engineering Assessment Required Low Voltage: 300 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 7)</b>	
Electrical earthing system near any gas asset other than steel	N/A	300 mm Horizontal
<b>Clearance Type (Note 2, 9)</b>	<b>Minimum Transmission Pressure Asset Clearance</b>	<b>Minimum Distribution Pressure Asset Clearance</b>
Undisturbed cover from the top of the gas asset to the underside of trenching or road pavement boxing	500 mm Vertical	300 mm Vertical <b>(Note 1)</b>
Distance from predominant building line	3000 mm Horizontal Where applicable outside pipeline easement	Refer to <b>Section 4.2</b>
Distance from Sensitive Use Locations (Refer <b>Section 7</b> for Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations)	APA Engineering Assessment Required <b>(Note 8)</b>	N/A
Canopies longer than 15 m parallel to the edge of the gas asset	3000 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 10)</b>	Refer to <b>Table 4 (Note 10)</b>
Any installation that could add excessive loads to the gas asset or restrict access to the gas asset	3000 mm Horizontal <b>(Note 2)</b>	
Any installations that may need require underpinning were APA to expose the gas asset	3000 mm Horizontal	
Any temporary stake, e.g. star picket	300 mm Horizontal	
Electrical poles including street lighting and traffic signals	3000 mm Horizontal Where applicable outside pipeline easement	1000 mm <b>(Note 3, 5, 6, 7)</b>
Fence post, including road safety barriers	3000 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements	500 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements
Pile or pier	3000 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements	500 mm Horizontal when installed per APA requirements
Permanent Heavy Vehicle Loads (Greater than 4.5T)	Refer to <b>Section 4.7</b> Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Loads	
Tree Root Barrier	3000 mm Horizontal	1000 mm Horizontal Refer to <b>Section 4.3</b> Landscaping Plans
Separation distances for vegetation	Refer to <b>Section 4.3</b> Landscaping Plans	

**Note 1:** For distribution main crossings, where the vertical separation distance is less than 300 mm physical protective slabbing, e.g. HDPE or concrete, shall be installed where the other utility is crossing beneath the APA pipeline/distribution main.

HDPE or concrete, shall be installed where the other utility is crossing above the APA pipeline/distribution main.

No protective slabbing is required for utility crossings greater than 500 mm separation.

**Note 2:** Structures and large utilities crossing APA Networks operated assets need to be self-supporting so that future repairs or maintenance of the asset can occur as per **Section 4.2 Third Party Assets and Structures**.

**Note 3:** Horizontal separation includes utility surface access pits, thrust blocks and/ or footings.

**Note 4:** Additional horizontal separation may be required depending on the extent of the planned works, local soil conditions and trench stability of the existing gas asset. This is particularly relevant where works occur within the angle of repose of the existing gas asset (e.g. parallel trenching that is deeper than the existing gas asset) and may result in undermining.

**Note 5:** In accordance with 'AS/NZS 4853 – Electrical hazards on metallic pipelines' without further information and APA engineering assessment, no electrical power poles for 66kV or above are permitted within the following separation distances of steel gas assets;

- If the power line has an Overhead Earth Wire (**OHEW**) – 15 m;
- If power line does not have an OHEW – 100 m;

**Note 6:** Where electrical poles (including street lighting and traffic signals) are proposed which place the gas asset within the no dig zone specified by the electrical authority either of the following shall occur;

- a) The poles shall be designed with deeper foundations to be self-supporting if the gas asset needs to be excavated. Or;
- b) For non-metallic assets relocated into a conduit that extends past the no dig zone.

**Note 7:** Clearance for electrical cables and earthing systems from steel gas assets must be reviewed in accordance with **Section 4.6 Earthing and Electrical Effects**. Electrical cables, substations and/or earthing systems installed in the vicinity of steel gas assets require an Earth Potential Risk (**EPR**) and Low Frequency Induction (**LFI**) assessment to AS/NZS 4853.

**Note 8:** Requires a setback distance to stay away from the Measurement Length (refer to **Table 14 Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations**). Alternatively, the setback distance may be reduced if protection slabbing is installed along the Sensitive Use Location where interaction with the Measurement Length occurs. This may also be limited to the development area subject to APA engineering assessment.

**Note 9:** Pipeline protection needs to be assessed and shown on the design plans with design clearances. This includes recoating, bridge slab or asset strike protection slab.

**Note 10:** Clearance may be dependent on demonstrating that there is sufficient continuous ventilation.

For construction and land use activities around gas assets the minimum horizontal clearances referenced in **Table 3** must be followed.

**Table 3 Minimum Clearances for Construction Works and Land Use Activities**

Construction and Land Use Activities	Minimum Horizontal Clearance	
	Transmission Pressure & Critical Distribution Mains	Non-Critical Distribution Pressure Mains
Excavation without APA representative present ( <b>Note 1</b> )	3000 mm	N/A
Trenchless Excavation ( <b>Note 1</b> )	3000 mm Refer to <b>Section 5.6</b>	1000 mm Refer to <b>Section 5.6</b>
Temporary Heavy Vehicle Traffic (greater than 4.5T)	If the load has not been assessed, maintain a Horizontal separation of 3000 mm.  APA engineering assessment must be completed if crossing asset.  Refer to <b>Section 4.7</b> Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings	Refer to <b>Section 4.7</b> Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings
Installation of Piles, Piers or Poles	Refer to <b>Table 2</b> and <b>Section 5.7</b>	
Hot Works from Construction Activities	Any hot works within 5000 mm of an open trench containing gas asset or where cover is less than 300 mm. Refer to <b>Section 5.8. (Note 2)</b>	
Compaction	<b>Section 5.10</b> for Compaction Limits Maximum Compaction Limits	
Vibration Limits	No vibration within 3000 mm of the pipeline and greater distance to comply with <b>Section 5.9</b>	
Blasting, Seismic Survey or the use of Explosives	Approval required for works within 100m. Refer to <b>Section 5.11</b> .	
Lifting over exposed gas asset	Not permitted over the gas asset. Refer to <b>Section 5.12</b> for Suspended Materials above Gas Assets and No Go Zones for Cranes.	
Clearance of crane outriggers to gas assets	Not permitted within 3000 mm of gas asset. Refer to <b>Section 5.12</b> for Suspended Materials above Gas Assets and No Go Zones for Cranes.	
Clearance of temporary material from pipeline	Not permitted within 3000 mm of gas assets. Refer to <b>Section 5.13</b> for Temporary Materials.	

**Note 1:** Excavation covers NDD, mechanical excavation and trenchless excavation (boring, HDD, pipeline bursting and tunnelling).

**Note 2:** Horizontal separation distance also applies to any pits or valve covers.

## 4.2 Third Party Assets and Structures

Structures, including but not limited to buildings, walls, canopies, footings, pile caps or retaining walls, must not transfer any load to or be installed over any gas asset.

The design of any third party asset or structure must take into account future safe access of any gas assets in the vicinity. The proposed third party asset or structure must be installed in a way that prevents the angle of repose from encroaching into the future access zone as specified in **Section 4.1** around the existing gas asset.

Any third party asset or structure installed within proximity to a transmission pipeline or critical distribution pressure main must be designed to be self-supporting and allow for a minimum excavation window 1m on either side of the asset and 700 mm below the edge of the asset, for maintenance of the asset. This self-supporting design information is required to be shown on the construction drawings supported by geotechnical data and calculations. Construction of structures on pipeline easements are not permitted without explicit consent from APA.

Distribution pressure gas mains must be offset from the expected predominant building line at a distance in accordance with **Table 4**. Transmission pressure gas assets shall be per **Table 2**.

**Table 4 Minimum Building Offset Distances for Distribution Pressure Gas Mains**

Diameter (DN)	MAOP (kPag)			
	≤210	>210 ≤ 420	>420 ≤ 600	>600
≤110	0.5 m	0.5 m	1.0m	3 m
>110 ≤ 160	0.5 m	0.5 m	3 m	5 m
>160	0.5 m	3 m	3 m	8 m

Gas assets may be located underneath curbing or strip footings for road safety barriers for short sections up to 10 m to allow for tapers. The integrity of the gas asset to be located underneath the curbing or strip footing may require inspection, repair, recoating and / or slabbing depending on the existing condition and extent of proposed works.

Posts or poles which are located in road reserve, or otherwise exposed to vehicle impact, must be designed such that there will be no damage to the gas asset in the event of a vehicle impact.

For works in Victoria, consent from the relevant State Minister is required under Section 120 of the *Pipelines Act 2005* (VIC) for the erection of structures or buildings within 3,000 mm of a transmission pressure asset. Ministerial consent must be arranged through Energy Safe Victoria (**ESV**) following review and acceptance of the proposed designs by APA Networks.

## 4.3 Landscaping Plans

Vegetation may limit line of site, access and passage along an existing gas asset alignment, while the associated roots may damage existing buried pipe, coating or other ancillary equipment (e.g. cables). Above ground gas infrastructure may also be exposed to hazards from falling vegetation and increased fire risk. Additionally, trees and tree roots may limit access to the gas asset in an emergency, during normal operations and when make new connections or modifications.

Landscaping plans which include vegetation should select tree species which do not have vigorous root activity and do not exceed above 5m in height when fully mature when planted within 3m of gas assets. The pre-selection of trees considered suitable for planting within road reserves and near gas assets should also consider interference with, or damage to, other underground and overhead services.

For all landscaping works within 3 m of transmission pressure or critical distribution pressure gas assets the following details must submitted to APA for review and approval prior to planting.

- Tree species – botanical and common name
- Mature tree buttress and canopy diameter
- Mature tree height

- Maximum root ball diameter
- Offset from gas asset
- Method of protection to gas asset

Trees to be planted within 3 m of transmission pressure or critical distribution pressure gas assets, should also adhere to **Table 5** below.

**Note:** Horizontal separation is measured from pipe edge to edge of mature trunk or mature drip line, whichever is the greater.

Strata cells are not considered an appropriate protection from tree roots. If strata cells are to be installed in the vicinity of existing buried gas assets, the controls identified in **Table 5** must be used for protection.

**Table 5 Protection of Distribution Gas Assets from Vegetation**

Vegetation Types	Requirements	Horizontal Separation from Pipe Edge to Vegetation			
		Greater than 3 m	1.5 to 3m	1.5 to 0.5 m	<0.5 m
Trees or Large Shrubs	Min. separation of 3 m is required between trees and pipe if no protection methods are utilised.				
Medium and Small Shrubs	Within 1.5 m – 0.5 m protection methods must be utilised.				
Ground cover and grasses	No protection methods required.				
Gas Protection Methods					
	No protection methods required, provided separation limits are followed.				
	<p>Within 3 m, tree species which have mature buttress diameters less than 0.15 m and do not have invasive or deep roots may be accommodated without protection methods after consultation with APA Networks (<b>Note 1</b>).</p> <p>For trees with mature buttress diameters greater than 0.15 m one of the following gas protection methods must be implemented;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lowering or relocation of the gas asset to a minimum of 1.2 m cover.</li> <li>2. Installation of new gas conduit beyond the structural root zone (<b>SRZ</b>) of the mature tree species for future use. (<b>Note 2</b>)</li> <li>3. Installation of a root barrier system. System to be 1 m deep or extend 250mm below the gas asset, whichever is the greater.</li> </ol>				
	<p>Within 1.5 m installation of a root barriers system is mandatory and gas protection methods are as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Installation of a robust root barrier system. System to be 1 m deep or extend 250 mm below the gas asset, whichever is the greater.</li> </ol> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Lowering or relocation of the gas asset to a minimum of 1.2 m cover.</li> </ol> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Installation of new gas conduit beyond the SRZ of the mature tree species for future use. (<b>Note 2</b>)</li> </ol>				
	Planting directly over gas assets is not permitted in any location, as it prevents emergency and maintenance access. Tree roots can damage gas asset resulting in gas leaks.				

**Note 1:** Refers to the minimum 1.5 m structural root zone for a mature buttress diameter less than 0.15 m mandated under AS 4970 – Protection of trees on development sites.

**Note 2:** Suitable protection method for PE mains only. Conduits to be recorded in Geographic Information System (GIS) for future referencing.

**Note 3:** On transmission pressure assets vegetation must not limit line of site along the buried gas assets alignment, all signage must remain each in sight of the other.

#### 4.4 Surface Levels and Conditions

Decreases or increases to surface levels must consider depth of cover requirements for gas assets specified in **Table 6**. This is in addition to maintaining a minimum working cover from the top of the gas asset to the underside of trenching or road box out works during construction as specified in **Table 2**. Vehicles must not cross gas assets at covers less than those specified in **Table 6** unless in accordance with **Section 5.10** for Compaction Limits or **Section 4.7** for Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings.

Where existing surfaces are to be modified, finished cover levels are not to be reduced to less than existing levels, unless meeting the minimum requirements of **Table 6**. The requirement for, and the extent of, protective slabbing over any APA Networks operated asset will be determined by APA at its sole discretion with adherence to minimum depth of cover without physical protection as the preference. Depending on the location, local councils and relevant road/ rail authorities may have minimum depth of cover requirements that APA are required to meet which are more stringent than those listed in **Table 6**. Depth of cover requirements for individual consumer offtakes (service connections) are also provided in **Table 7**.

Details of any additional fill proposed to be placed on or within 3 metres of a gas asset, or within any applicable easement, must be clearly shown on plans and must be approved by APA Networks in writing. A maximum depth of cover of 2,500 mm for transmission pressure assets and 2000 mm for distribution assets apply in all locations; however, it is preferred not to exceed 1500 mm for both types of assets.

**Table 6 Minimum Depth of Cover Requirements for Pipelines and Mains**

Asset Location	Minimum Depth of Cover (Note 3)	
	Transmission Pressure Asset	Distribution Pressure Asset
Under Minor Road Pavement ( <b>Note 1</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,200 mm</li> <li>• 1,200 mm to 1,000 mm with physical protection slabbing and APA engineering load assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 750 mm</li> <li>• 750 mm to 600 mm with physical protection slabbing and APA engineering load assessment</li> </ul>
Under Major Road Pavement ( <b>Note 2</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,200 mm</li> <li>• 1200 mm to 1,000 mm with bridging slabs (<b>Note 4</b>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,200 mm</li> <li>• 1200 mm to 750 mm with bridging slabs (<b>Note 4</b>)</li> </ul>
In Road Reserve but not Under Road Pavement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 900 mm</li> <li>• 900 mm to 750 mm with protective slabbing contingent upon pipeline location class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 750 mm</li> <li>• 750 mm to 600 mm with protective slabbing</li> </ul>
Not in Road Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 900 mm</li> <li>• 750 mm with protective slabbing contingent upon pipeline location class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 750 mm for &gt; 210 kPa</li> <li>• 600 mm for ≤ 210 kPa</li> </ul>
Railway Reserve	2000 mm ( <b>Note 5</b> )	
Large Open Drain or Major Water Crossing	2000 mm ( <b>Note 6</b> )	

**Note 1:** Minor road pavements typically are owned by local councils.

**Note 2:** All roads owned by state and federal authorities are major roads. Roads owned by council may be major or minor roads. Covers less than 1200 mm may require dispensation from the relevant road authority.

**Note 3:** Protective slabbing must be installed where minimum depth of cover requirements cannot be met or are required to meet specific safety requirements. Bridging slabbing for transmission pressure assets may be replaced with protection slabbing following APA engineering assessment.

**Note 4:** The requirement for bridging slabs can be downgrade to physical protection slabbing where APA engineering assessment is completed and approved.

**Note 5:** Installation within railway reserve shall be in accordance with both AS 4799 and the respective operating standard for the gas assets i.e. AS 2885 and AS 4645.

**Note 6:** The minimum depth of cover of 2,000 mm shall consider future scour of the drain or waterway crossing. For man-made drains the depth of cover can be reduced to 1200 mm if sealed (i.e. concreted) and appropriately designed. For transmission pressure assets, waterway crossings shall be designed in accordance with AS 2885.1 – 2018 Clause 5.8.6.2. For all assets, as a minimum the following shall be considered;

- a) A hydrological investigation to determine the stream power under peak stream, watercourse or waterway flows. The investigation shall determine the 1 in 100 year flood and the probable maximum flood and intermediate (optional) flood conditions.
- b) A geotechnical investigation to determine the physical parameters of the crossings, and using the information from the hydrological investigation, the erosion potential. This assessment should also consider the meander potential of the watercourse so that the limits of special construction can be defined.

**Table 7 Minimum Depth of Cover Requirements for Customer Offtakes (Services)**

Asset Location	Customer Offtake size	
	≤ DN50	> DN50 and ≤ DN110 (Note 1)
Roadway	450 mm	600 mm
Private Property	300 mm	450 mm

**Note 1:** Customer offtakes (services) with diameters greater than DN110 shall have depth of cover in accordance with **Table 6**.

Changes to surface conditions (e.g. changing from nature strip to road pavement) or which place the gas asset in an inaccessible position (e.g. with excessive cover) may require slabbing, recoating and / or relocation. Changes to surrounding surface levels or conditions must also consider drainage and the potential to result in erosion of cover for gas assets. Additionally, gas fittings such as valves, stopple fittings or flanges must not be located underneath road pavement. An APA Engineering assessment will be required if this is not feasible, refer to **Section 6**.

Where a new hardstand surface is installed on non-metallic distribution pressure mains (e.g. a painted concrete driveway), consideration should be given to including a casing or enveloper pipe to APA requirements for insertion of future gas assets. This will ensure that the new hardstand surface is not modified as part of the future gas installation. Where a casing or enveloper pipe is installed for future insertion works surveyed as-constructed records are to be provided to APA Networks for incorporation into the GIS records.

For transmission pressure gas assets, any landscaping material should be level within the easement or a minimum of 3 m (but preferably 6 m) to each side of the pipeline, to permit excavating equipment to operate without having to destroy the adjacent landscaping.

## 4.5 Casings Vent Stacks

Casings provide mechanical protection and protection to gas assets from external loadings. Some cased crossings are sealed and fitted with a casing vent stack, which gas leaks are identified via.

The following APA requirements are to be applied for works near casing vent stacks:

- Casing vent stacks cannot be removed unless an alternative arrangement has been approved by APA Networks or they have been assessed as being redundant;
- Unfettered access is to be maintained to casing vent stacks; and
- Minimum distance from casing vent stack discharge point to any electrical installation or overhead structure must be 1000 mm.

## 4.6 Earthing and Electrical Effects

Steel gas assets are susceptible to adverse effects from electrical sources such as above and below ground cables, substations, transformers, earth rods, cathodic protection systems or electrified tram / train lines.

Without any further information or engineering assessment, earthing systems for distribution ( $\geq 11\text{kV}$ ) and transmission ( $\geq 66\text{kV}$ ) power lines must satisfy the Earth Potential Rise (EPR) Level 1 (Conservative) compliance of AS/NZS 4853 – 2012 Table 4.3 & 4.5 which specifies separation distances from pipe appurtenances (e.g. valves, regulators, isolation joints), access points or earth points (including cathodic protection test points). For the potential hazards to be accepted as low risk on the basis of a Level 1 assessment the separation between a conductive structure or substation and pipeline subject to EPR shall be greater than the values given in **Table 8** below.

**Table 8 Separation Distances for Pipeline Subject to EPR from Power Lines (Level 1 Assessment)**

Fault Current or Actual Current (A)  (Note 2, 3)	Separation Required (m) - Note 1				
	Distribution ( $\geq 11\text{kV}$ )	Power Line	Transmission ( $\geq 66\text{kV}$ )	Power Line	
	100 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	500 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	100 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	500 $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$	
150	40	190	N/A	N/A	
300	80	390	N/A	N/A	
500	130	660	N/A	N/A	
750	200	1,000	N/A	N/A	
1,000	270	1,300	60	310	
3,000	N/A	N/A	190	940	
6,000	N/A	N/A	380	1,900	
10,000	N/A	N/A	635	>3,500	

**Note 1:** Earth resistivity of 500  $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  shall be used for dry sand or rock and 100  $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  for all other cases.

**Note 2:** If the fault current is unknown for a distribution power line ( $\geq 11\text{kV}$ ), a fault current of 1000 A shall be used for the first pass assessment.

**Note 3:** If the transmission power line ( $\geq 66\text{kV}$ ) uses an OHEW, uses values up to 3,000 A (this assumes a current split of 30% of 10 kA). For lines without an OHEW, use values up to 10,000 A for current going down the structure.

Without any further information or engineering assessment, distribution ( $\geq 11$  kV) and transmission ( $\geq 66$  kV) power lines parallel to steel gas assets must satisfy the Low Frequency Induction (LFI) Level 1 (Conservative) compliance of AS/NZS 4853 – 2012 Table 4.2 & 4.4 which specifies maximum acceptable power line to pipeline exposure length.

Per AS/NZS 4853 – 2012 the pipeline expose length (average separation for the parallel section) under LFI conditions shall be less than the values given in **Table 9** below.

**Table 9 Exposure Length for Pipeline Subject to LFI from Power Lines (Level 1 Assessment)**

Power line to pipeline separation (m)	Exposure Length (m) – Note 1		
	Distribution Power Line ( $\geq 11$ kV) – 100 $\Omega$ .m	Power Line	Transmission Power Line ( $\geq 66$ kV) – 100 $\Omega$ .m
5	180		95
10	210		110
20	240		127
50	310		165
100	400		210
200	550		290
500	950		500

**Note 1:** Without soil resistivity data, assessments are to be completed assuming 100  $\Omega$ .m. If soil resistivity data is available refer to AS/NZS 4853 – 2012.

Where AS/NZS 4853 Level 1 EPR or LFI requirements cannot be achieved a Level 2 and/or 3 assessment will be required.

The third party must provide to APA detailed plans of any source(s) of earthing and/ or electrical effects proposed to be located in the vicinity of steel gas assets, with an assessment report compliant with AS/NZS 4853 Electrical Hazards on Metallic Pipelines. This assessment report is to determine any effects to existing cathodic protection or induced voltage mitigation systems from these types of installations. The third party must address any relevant requirements and any recommendations and/or actions must be implemented to the satisfaction of APA Networks. All cost association with the study, and implementing its recommendations and/ or actions are to be borne by the third party. The third party must also complete validation testing upon completion of construction and provide all findings/ reports to APA Networks.

Hazards which may arise due to electrical systems located in the vicinity of steel gas assets include the following:

- Accidental contact between gas assets and electrical systems;
- Capacitive coupling;
- Conductive coupling;
- Electromagnetic induction;
- Low Frequency Induction (LFI);
- Earth Potential Rise (EPR), including due to fault current or lightning discharge; and,
- Adverse cathodic protection interference in excess of those allowed under AS 2832.1 or relevant state regulations

## 4.7 Temporary and Permanent Vehicle Crossings

Vehicle crossings over existing gas assets are limited to light vehicles (Gross Vehicle Mass not greater than 4.5 tonnes unless advised otherwise by APA Networks in writing) on unsealed surfaces or Heavy Vehicles (compliant General Access Vehicles) on established road pavements.

Any proposed new crossings must be assessed and authorised in writing by APA Networks.

A maximum surface pressure of 400 kPa is allowable directly above buried gas assets. However, any surface pressure exceeding this limit or where cover over the gas asset has been reduced from **Table 6** will require an APA Engineering Assessment and approval.

Where soil conditions exhibit poor compaction and load bearing characteristics, such as wet soil conditions, equipment is not permitted to cross the gas asset irrespective of weight without establishing a stable sealed surface or road plates.

Crane footings or bog mats must not be placed where the angle of repose can influence an existing gas asset without express written approval by APA. Where the existing gas asset is within the angle of response, the maximum surface pressure due to the crane must be provided.

## **5 PART 3 - CONSTRUCTION AND LAND USE REQUIREMENTS**

Extreme care should be exercised at all times when working around existing gas assets, as repair works will be fully chargeable and may result in delays to any works. Refer to the duty of care outlined in **Section 1.4** and the requirements of this section when selecting construction methods.

### **5.1 Land Use Change**

Where works proposed by a third party may result in a change in land use within the Measurement Length (as defined in AS/NZS 2885.6 for Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum) of transmission assets, such works may also be subject to formal approval requirements through APA Networks and applicable local and state government planning processes.

This may also require a Safety Management Study (SMS) report be completed and approved by APA Networks. This SMS report is generated from an SMS workshop involving an independent SMS facilitator, third party and APA Networks. APA Networks is the owner of the SMS report and any resulting recommendation/ actions must be implemented to the satisfaction of APA Networks prior to the commencement of any physical works.

Certain categories of development, such as Sensitive Use Locations (refer to **Table 14 Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations**), are not appropriate to be located with the Measurement Length. In certain circumstances, the otherwise unacceptable risks associated with such developments may be alleviated with the aid of installing protective slabbing over the transmission pipeline or undertaking other protection and mitigation measures.

Sensitive Use Locations near transmission pipelines are designated under AS/NZS 2885.6 and identify land where the consequences of a Failure Event may be increased because it is developed for use by sectors of the community who may be unable to protect themselves from the consequences of a pipeline Failure Event.

Sensitive uses are defined as follows;

- Schools, which includes colleges
- Hospitals and aged care facilities such as nursing homes, elderly people's homes
- Prisons and jails
- Sheltered housing
- Buildings with five or more stories
- Large community and leisure facilities, large open air gatherings
- Day care facilities
- Other potentially difficult to evacuate facilities
- Other structures as defined by relevant local councils.

For further information regarding the SMS process, refer to APA Networks Encroachment and Land Use Change SMS Trigger Procedure, **400-PR-L-0003**.

### **5.2 Permits and Site Watch**

Transmission pressure assets and critical distribution pressure assets, must have a permit issued prior to proposed works in the vicinity of the existing assets, including any proving activities. Following the issue of a permit, a site watch inspector may be required to verify that the activities are carried out appropriately.

Other distribution pressure assets not considered critical will only require site watch as determined by APA Networks.

Where a permit is required, the response provided to the BYDA enquiry will include the relevant forms and process to be followed for submitting a permit request.

While BYDA recommends completing the request two business days prior to undertaking works, this is to ensure that the location information is obtained. This may not allow sufficient time for APA Networks to supply site watch. Further delays may be experienced if the proposed works are significantly complicated, do not meet the requirements of this document or if insufficient information is provided.

**It is an offence in all jurisdictions to undertake activities in the vicinity of transmission pipelines without prior authorisation by the operator.**

### **5.3 Coating Surveys and Leakage Surveys**

Where proposed works have potential to indirectly damage pipe coating (i.e. due to compaction) or result in a leak of the gas asset (e.g. vibration of cast iron pipes), additional monitoring activities such as Direct Current Voltage Gradient (**DCVG**) or leakage surveys may be required.

If required, chargeable DCVG surveys will be conducted prior to works to establish any existing coating faults which exist on the gas asset. A subsequent DCVG survey will be conducted at the conclusion of works, and where new faults have developed on the gas asset, repairs shall be made with costs charged to the works owner. Surveys can be conducted prior to finalising road surfaces to avoid costly repairs.

A similar chargeable survey program can be applied where leakage surveys are required. However, additional surveys may be necessary throughout works to ensure work crews do not operate in a gaseous environment once leaks are caused.

### **5.4 Pipeline Repairs, Recoating and Slabbing**

Buried steel assets operated by APA Networks are coated to provide protection from corrosion.

Where the surface conditions above a buried steel pipe are changed which may limit future access to the existing gas asset an assessment of the coating condition will likely be triggered.

The requirement for pipeline recoating is assessed by APA Networks on a case by case basis, based on the proposed works, but will generally be dependent on the following:

- The asset class;
- The existing coating type, age and condition;
- Increase in loading that can bring forward any pipeline anomalies; and,
- Changes limiting access to the existing asset(s), such as the installation of slabbing, road pavement, culverts, embankment ramps or any other feature.

A chargeable coating survey carried out in accordance with **Section 5.3** may be required to assess the condition of the existing gas asset coating.

Recoating and/ or associated slabbing works over any gas asset will be determined by APA Networks Engineering Assessments and any applicable risk assessments (Safety Management Study or Formal Safety Assessment).

Pipeline repairs, recoating and slabbing that form part of any third party commercial agreement will be charged to the third party.

The requirement for, and the extent of, slabbing over any APA Networks operated asset will be determined by APA at its sole discretion and may depend on factors other than only changes in depth of cover discussed in **Section 4.4**. Slabbing may be required for the following reasons:

- Removable protective slab to provide protection from third party mechanical excavation;
- Bridging slab to provide protection from external loadings e.g. insufficient depth of cover combined with vehicle traffic.

Slabbing must be installed with adequate separation from the pipe, which may impact the undisturbed cover requirement, and cannot be installed directly underneath road pavement or at surface level.

Any bridging slab designs prepared by a third party must be accompanied by certification from the registered practising structural engineer (Registered Professional Engineer Queensland (**RPEQ**) required for works in Queensland, and so on as required for other States and Territories) confirming that the design is adequate to prevent pipeline loading.

## **5.5 Exposure of Buried Gas Assets**

### **5.5.1 General**

Excavation works covers Non-Destructive Digging (**NDD**) and mechanical excavation. All such excavations must be completed in accordance with APA's direction.

The Third Party or its Contractor can perform exposure works on APA Networks operated assets via NDD using vacuum excavation and subsequent mechanical excavation works under the following conditions:

- **A current BYDA request is available for the works.**
- An approved Authority to Work Permit (**ATWP**) is issued for works near transmission pipelines or critical mains.
- APA Site Watch Officer is present for works near transmission pipelines or critical mains as outlined on the ATWP.
- The Third Party (or its Contractor) shall ensure they have their own SWMS, Risk Assessment, Environmental Management Plan, Tool Box Talk, Traffic Management and Pre-Start in line with their own corporate policy in place prior to works commencing.
- All underground assets have been identified by surface marking where within or close to the excavation area prior to proceeding with planned proving works (i.e. hand or NDD (e.g. Hydro-Vacuum Excavation). Any non-recorded assets should be identified prior to breaking ground (e.g. excavation or cutting).
- A check for gas leaks has been conducted prior to the commencement of work.
- If the mechanical excavation operator cannot see the spotter (where applicable, APA Site Watch Officer), he or she must stop moving immediately and not resume movement until contact has been established. Spotters must be aware of their surroundings and should never walk into the path of a vehicle, moving equipment or a swinging load. They need to scan the ground to become aware of any trip or fall hazards.
- If excavations are greater than 1.5 m or ground conditions are considered unstable benching/ battering/ shoring must be utilised. Additionally, appropriate ladders/ ramps or steps must be utilised to ensure safe access and egress.
- **Under no circumstances is mechanical equipment to be used within 300 mm of any gas asset.**

### **5.5.2 Physically Proving Gas Assets**

Prior to mechanical excavation of the gas assets, the asset shall be physically proven by NDD or through the use of hand excavation. The method used will vary based on the criticality of the asset. The requirements in **Section 5.5.1** shall be implemented prior to physically proving the gas asset.

#### **Technique 1 – Vacuum Excavation (Critical and Non-Critical Gas Assets)**

A vacuum truck can be used to prove and expose the gas asset. Please ensure the requirements detailed in **Section 5.5.3** are adhered to.

#### **Technique 2 – Hand Excavation (Critical and Non-Critical Gas Assets)**

If the anticipated depth of cover of the gas asset is less than 1m (measured from the top of pipe) then hand excavation shall be used to expose the gas asset. The use of round edge shovels should be used to avoid damage to the pipe or coating. In the event that the anticipated depth of cover of the gas asset is greater than 1m then mechanical excavation can be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of **Section 5.5.4** but must stop when within 1m of the gas asset (i.e. 1.3m anticipated depth means that 300 mm of cover can be removed by mechanical excavation and the

remainder by hand excavation as described above. The anticipated depth shall be based on the shallowest result from BYDA or pipe locator.

### **Technique 3 – Hand + Excavation (Non-Critical Gas Assets ONLY)**

If the gas asset is deemed non-critical then a combination of hand digging and excavation can be used. This technique requires the third party to hand excavate 300 mm then mechanically excavate the first 150 mm. In this technique the hand excavation shall always lead the mechanical excavation by 150 mm. Once within 300 mm of the gas asset then only hand excavation is allowed.

### **5.5.3 Hydro-Vacuum Excavation**

Where hydro-vacuum excavation is used in the vicinity or to expose existing gas assets, the following conditions must be applied:

- Ensure the general requirements in **Section 5.5.1** are adhered to prior to the works commencing.
- Root cutting heads shall not be used at any time.
- When locating pipelines and mains, a maximum water pressure of 2500 PSI (17200 kPa) may be used to a depth no greater than 450 mm. Below this depth, the maximum water pressure shall be set in accordance with **Table 10** for the asset type in the vicinity.
- When locating customer offtakes (services), a maximum water pressure of 2500 PSI (17200 kPa) may be used to a depth no greater than 300 mm. Below this depth, the maximum water pressure shall be set in accordance with **Table 10** for the asset type in the vicinity.
- Where air is used in place of water the air pressure shall not exceed 175 PSI (1200 kPa).
- A minimum distance of 200 mm shall be maintained between the nozzle tip and subsoil and vertical movements avoided (i.e. nozzle shall not touch or be inserted into soil).
- The wand shall never remain motionless during excavation. Aiming directly at the gas asset shall be avoided at all times.
- NDD vacuum equipment must not come into contact (impact) with the pipe or coating.
- Once a gas asset has been exposed via hydro-vacuum methods, a visual check must be undertaken to ensure no damage has occurred to the pipe or its coating. Damage caused to the pipe coating by the third party will be chargeable.
- A dead man trigger or similar, shall be installed and used on the wand.
- If conduits are to be installed for identification of the gas assets location the conduit shall be offset to one side and recorded or a flexible conduit installed over the gas asset. The placement of PVC pipes directly on the gas asset may cause damage to the pipe coating and require repair at the contractor's expense.
- Vacuum excavated holes shall be cleaned of any rocks and debris and backfilled with a minimum 300 mm of sand.

Personnel operating NDD equipment shall monitor ground conditions to determine and adjust for the lowest water pressure setting and vacuum used to adequately expose the gas asset. The objective shall be to use the lowest possible pressure and vacuum required to adequately excavate in order to minimise risk of coating and/or pipe damage. **Table 10** provides the maximum water pressure to be used for various pipe and coating types.

**Table 10 Maximum Water Pressure for Hydro-Vacuum Excavation**

Pipe / Coating Type		Max. Water Pressure (PSI)	Pipe / Coating Type	Max. Water Pressure (PSI)
Steel	Coal Tar Enamel Coated	1,000	<b>Steel – Mummified fittings</b> (e.g. valves, flanges)	Not Permitted
	Polyethylene Tape Coated	1,000	<b>Cast Iron</b>	1,000
	Polyethylene Coated	2,000	<b>Polyethylene</b>	2,000
	Trilaminate Coated	2,000	<b>Nylon or PVC</b>	1,500
	FBE or HBE Coated	2,000	<b>Unknown Material or Steel Pipe Coating</b>	1,000
	Uncoated	2,500		

**5.5.4 Mechanical Excavation**

Prior to commencing any excavation works the general requirements in **Section 5.5.1** must be adhered to.

Where works are to be carried out within 3 m of the gas alignment and to 1 m of the known gas main depth, the contractor is required to pothole and expose the gas asset as outlined in **Section 5.5.5**.

Prior to the mechanical excavation commencing ensure the excavator is in working order and all pre-start equipment checks are completed.

Excavators with general purpose buckets (e.g. mud bucket, general purpose teeth) up to 30 tonnes are permitted to conduct mechanical excavations in the vicinity of existing APA gas assets in accordance with APA requirements. Any variation of excavator size or bucket type will require assessment and approval by APA Networks. Buckets with any type of tiger or penetration teeth are not permitted unless explicitly approved by APA Networks.

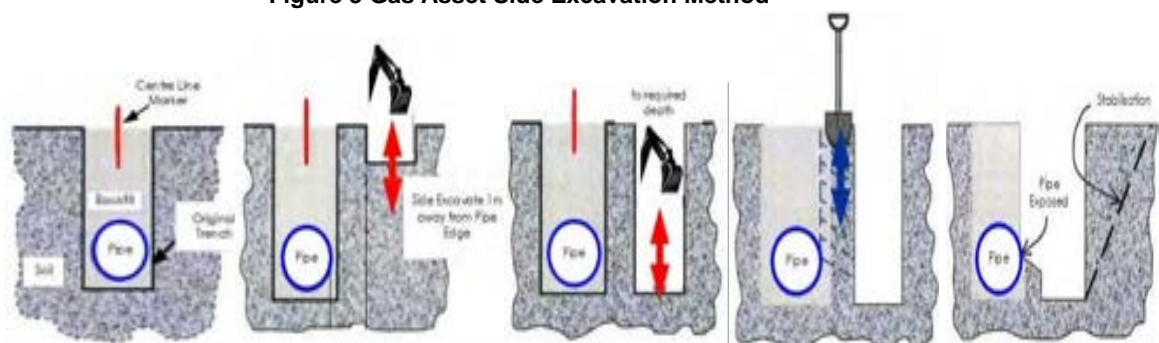
**Critical Gas Assets**

No mechanical equipment shall be used within 1 m of the potholed depth of the critical gas asset, except under explicit on site direction from an APA representative (i.e. APA Site Watch).

**Under no circumstances is mechanical equipment to be used within 300 mm of any gas asset.**

Once the gas asset has been positively proven, as outlined in **Section 5.5.2**, mechanical excavations can commence at a minimum of 300 mm offset from the outer edge of the pipe. The third party shall not mechanical excavate directly over a critical gas asset, with hand excavation only directly over the alignment or to expose the asset.

**Figure 3 Gas Asset Side Excavation Method**



### Non-Critical Gas Assets

Mechanical excavation is permitted directly over the top of non-critical gas assets however **under no circumstances is mechanical excavation equipment to be used within 300 mm of any gas asset.** If the third party is in doubt with regards to the criticality of the gas asset, then the excavation method outlined for critical gas assets shall be used.

Prior to the mechanical excavation commencing, the asset shall be physically proved as outlined in **Section 5.5.2**. Once the depth has been physically proven the third party can proceed with excavating around the gas asset until within 300 mm. From this point hand excavation or NDD is required.

#### 5.5.6 Protection During Exposure

Additional protection measures are required where an exposed gas asset may be subject to impact from construction activities, sagging of exposed pipe and trench instability. Any works requiring exposure and protection of the gas asset should have an accompanying methodology and approval by APA Networks.

Physical protection (e.g. structural steel protection, sandbags, wrapped with split PVC pipe) should be installed around the exposed gas asset when exposed, particularly when new infrastructure is planned to be installed crossing below the gas asset. If the gas asset is to be exposed for longer than one day or otherwise left unattended, suitable barricades, security fencing and/ or steel plates will be required to provide protection from vehicles, dropped objects (such as construction materials) or vandalism.

Unsupported exposed pipe lengths require protection from sagging by using suitable supports such as sandbags or slings. Where slings or other support types come into contact with the gas asset, protection methods must be employed (e.g. wrapped with split PVC pipe) to prevent damage to the existing pipe or coating. Exposed unsupported joints must also be identified and supported during works. The maximum allowable length of exposed pipe without support is provided in **Table 11**.

**Table 11 Maximum Unsupported Lengths of Exposed Pipe**

Gas Asset Diameter (mm)	Steel Maximum Unsupported Length (mm)	Polyethylene Maximum Unsupported Length (mm)	Other Material Maximum Unsupported Length (mm)
≤20	2,000	1,500	1,500 <b>(Note 1)</b>
>20 & ≤63	2,800	2,000	
>63 & ≤100	3,600	3,000	
>100 & ≤150	4,200		
>150 & ≤250	5,000		
>250	5,700		

**Note 1:** Particular care should be taken for other materials include cast iron, PVC or nylon due to the unpredictable nature of the joints.

Additional protection and support during trench or bell-hole excavation works to minimise ground instability may also be necessary to protect the integrity of existing gas assets during exposure works. Trenches are to be inspected prior to commencing works each day and monitored by the onsite party responsible for the excavation. APA shall be notified of any condition likely to affect the stability of trench.

Any deep excavations, within 3 m of a gas asset, shall be designed and constructed such that the effects of subsidence, collapse or extreme weather will not affect the gas asset. Any such excavations prepared by a third party must be accompanied by certification from a registered practising engineer (RPEQ required for works in Queensland, and so on as required for other States and Territories) confirming that the design is adequate to protect the gas asset.

### 5.5.7 Backfill and Reinstatement

Prior to backfilling, a minimum of 150 mm of bedding sand must be placed around all gas assets. Bedding sand shall be in accordance with APA specification **400-SP-L-0002**, which can be provided to third parties upon request. The bedding must be compacted in accordance with **Section 5.10**, including suitable compaction and backfill of the underside of the gas asset to prevent any further vertical movement during subsequent layers above the asset. APA may require geo-fabric installation between different trench reinstatement products to prevent sand migration in which nonwoven fabric is required and needs to extend 1000 mm past either side of the utility crossing.

The bedding material shall be clean, free from all sharp objects, sandbags, clay material, vegetable matter, building debris and disused road paving material to the specification provided by APA. Recycled bedding material and stabilised sand must not be used unless explicitly approved by APA.

The remainder of the excavation shall be backfilled and compacted in accordance with **Section 5.10**, at maximum increments of 300 mm to a density which is similar to the surrounding sub-grade material. Only clean fill material shall be used, preferably the same as the natural soil in the area, and free from ash, weeds and pest plants, salt or any chemicals which could harm the gas assets. Where required, concrete slabbing shall be installed in accordance with **Section 5.4**.

In all circumstances gas warning tape / marker board shall be installed in accordance with the following requirements:

- Gas warning tape installed at 300 mm below finished surface level.
- Gas marker board installed 300 mm above the top of the pipe.

Note, where gas warning tape cannot be installed 300 mm below the finished surface level due to road pavement box out, marker board is to be installed 50 mm below the box out work zone.

In situations where a physical protection slab or bridging slab has been utilised an additional layer of gas marker board must be installed 50 mm above the slabbing.

The excavated area is to be reinstated to the original condition or as approved by APA and the relevant local council, road authority or landowner as applicable. Any marker signs removed during excavation works must also be reinstated in original positions. Additional marker signs may be required at new infrastructure crossings as directed by APA.

## 5.6 Trenchless Excavation

Trenchless excavation covers horizontal directional drilling (**HDD**), boring, pipe bursting and tunnelling. These activities are considered high risk that require additional controls to prevent damage to existing gas assets. This includes proving the existing gas asset location and depth for all horizontal bores, as well as providing a witness trench to verify that the bore will pass the asset with sufficient separation.

A witness trench must be used in addition to live electronic tracking of the bore head. The witness trench must be prepared to the specification provided in **Table 12**. The progressive measurement of the length of the bore must also be made and plotted along its proposed direction to ensure the bore head has not missed the witness trench. The bore head must be exposed in the witness trench, when the crossing is above the existing gas asset.

For all assets installed via trenchless excavation a vertical separation aligning with the maximum borehole diameter (e.g. reamed diameter) shall be demonstrated. For transmission pressure and distribution pressure assets this vertical separation distance is 1000 mm and 600 mm, respectively.

If the works run parallel to a transmission pressure or critical gas assets a minimum separation distance of 3 m must be maintained. For non-critical gas assets, the minimum separation distance of 1 m must be maintained. For works running parallel to gas assets, proving of the actual location of the gas asset must occur every 4 m.

**Note:** It is expected that HDD operators working near gas assets hold the national competency RIICCM202 – Identify, location and protect underground service.

**Table 12 Minimum Witness Trench Dimensions**

Crossing Type	Witness Trench Depth	Witness Trench Dimensions
Crossing Above Existing Gas Asset	To bottom (invert) of gas asset	Witness trench shall be 1000 mm to 2000 mm in front of the gas asset on the approach side. Witness trench shall be min. 1500 mm long and 300 mm wide centred on bore centre line.
Crossing Below Existing Gas Asset	To bottom (invert) of gas asset plus 500 mm	

Dispensation may be considered where detailed long sections are provided for assessment by APA and where depths of existing gas assets or separation to the bore are greater than 2500 mm.

Pipe bursting is not permitted within 1000 mm of an existing gas asset.

### 5.7 Piles, Piers or Poles

No piling such as pile-driving, sheet-piling or hammer-piling is permitted within 15 m of an existing gas asset unless explicit consent has been provided by APA. In all instances, vertical bored (augured) piles, piers or poles are preferred.

Where installation of piles, piers or poles are proposed between 500 mm and 1000 mm clearance from a gas asset (distribution and transmission pressures, respectively), the area directly below the proposed pile, pier or post location must be excavated to a level equivalent to the bottom (invert) of the existing gas asset, and works started from that depth.

**Note:** Proving of the gas asset must be completed in accordance with the requirements set out in **Section 5.5.2** prior to the commencement of any works.

Temporary steel plates may also be installed between the gas asset and the proposed pile, pier or post used for vertical bore methods within this clearance to provide extra protection.

**Note:** Direct vibration monitoring on the gas main may be required depending upon the installation method utilised. Refer to **Section 5.9** for APA Networks vibration limits.

### 5.8 Hot Works for Construction Activities

Typical hot works include grinding, welding, thermal or oxygen cutting or heating, and other related heat producing or spark-producing operations. Heat sources or hot works must not impact gas assets, taking into consideration that the ground or adjacent structures may also be capable of transmitting heat.

In order to safely undertake hot works, response procedures in the event of fire or flammable gas detection must be prepared and monitoring for flammable gases must be undertaken during works.

APA must approve any hot works where there is less than 300 mm ground cover to buried gas assets, or within 5,000 mm of any exposed gas assets (including any pits or valve covers). A heat shield or barrier may be required to provide protection if it cannot be demonstrated that works can be undertaken without impacting the gas asset.

### 5.9 Vibration Limits

Significant vibration may arise from activities such as blasting, piling, tunnelling and HDD/boring.

To avoid damage to existing APA Networks operated pipes and coatings, the following vibration limits must not be exceeded at any point on the pipe:

- a) For cast iron mains: 5 mm/s maximum Peak Particle Velocity (**PPV**) measured on the pipe.
- b) For steel pipe with a coal tar enamel (**CTE**) coating or with poor coating health: 10 mm/s maximum PPV measured on the pipe.
- c) For non-coal tar enamel pipe coatings and other pipe materials (i.e. steel, PE, PVC or Nylon): 20 mm/s maximum PPV measured on the pipe.

d) For blasting, the above vibration limits can be increased if supported by calculations in accordance with Design Guidelines for Buried Steel Pipeline – American Lifelines Alliance American Society of Civil Engineers (**ASCE**) and approved in writing by an APA Networks Integrity Engineer.

**Note:** Cast iron mains are particularly susceptible to damage by vibration. The PPV limit may not prevent leaks from cast iron and may require additional gas leakage survey activities during works in accordance with **Section 5.3**.

For vibration monitoring adopt an alarm at 80% of the acceptable PPV value and when the alarm is activated, the work must stop and be re-assessed. Short incursions up to 100% are acceptable, for sustained periods of vibration longer than 5 minutes, works must be stopped.

The zone of influence for vibration assessment undertaken by the third party is shown below;

- For compaction, refer to **Table 13**.
- For trenchless excavation (HDD/ boring), refer to **Section 5.6**.
- For piling refer to **Section 5.7**.
- For blasting refer to **Section 5.11**.

## 5.10 Compaction Limits

Compaction activities such as establishing a base course for a road pavement may result in damage to the pipes and coatings of existing gas assets. Compaction limits in the vicinity of existing gas assets are summarised in **Table 13**.

**Table 13 Maximum Compaction Limits**

Horizontal Separation (m)	Minimum Cover to Top of Gas Asset (mm)	Compaction Limits
≤3 (Note 1)	300	Small handheld compactor only
	500	Large handheld compactor Maximum 4 tonne tandem drum static roller
	750	Maximum 8 tonne tandem drum static roller
	1200	Maximum 10 tonne tandem drum static roller subject to APA approval
>3 & ≤10	All	Maximum 8 tonne tandem drum vibrating roller
>10 & ≤15	All	Maximum 10 tonne tandem drum vibrating roller
>15	All	Any compaction method

**Note 1:** Compaction within 3 m of gas assets is limited to static rollers. If vibration compaction is necessary a robust vibration assessment and construction methodology signed off by an RPEQ for works in Queensland, and so on as required for other States and Territories, will need to be produced by the third party for review and approval by an APA Networks Integrity Engineer.

## 5.11 Blasting / Seismic Survey / Explosives

Blasting, seismic survey or the use of explosives is not permitted within 100 m of a gas asset unless explicit approval is provided by APA Networks. The size and quantity of the explosives to be used will determine how close to the pipeline blasting will be permitted. In all cases, blasting methods must be arranged to limit ground vibrations so that the peak particle velocity does not exceed acceptable limits. At no stages will blasting be permitted within 3 m of the pipeline.

### **5.12 Suspended Materials above Gas Assets and No Go Zones for Cranes**

Where gas assets are exposed, no cranes, excavators or backhoes are permitted to carry or suspend materials directly over or across a gas asset without an APA Networks approved lifting plan and SWMS.

Outriggers must be set up outside a 3 m radius from gas assets unless otherwise approved by APA Networks in writing.

### **5.13 Temporary Materials**

In all instances it is preferred that temporary materials (e.g. soil, shipping containers) are not stored on top of transmission pressure and critical gas assets. Temporary material must not restrict access and should be placed at least 1,500 mm from the alignment of these assets unless otherwise approved by APA Networks.

## **6 PART 4 - ALTERATION OF EXISTING GAS ASSETS**

Where the proposed third party works do not comply with the requirements of this document, and adequate additional controls or a specialised engineering solutions cannot be developed, alteration of the existing gas assets will be required.

Gas asset alterations will only be undertaken under a Recoverable Works Agreement (**RWA**) appropriate to the scope and extent of the works required.

An Early Works Agreement (**EWA**) may also be required where works are proposed which require proving, engineering design activities or purchase of long lead items. This will allow for completion of these items prior to execution of a RWA and avoid delaying works.

If either or both these agreements are required, then APA Networks will enter negotiations with the relevant third party and any costs will be payable by that third party.

## 7 GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**Table 14** Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Term/ Abbreviation	Meaning
AGN	Australian Gas Networks
APA	Each entity that forms part of the APA Group
APA Engineering Assessment	Covers technical assessments which may involve field integrity assessments that may or may not include the use of specialist Consultants managed by APA.
APA Networks Operated Assets	APA Networks acts as the asset operator on behalf of entities Australian Gas Networks (AGN), Allgas, APA, Origin and Queensland Nitrates (QNP) and operates in New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria.
APA Permit Issuing Officer	The APA Permit Issuing Officer is responsible for opening the Permit To Work, validating APA Networks assets have been located and being the Site Watch for works within the gas Easement or Protected Zone.
AS	Australian Standard
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
ATWP	Authority to Work Permit
CTE	Coal Tar Enamel
Damage	Physical damage to and interference with APA's assets. Damage includes reducing design life, coating damage, dents, scratches, rupture, cutting of cathodic protection cables. Damage can also include potential impacts that APA pipelines can have on third party assets.
BYDA	Before You Dig Australia (previously known as Dial Before You Dig (DBYD))
DCVG	Direct Current Voltage Gradient
Depth of Cover	Vertical distance from the existing natural ground surface to the top of the buried gas asset
EPR	Earth Potential Rise
ESV	Energy Safe Victoria
EWA	Early Works Agreement

Excavation	Excavation refers to manual digging or mechanised digging operation with plant or equipment which involves trenching and trenchless excavation. Trenchless excavation covers boring, Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), pipe bursting and tunnelling.
FBE	Fusion Bonded Epoxy
GIS	Geographic Information System
HBE	High Build Epoxy
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
Hot Works	Hot works are defined as grinding, welding, thermal or oxygen cutting or heating, and other related heat-producing or spark-producing operations. Heat sources or hot works must not impact pipelines, taking into consideration that the ground or adjacent structures may also be capable of transmitting heat.
LFI	Low Frequency Induction
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
MAOP	Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure
Measurement Length	The maximum length of pipeline route which presents an extended source of hazard on the basis that an event of failure could affect any part of the development or specific location relevant to the development. The maximum length corresponds to the heat radiation hazard associated with a 4.7 kW/m <sup>2</sup> heat radiation contour for an ignited full bore rupture calculated in accordance with AS/NZS 2885.6. If the pipeline is designed as a no rupture pipe, then the measurement length corresponds to a credible leak size.
NDD	Non-Destructive Digging (NDD) refers to either hand digging or Non-Destructive Pot Holing using a vacuum pipe connected to a vacuum truck with either a water lance or air lance. Hydro-Vacuum Excavation consists of a water lance and vacuum truck and is used to physically prove existing assets.
OHEW	Overhead Earth Wire
PE	Polyethylene
Pipe Bursting	Pipe bursting refers to a pipe being inserted to a larger pipe that results in the larger pipe being damaged. For an example of pipe bursting, refer to the following You-Tube video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HX5beh0ubGY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HX5beh0ubGY</a>
Pipeline Easement	The pipeline area shown on a survey plan and referenced on the property title.
Predominate Building Line	The expected predominate building line relates to the façade of the building, not necessarily the property boundary.
Protected Zone	A Protected Zone is an area extending both horizontally and longitudinally along a gas asset. It is the area where loads and/or any hot works may potentially cause damage to the gas asset.

	The Protected Zone refers to works near APA Networks gas assets or works within the vicinity of the gas assets that may cause an unacceptable risk to the asset in accordance with Table 2 Minimum Clearances or Table 3 Minimum Clearances for Construction Works and Land Use Activities
PTW	Permit to Work
PPV	Peak Particle Velocity
PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride
QNP	Queensland Nitrates Plant
RPEQ	Registered Profession Engineer Queensland
RWA	Recoverable Works Agreement
Sensitive Use Locations	<p>This is designated as Class “S” as per AS/NZS 2885.6 Pipelines - Gas and liquid petroleum - Pipeline safety management and refers to the sub location class.</p> <p>Sensitive Use Location Class (S) identifies land where the consequences of a FAILURE EVENT may be increased because it is developed for use by sectors of the community who may be unable to protect themselves from the consequences of a pipeline FAILURE EVENT.</p> <p>Sensitive uses are defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools which includes colleges</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Aged care facilities such as nursing homes, elderly people’s homes</li> <li>• Prisons and jails</li> <li>• Convalescent homes</li> <li>• Sheltered housing</li> <li>• Buildings with five or more stories</li> <li>• Large community and leisure facilities, large open air gatherings</li> <li>• Day care facilities</li> <li>• Other potentially difficult to evacuate facilities</li> <li>• Other structures as defined by relevant local councils.</li> </ul> <p>The Sensitive Use Location Class “S” must be assigned to any section of a gas transmission pipeline where there is a sensitive development within the applicable Measurement Length.</p>

Site Watch	<p>An APA Site Watch representative can be the Permit Issuing Officer for excavation work within a gas Easement or Protected Zone and is referred to as the primary spotter for excavation works.</p> <p>The secondary spotter is provided by the Contractor.</p> <p>The primary spotter has the ultimate decision regarding works within the gas Easement or Protected Zone which includes the method of excavation, starting and stopping excavation work.</p> <p>The APA Site Watch representative is the nominated competent person responsible for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making themselves highly visible and everyone on the job site should be aware of the Site Watch's role;</li> <li>• Communication to personnel operating mobile plant and equipment ensuring minimum clearance to above and below ground assets is maintained and the construction methodology is adhered to and complies with APA Networks requirements.</li> </ul> <p>Ensuring personnel do not encroach within the swing radius of the operating machinery.</p>
SMS	Safety Management Study
SMWS	Safe Work Method Statement used by APA or Contractors to execute field work. The risks and associated control measures risk assessments should be transferred to SWMS.
SRZ	Structural Root Zone
Structures	Structures refer to third party structures which includes, but is not limited to; temporary or permanent buildings, walls, canopies, footings, pile caps or retaining walls
Third Party	The person or entity and their agents or Contractors that propose to undertake work near APA assets.
Third Party Assets	Third Party Assets include roads, utilities and structures.
Third Party Excavation	Third Party Excavation which is <b>not</b> associated with APA (e.g. road works, utility installation, private development, fencing).
Third Party Works Classification	<p>The Third Party Work Classification as shown in <b>Section 3.3</b> covers the following three work classifications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No Impact to gas assets</li> <li>2. No Objection Under Conditions</li> <li>3. Enquiry Escalated for Alteration</li> </ol>
Transmission Pipeline	Gas transmission pipeline which includes all associated equipment such as cathodic protection, earthing grid, instrumentation and electrical cables.
Utilities	Includes water, wastewater, drainage, telecommunications cables, power poles and cables owned by individuals or organisations other than APA Networks.
Voltage	<p>Difference of potential normally between conductors or between conductors and earth as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Extra-low voltage – Not exceeding 50V a.c. or 120 V ripple-free d.c.</li> <li>b) Low voltage – Exceeding extra-low voltage, but not exceeding 1000 V a.c. or 1500 V d.c.</li> </ol>



	c) High voltage – Exceeding low voltage.
Works	The development of any type of buildings, structures and other obstructions (including residential buildings, pools, sheds, carports, major developments, transport infrastructure, services, stockpiles, trees), and any work that causes changes to the ground (including movement of heavy vehicles, blasting, tunnelling, pile driving, ground compaction, earthworks, open and trenchless excavations)

## 8 DOCUMENT REFERENCES

**Table 15 Document References**

<b>External Standards</b>	
API RP 1102	Steel Pipeline Crossing Railroads and Highways
AS 2832.1	Cathodic protection of metals: Pipes and cables
AS 2885.0	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: General requirements
AS/NZS 2885.1	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Design and Construction
AS/NZS 2885.2	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Welding
AS 2885.3	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Operations and Maintenance
AS 2885.5	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Field Pressure Testing
AS/NZS 2885.6	Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum: Pipeline safety management
AS/NZS 4645.1	Gas Distribution Networks - Network Management
AS/NZS 4645.2	Gas Distribution Networks - Steel Pipe Systems
AS/NZS 4645.3	Gas Distribution Networks - Plastics Pipe Systems
AS 4799	Installation of Underground Utility Services and Pipelines Within Railway Boundaries
AS 4827.1	Coating defect surveys for buried pipelines Part 1: Direct current voltage gradient (DCVG)
AS/NZS 4853	Electrical Hazards on Metallic Pipelines
AS 4970	Protection of trees on development sites
<b>Standard Policies, Procedures, Specifications, Guidelines, Forms and Templates</b>	
400-SP-L-0002	Networks Bedding Material Specification
400-PR-L-0003	Encroachment and Land Use Change SMS Trigger Procedure



# APA

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# Before You Dig Australia

Classification: Networks

<b>Enquiry date</b>	16/04/2026
<b>Sequence number</b>	271390771
<b>Work site address</b>	80 ST JOHNS AV ASHGROVE QLD 4060





**For your immediate information**

**THERE IS A GAS PIPELINE OR GAS ASSETS**

**located in close vicinity to your works.**

**Enquiry Date:** 16/04/2026  
**Enquirer:** Soft Reg  
**Sequence Number:** 271390771  
**Work Site Address:** 80 ST JOHNS AV  
ASHGROVE  
QLD 4060

Thank you for your Before You Dig enquiry regarding the location of gas assets.

**We confirm there are Gas Assets located in close vicinity of the above location.**

**Caution: Damage to gas assets may result in explosion, fire and personal injury.**

Please ensure you read all the relevant information contained in this response to your BYDA enquiry including reviewing the **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets** and clearly understand and comply with all requirements relating to your scope of work.

**If you have any queries relating to this information, or you are unable to comply with requirements of the APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets contact the APA Before You Dig Officer**

- Phone 1800 085 628
- Email [BYDA\\_APA@apa.com.au](mailto:BYDA_APA@apa.com.au)

**for clarification before proceeding with any work.**

## Before You Dig Checklist

---



### 1. Plan

- Review maps provided with this BYDA response and confirm the location of your work site is correct.
  - Review the **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets** and clearly understand requirements relating to my scope of work.
- 



### 2. Prepare

- Electronically locate gas assets and mark locations.
  - Note: Look for visible evidence of gas assets at the worksite which may not be shown on plans.
- 



### 3. Pothole

- Physically confirm ('prove') the location of gas assets by potholing by hand excavation or non-destructive vacuum excavation methods in accordance with **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets**.
  - Road authorities, councils, utilities and their authorised contractors and agents are responsible to pothole or use other suitable methods to verify the location and depth of all gas assets, including gas (inlet) services, prior to commencing any works.
- 



### 4. Protect

- Protect gas assets by maintaining clearances whilst excavating and following conditions provided by APA.
  - Where required by APA, only conducting work in proximity to gas assets while Site Watch is on site.
  - Where applicable, APA Authority To Work permit conditions are clearly understood and complied with.
  - Strap and support exposed mains and inlet services. Cover exposed mains to prevent damage until the excavation can be permanently restored.
- 



### 5. Proceed

- Only proceed with your work once you have completed all the planning, preparation, potholing and protection requirements.
  - APA BYDA response (including maps) are on site for reference at all times, and less than 30 days old.
-

## Contacts

Contacts APA Group	
Enquiry	Contact Numbers
General enquiries or feedback regarding this information or gas assets.	APA – Before You Dig Officer Phone: 1800 085 628 Email: <a href="mailto:BYDA_APA@apa.com.au">BYDA_APA@apa.com.au</a>
Gas Emergencies	Phone: 1800 GAS LEAK (1800 427 532)

## Site Watch

Site Watch is where an APA field officer attends your work site to monitor and ensure controls are in place to protect critical gas assets from damage during work.

The following rates\* apply for this service (1 hour minimum charge):

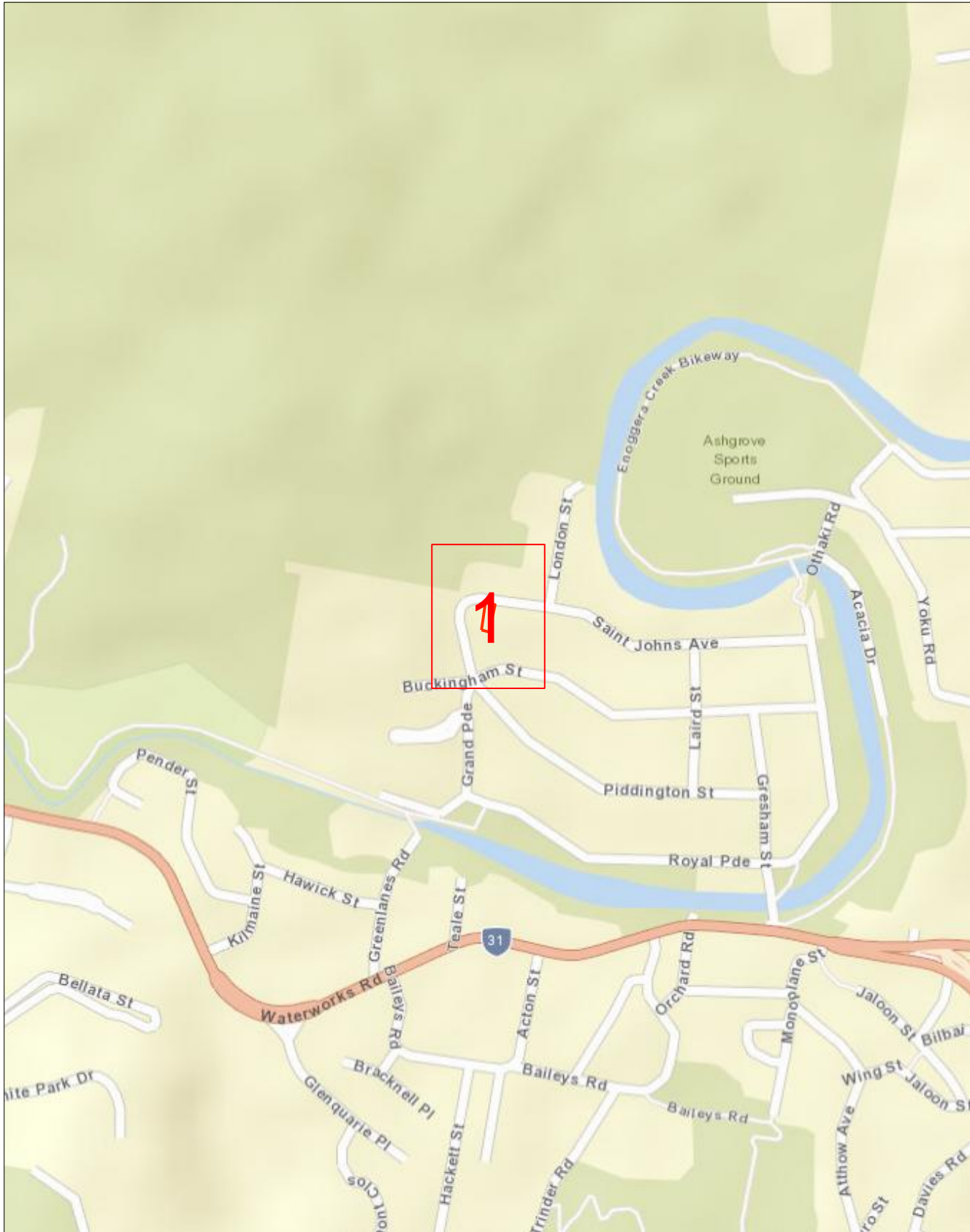
Item	Rate (excl. gst)
Site Watch – Business Hours	\$143.42 per hour
Site Watch – After Hours	\$175.06 per hour
Cancellation Fee	\$286.84
<i>Fee applies where cancellations received after 12pm (midday), 1 business day prior to the booking.</i>	

Contact APA – Before You Dig officer for state specific hours of business.

*\*The specified rates do not apply to Origin Energy LPG assets. All charges and invoicing related to these assets will be administered directly by Origin Energy. For further information contact Origin Energy.*

**Site** 80 ST JOHNS AV  
**Address:** ASHGROVE  
QLD 4060

**Sequence** 271390771  
**Number:**



Scale 1: 6000

Map Sources: Esri, Garmin, HERE, FAO, NOAA, USGS,  
© OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

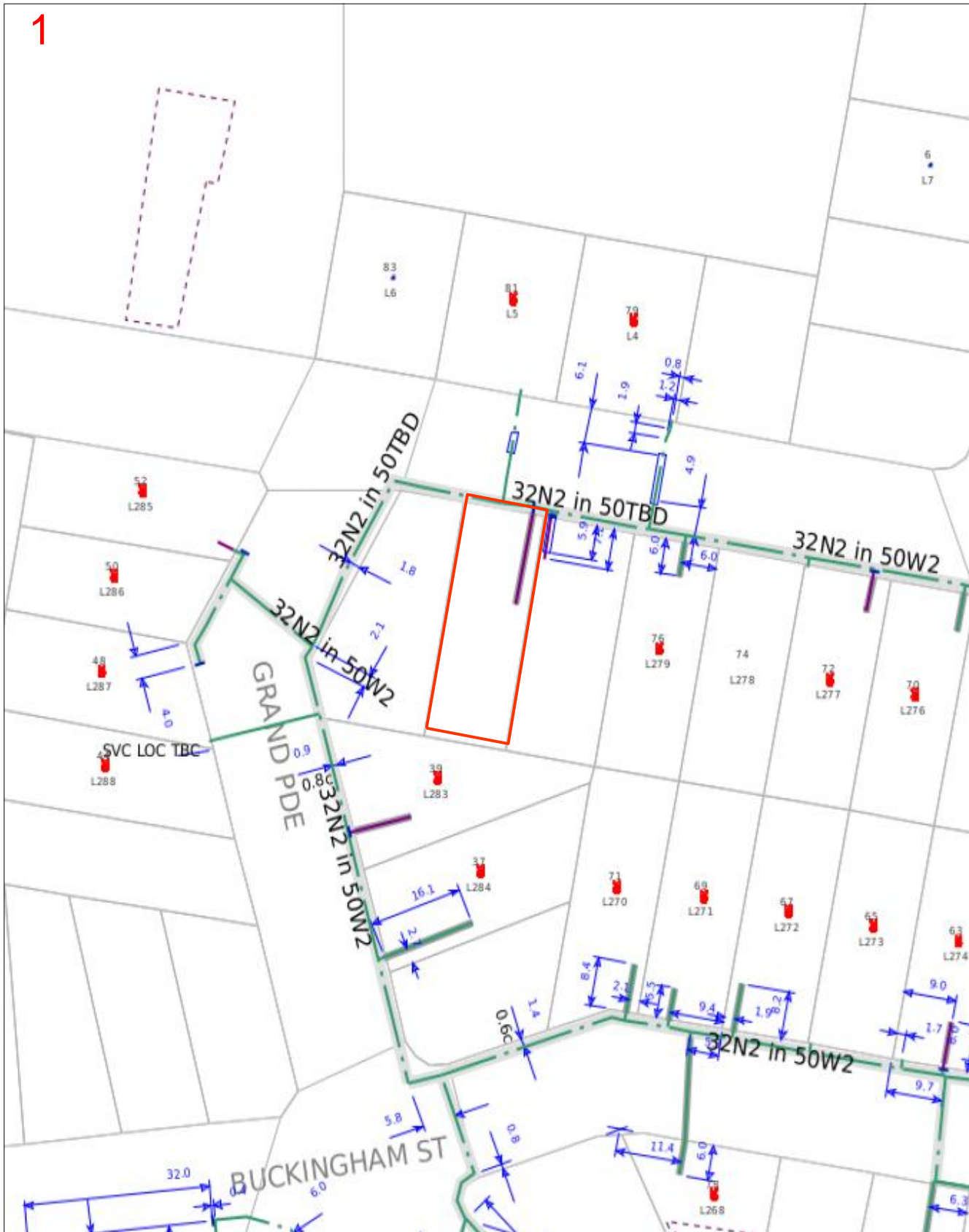


Enquiry Area



Map Key Area





Scale 1: 700

Map Sources: Esri, Garmin, HERE, FAO, NOAA, USGS,  
© OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Enquiry Area



Map Key Area



# Legend

## PIPE LEGEND: GAS TYPE AND PRESSURE

	Low pressure	Medium pressure	High pressure	Transmission
Natural gas				
Natural gas – proposed				
LPG (yellow dash)	<i>not applicable</i>			<i>not applicable</i>
Hydrogen blended (aqua dash)	<i>not applicable</i>			<i>not applicable</i>

## PIPE LEGEND: SPECIAL DESIGNATION

	Low pressure	Medium pressure	High pressure	Transmission
Critical main (yellow highlight)				
Casing (grey highlight)				<i>not applicable</i>

These designations typically apply to any pipe type and pressure

## PIPE LEGEND: OTHER STATUS

Abandoned pipe	
Idle or inactive pipe	

## ABBREVIATION

BoK	Back of kerb	FoK	Front of kerb
C	Depth of cover	NTI	Not tied in
CP	Cathodic protection		

## OBJECT SYMBOLS

Valve		CP test station		Syphon	
Buried valve		CP anode		Marker	
Regulator station		CP bond wire		Part service <sup>A</sup>	
Gas connected property		CP rectifier terminal		<sup>A</sup> A live gas service terminated underground within the property boundary, available for future extension to the gas meter.	

## PIPE CODE AND MATERIAL

P*	Polyethylene (PE)	CU	Copper
P3	Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)	N2	Nylon
S*	Steel	W2	Wrought galv iron
C*	Cast iron	W3	PE coat wrought galv iron

## INTERPRETATION EXAMPLE

	High pressure, 40 mm polyethylene in an 80 mm cast iron casing
	Medium pressure, 63 mm steel

Pipe diameter in millimetres is shown before pipe code.  
40P6 = 40 mm nominal diameter

*This map was created in colour and should be printed in colour*

## Important information

- Refer to requirements relating to construction, excavation and other work activities in the **APA Guidelines for Works Near Existing Gas Assets** document with this BYDA response.
- BYDA enquiries are valid for 30 days. If your works commence after 30 days from the date of this response a new enquiry is required to validate location information.
- For some BYDA enquiries, you may receive two (2) responses from APA. Please read both responses carefully as they relate to different assets.
- Gas (inlet) services connecting Gas Assets in the street to the gas meter on the property are not marked on the map. South Australia Only – if a meter box is installed on the property, a sketch of the gas service location may be found inside the gas meter box. APA does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of these sketches.

### Free Gas Pipeline Awareness Training and Information

#### PROFESSIONALS

APA offers online and in-person toolbox forums to support safe work near underground gas assets. Topics include distribution and transmission pipelines, the permit process, and gas emergencies, with content suited for companies of all sizes. A Continuing Professional Development certificate is available upon completion.

Scan the QR code to register for an online toolbox, or email [damageprevention@apa.com.au](mailto:damageprevention@apa.com.au) to request an in-person presentation.

#### HOMEOWNERS

If you're working near your home's gas pipes stay safe and view APA's video guide '**Working Safely Near Gas Lines: A DIY Homeowner's Guide**' which offers simple tips to avoid damaging gas pipes.

Scan the QR code to view the video, or for more information email [damageprevention@apa.com.au](mailto:damageprevention@apa.com.au)



## Disclaimer and legal details

- This information is valid for 30 days from the date of this response.
- This information has been generated by an automated system based on the area highlighted in your BYDA request and has not been independently verified.
- Map location information is provided as AS5488-2022 Quality Level D, as such supplied location information is indicative only.
- Whilst APA has taken reasonable steps to ensure that the information supplied is accurate, the information is provided strictly on the condition that no assurance, representation, warranty or guarantee (express or implied) is given by APA in relation to the information (including without limitation quality, accuracy, reliability, completeness, currency, sustainability, or suitability for any particular purpose) except that the information has been disclosed in good faith.
- Any party who undertakes activities in the vicinity of APA operated assets has a legal duty of care that must be observed. This legal obligation requires all parties to adhere to a standard of reasonable care while performing any acts that could foreseeably harm these assets.



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**This content was sent by email from Telstra QLD South East in response to your Before You Dig enquiry.**

Original subject DBYD JOB: 52901299 SEQ: 271390773 - 80 ST JOHNS AV, ASHGROVE QLD 4060  
Original sender TAMS@dominoapp.in.telstra.com.au  
Received 16 Apr 2026 1:06:58pm AEST

**Attention:** Soft Reg

**Site Location:** 80 ST JOHNS AV, ASHGROVE, QLD 4060

**Your Job Reference:** ITJOB|191863600

**Please do not reply to this email, this is an automated message -**

Thank you for requesting Telstra information via Before You Dig Australia (BYDA).

This response contains Telstra information relating to your recent BYDA request.

**Please refer to all enclosed attachments for more information.**

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**Report Damage to Telstra Equipment:** [Report damages to Telstra equipment - Telstra](#)

Please note:

When working in the vicinity of telecommunications plant you have a 'Duty of Care' that must be observed.

Ensure you read all documents (attached) - they contain important information.

Please also refer to the **Before you Dig Australia - BEST PRACTISE GUIDES and The five Ps of safe excavation**

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- Telstra will take action to recover compensation for damage caused to property and assets, and for interference with the operation of Telstra's networks and customers' services.

Telstra's plans contain Telstra's confidential information and are provided on the basis that they are used solely for identifying the location or vicinity of Telstra's infrastructure to avoid damage to this infrastructure occurring as part of any digging or other excavation activity. You must not use Telstra's plans for any other purpose or in a way that will cause Telstra loss or damage and you must comply with any other terms of access to the data that have been provided to you by Telstra (including Conditions of Use or Access).

*(See attached file: Telstra Duty of Care v32.0c.pdf)*

*(See attached file: Telstra Map Legend v4\_0c.pdf)*

*(See attached file: AccreditedPlantLocators 2025-01-08a.pdf)*

*(See attached file: 271390773.pdf)*

**This content was sent by email from Telstra QLD South East in response to your Before You Dig enquiry.**

Original subject DBYD JOB: 52901299 SEQ: 271390773 - 80 ST JOHNS AV, ASHGROVE QLD 4060  
Original sender TAMS@dominoapp.in.telstra.com.au  
Received 16 Apr 2026 1:06:58pm AEST

**Attention:** Soft Reg

**Site Location:** 80 ST JOHNS AV, ASHGROVE, QLD 4060

**Your Job Reference:** ITJOB|191863600

**Please do not reply to this email, this is an automated message -**

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# Before You Dig Australia

## Think before you dig

This document has been sent to you because you requested plans of the Telstra network through Before You Dig Australia (BYDA).

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can help you avoid damaging our network, interrupting services, and potentially incurring civil and criminal penalties.

Our network is complex and working near it requires expert knowledge. Do not attempt these activities if you are not qualified to do so.

# Disclaimer and legal details



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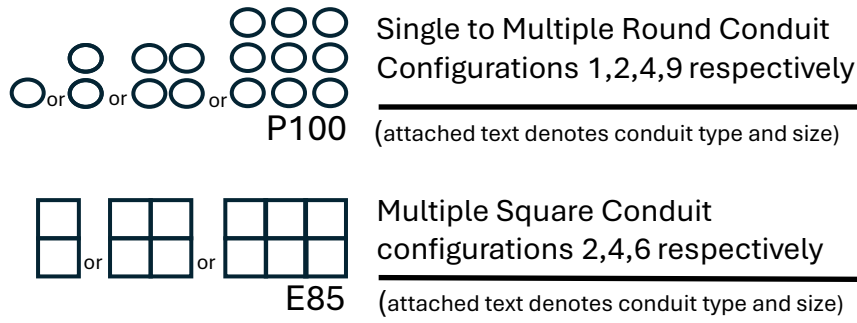
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# LEGEND



	<b>Lead-in terminates at a Customer Address</b>		Cable Joining Pit Number / Letter indicating Pit type/size
	<b>Exchange</b> Major Cable Present		Elevated Joint (above ground joint on buried cable)
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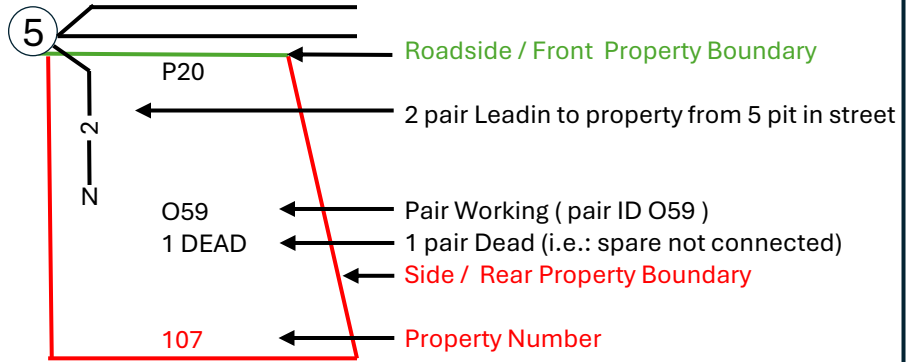
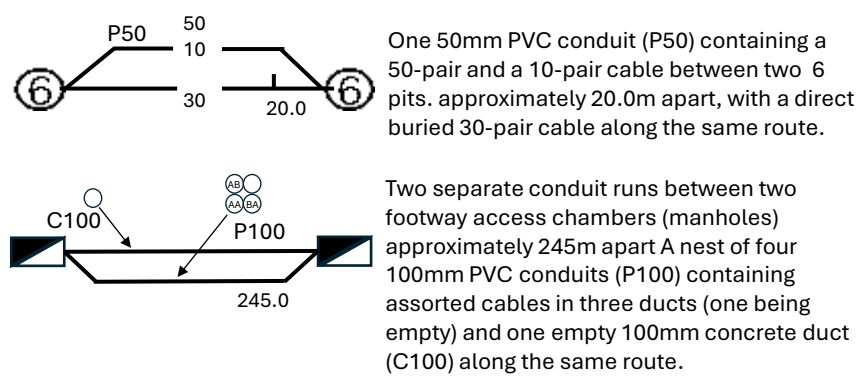
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Autodesk Viewer (Internet Browser) <https://viewer.autodesk.com/> or  
Autodesk Design Review <http://usa.autodesk.com/design-review/> for  
DWF files. (Windows PC)



PDF Map Files (max size A3)  
Adobe Acrobat Reader <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>



Telstra BYDA map related enquiries email [Telstra.Plans@team.telstra.com](mailto:Telstra.Plans@team.telstra.com)  
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Telstra New Connections / Disconnections  
13 22 00



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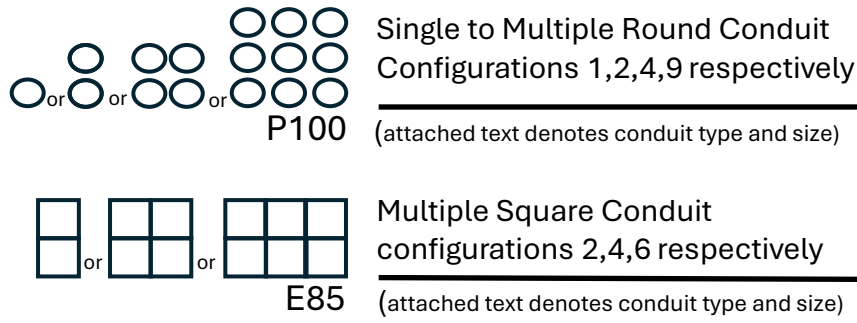
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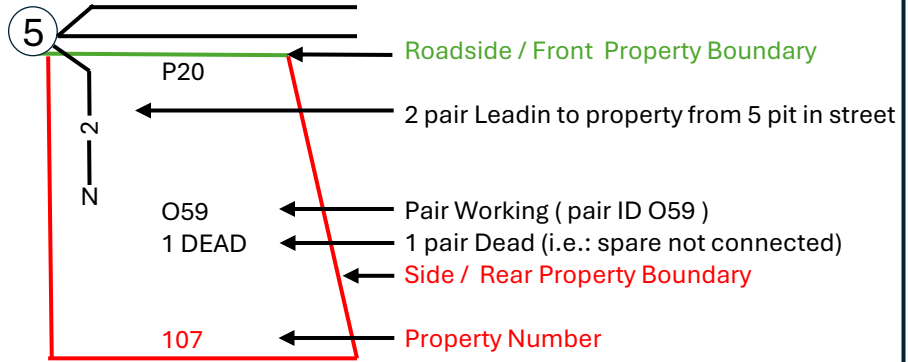
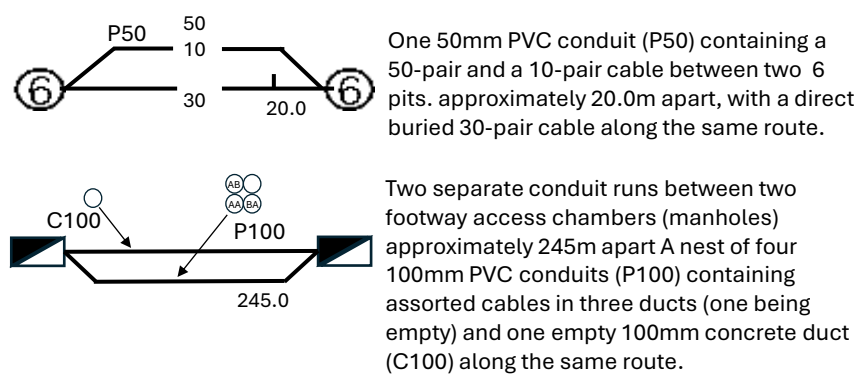
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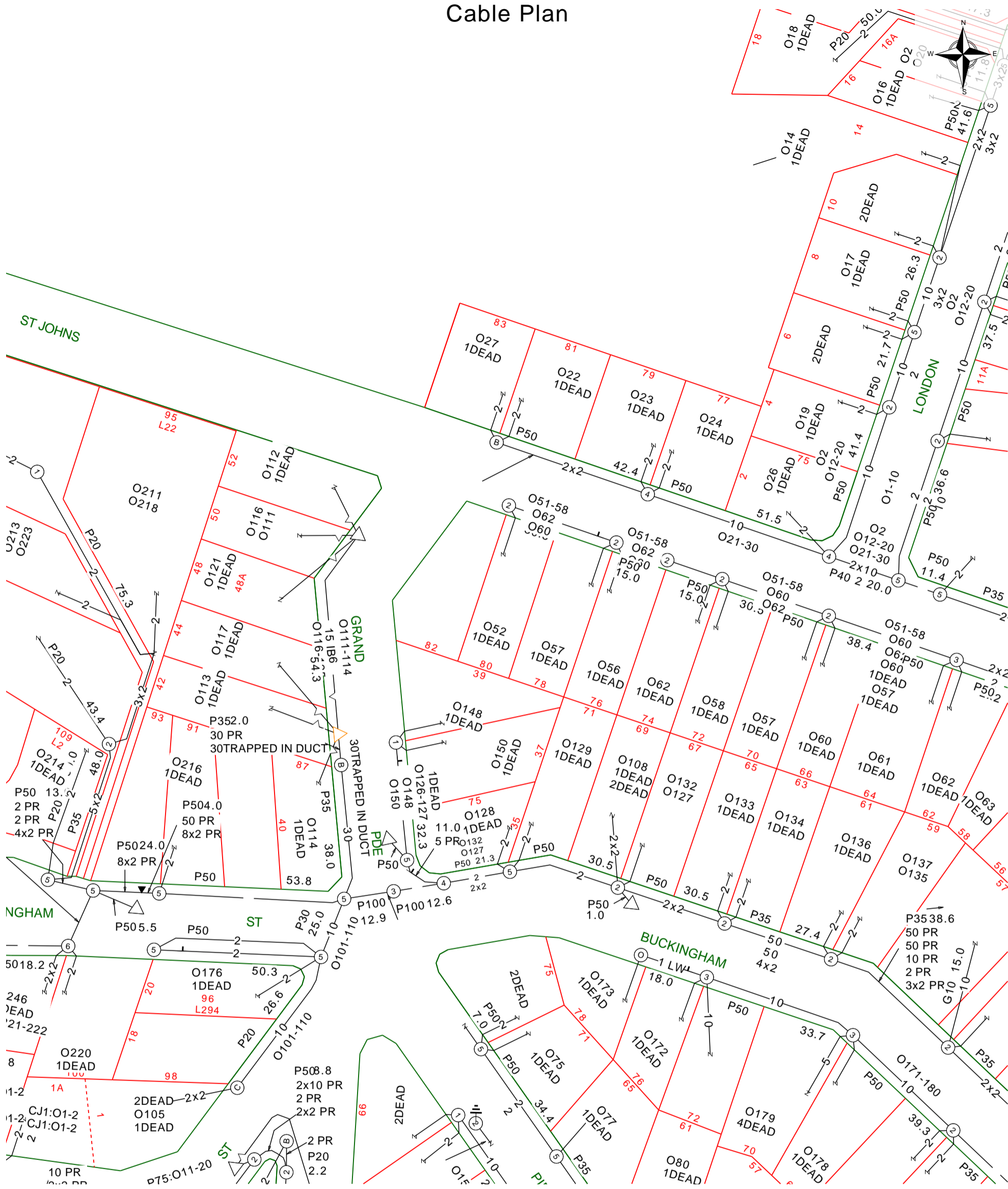


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# Cable Plan



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 Ph - 13 22 03  
 Email - Telstra.Plans@team.telstra.com  
 Planned Services - ph 1800 653 935 (AEST bus hrs only) General Enquiries

Sequence Number: 271390773

Please read Duty of Care prior to any excavating

TELSTRA LIMITED A.C.N. 086 174 781  
 Generated On 16/04/2026 13:00:50

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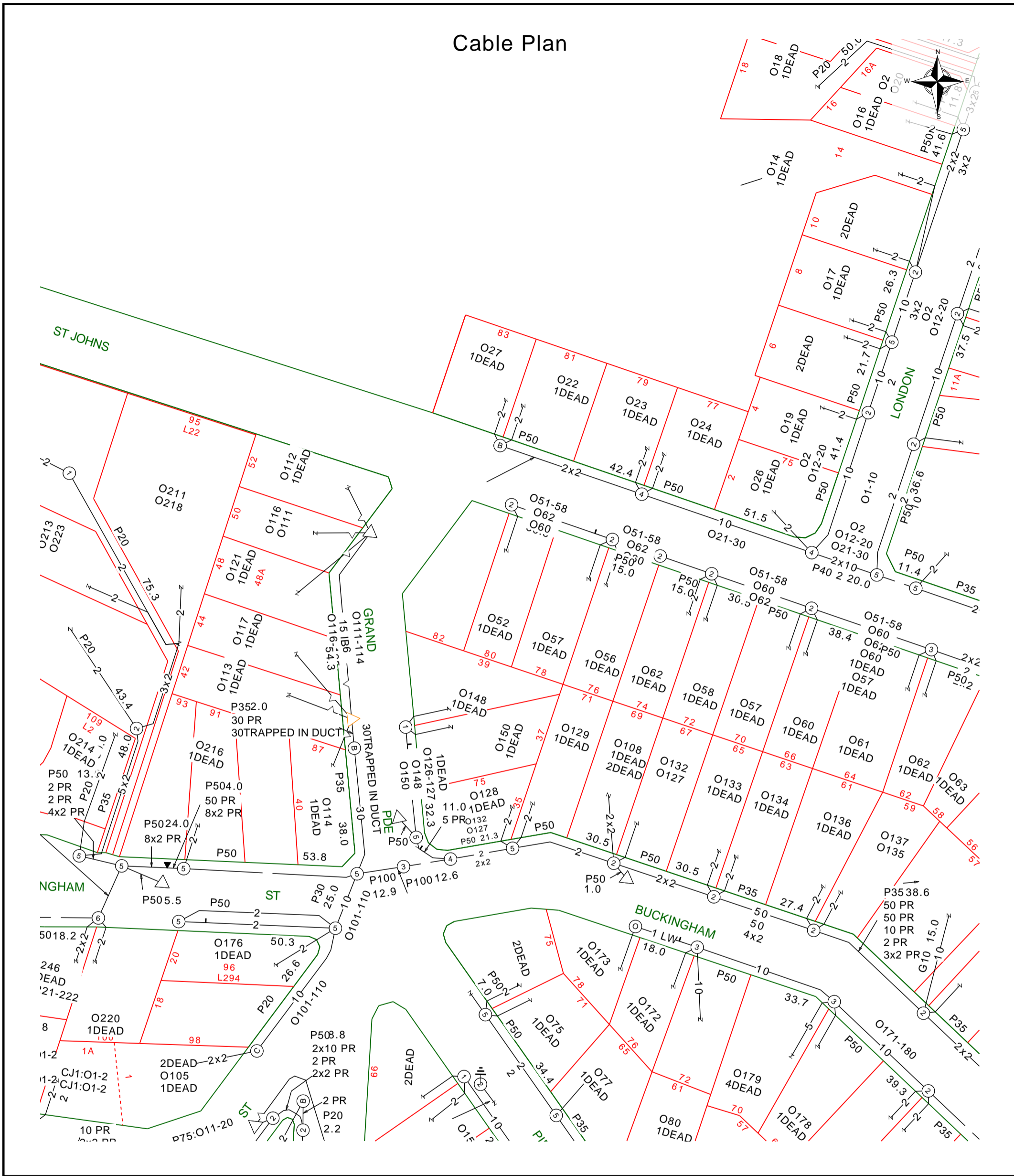


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 See the Steps- Telstra Duty of Care that was provided in the email response.

**This content was sent by email from NBN Co Qld in response to your Before You Dig enquiry.**

Original subject	DBYD JOB:52901299 SEQ:271390769 - 80 ST JOHNS AV , ASHGROVE , QLD , 4060 email(1/1)
Original sender	DONOTREPLY@nbnco.com.au
Received	16 Apr 2026 5:03:21pm AEST

Hi Soft Reg,

Please find attached the response to your DBYD referral for the address mentioned in the subject line. The location shown in our DBYD response is assumed based off the information you have provided. If the location shown is different to the location of the excavation then this response will consequently be rendered invalid. Take the time to read the response carefully and note that this information is only valid for 28 days after the date of issue. If you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,  
Network Services and Operations  
NBN Co Limited  
P: 1800626329  
E: dbyd@nbnco.com.au  
www.nbnco.com.au

**Confidentiality and Privilege Notice**

This e-mail is intended only to be read or used by the addressee. It is confidential and may contain legally privileged information. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to such person), you may not copy or deliver this message to anyone, and you should destroy this message and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Confidentiality and legal privilege are not waived or lost by reason of mistaken delivery to you. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of NBN Co Limited

Please Do Not Reply To This Mail



# Working near nbn™ cables

**nbn** has partnered with Dial Before You Dig to give you a single point of contact to get information about **nbn** underground services owned by **nbn** and other utility/service providers in your area including communications, electricity, gas and other services. Contact with underground power cables and gas services can result in serious injury to the worker, and damage and costly repairs. You must familiarise yourself with all of the Referral Conditions (meaning the referral conditions referred to in the DBYD Notice provided by **nbn**).

## Practice safe work habits

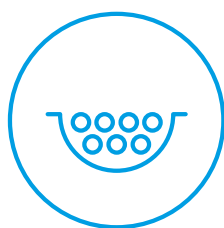
Once the DBYD plans are reviewed, the Five P's of Excavation should be adopted in conjunction with your safe work practices (which must be compliant with the relevant state Electrical Safety Act and Safe Work Australia "Excavation Work Code of Practice", as a minimum) to ensure the risk of any contact with underground **nbn** assets are minimised.



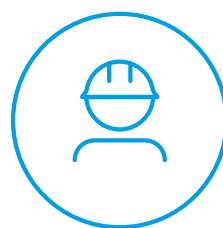
**Plan:** Plan your job by ensuring the plans received are current and apply to the work to be performed. Also check for any visual cues that may indicate the presence of services not covered in the DBYD plans.



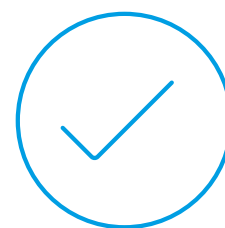
**Prepare:** Prepare for your job by engaging a DBYD Certified Plant Locator to help interpret plans and identify on-site assets. Contact **nbn** should you require further assistance.



**Pothole:** Non-destructive potholing (i.e. hand digging or hydro excavation) should be used to positively locate **nbn** underground assets with minimal risk of contact and service damage.

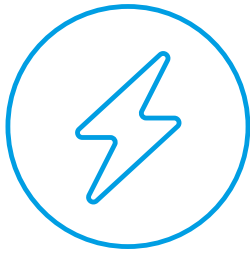


**Protect:** Protecting and supporting the exposed **nbn** underground asset is the responsibility of the worker. Exclusion zones for **nbn** assets are clearly stated in the plan and appropriate controls must be implemented to ensure that encroachment into the exclusion zone by machinery or activities with the potential to damage the asset is prevented.

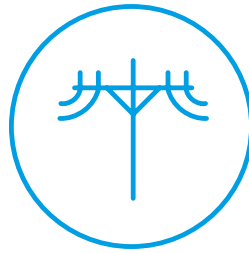


**Proceed:** Proceed only when the appropriate planning, preparation, potholing and protective measures are in place.

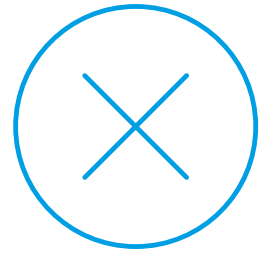
# Working near **nbn**<sup>TM</sup> cables



Identify all electrical hazards, assess the risks and establish control measures.



When using excavators and other machinery, also check the location of overhead power lines.



Workers and equipment must maintain safety exclusion zones around power lines.

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Once all work is completed, the excavation should be re-instated with the same type of excavated material unless specified by **nbn**. Please note:

- Construction Partners of **nbn** may require additional controls to be in place when performing excavation activities.
- The information contained within this pamphlet must be used in conjunction with other material supplied as part of this request for information to adequately control the risk of potential asset damage.

## Contact

All **nbn**<sup>TM</sup> network facility damages must be reported online [here](#).  
For enquiries related to your DBYD request please call 1800 626 329.

### Disclaimer


This brochure is a guide only. It does not address all the matters you need to consider when working near our cables. You must familiarise yourself with other material provided (including the Referral Conditions) and make your own inquiries as appropriate.

**nbn** will not be liable or responsible for any loss, damage or costs incurred as a result of reliance on this brochure.

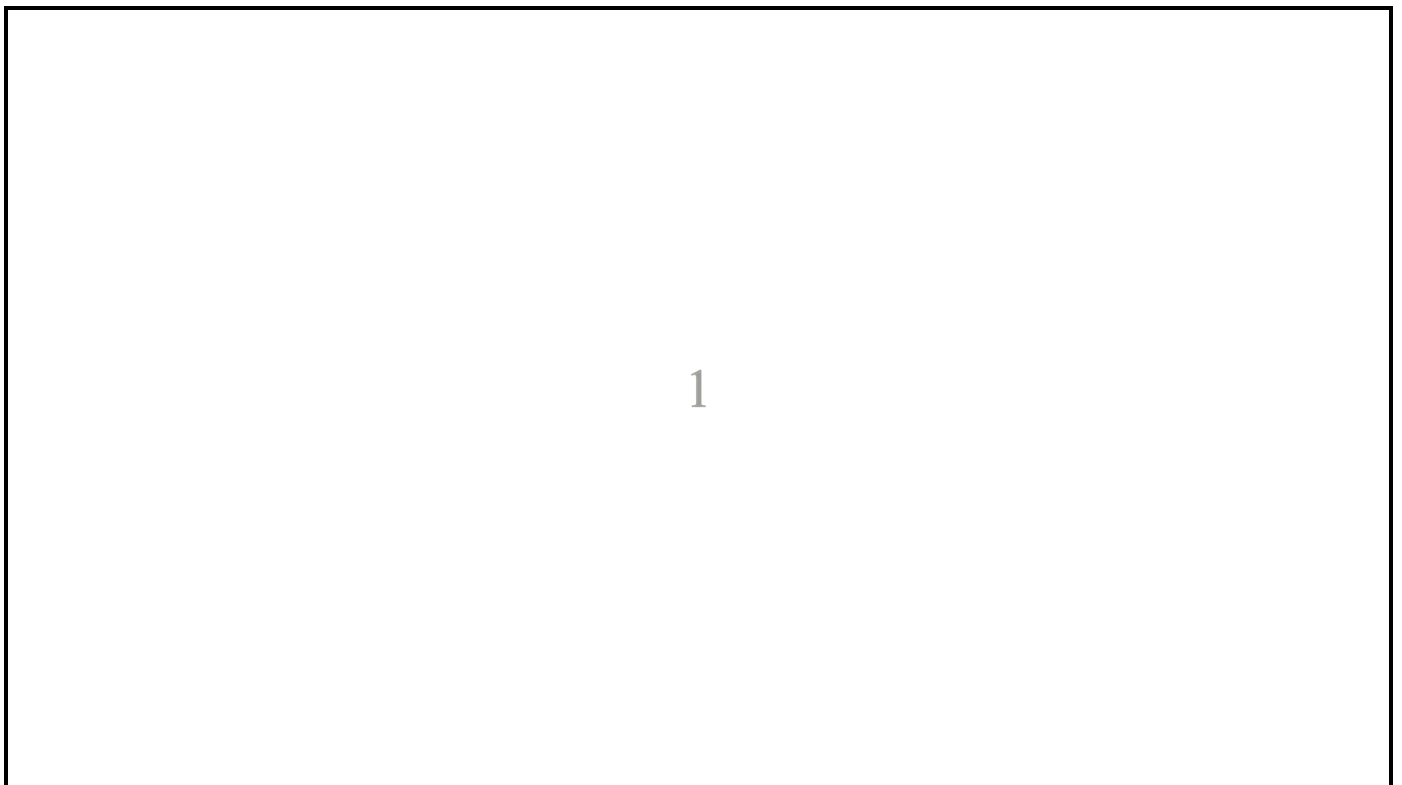
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**To:** Soft Reg  
**Phone:** Not Supplied  
**Fax:** Not Supplied  
**Email:** Soft.Reg.3576757@mail.au.pac.pcges.com.au

<b>Dial before you dig Job #:</b>	52901299	
<b>Sequence #</b>	271390769	
<b>Issue Date:</b>	16/04/2026	
<b>Location:</b>	80 ST JOHNS AV , ASHGROVE , QLD , 4060	

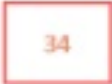




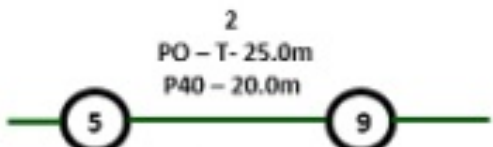
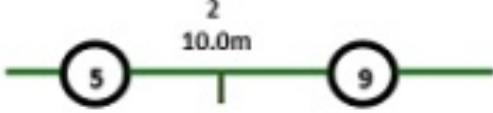




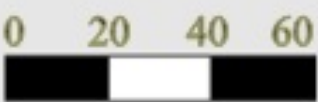
**Indicative Plans are tiled below to demonstrate how to layout and read nbn asset plans**





## LEGEND




	Parcel and the location
	Pit with size "5"
	Power Pit with size "2E". Valid PIT Size: e.g. 2E, 5E, 6E, 8E, 9E, E, null.
	Manhole
	Pillar
	Cable count of trench is 2. One "Other size" PVC conduit (PO) owned by Telstra (-T-), between pits of sizes, "5" and "9" are 25.0m apart. One 40mm PVC conduit (P40) owned by NBN, between pits of sizes, "5" and "9" are 20.0m apart.
	2 Direct buried cables between pits of sizes, "5" and "9" are 10.0m apart.
	Trench containing any <b>INSERVICE/CONSTRUCTED</b> (Copper/RF/Fibre) cables.
	Trench containing only <b>DESIGNED/PLANNED</b> (Copper/RF/Fibre/Power) cables.
	Trench containing any <b>INSERVICE/CONSTRUCTED</b> (Power) cables.
	Road and the street name "Broadway ST"
Scale	 Meters 1:2000 1 cm equals 20 m



## Emergency Contacts

You must immediately report any damage to the **nbn**<sup>™</sup> network that you are/become aware of. Notification may be by telephone - 1800 626 329.

**To:** Soft Reg  
**Phone:** Not Supplied  
**Fax:** Not Supplied  
**Email:** Soft.Reg.3576757@mail.au.pac.pcges.com.au

<b>Before You Dig Australia Job #:</b>	52901299	
<b>Sequence #</b>	271390769	
<b>Issue Date:</b>	16/04/2026	
<b>Location:</b>	80 ST JOHNS AV , ASHGROVE , QLD , 4060	

## Information

The area of interest requested by you contains one or more assets.

<b>nbn™ Assets</b>	<b>Search Results</b>
<b>Communications</b>	Asset identified
<b>Electricity</b>	No assets

In this notice **nbn™ Facilities** means *underground fibre optic, telecommunications and/or power facilities, including but not limited to cables, owned and controlled by nbn™*

## Location of nbn™ Underground Assets

We thank you for your enquiry. In relation to your enquiry at the above address:

- **nbn's** records indicate that there **ARE nbn™** Facilities in the vicinity of the location identified above ("Location").
- **nbn** indicative plan/s are attached with this notice ("Indicative Plans").
- The Indicative Plan/s show general depth and alignment information only and are not an exact, scale or accurate depiction of the location, depth and alignment of **nbn™** Facilities shown on the Plan/s.
- In particular, the fact that the Indicative Plans show that a facility is installed in a straight line, or at uniform depth along its length cannot be relied upon as evidence that the facility is, in fact, installed in a straight line or at uniform depth.
- You should read the Indicative Plans in conjunction with this notice and in particular, the notes below.
- You should note that, at the present time, the Indicative Plans are likely to be more accurate in showing location of fibre optics and telecommunications cables than power cables. There may be a variation between the line depicted on the Indicative Plans and the location of any power cables. As such, consistent with the notes below, particular care must be taken by you to make your own enquiries and investigations to precisely locate any power cables and manage the risk arising from such cables accordingly.
- The information contained in the Indicative Plan/s is valid for 28 days from the date of issue set out above. You are expected to make your own inquiries and perform your own investigations (including engaging appropriately qualified plant locators, e.g BYDA Certified Locators, at your cost to locate **nbn™** Facilities during any activities you carry out on site).

We thank you for your enquiry and appreciate your continued use of the Before You Dig Australia Service. For any enquiries related to moving assets or Planning and Design activities, please visit the [nbn Commercial Works](#) website to complete the online application form. If you are planning to excavate and require further information, please email [dbyd@nbnco.com.au](mailto:dbyd@nbnco.com.au) or call 1800 626 329.

#### Notes:

1. You are now aware that there are **nbn™** Facilities in the vicinity of the above property that could be damaged as a result activities carried out (or proposed to be carried out) by you in the vicinity of the Location.
2. You should have regard to section 474.6 and 474.7 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (CoA) which deals with the consequences of interfering or tampering with a telecommunications facility. Only persons authorised by **nbn** can interact with **nbn's** network facilities.
3. Any information provided is valid only for **28 days** from the date of issue set out above.

## Referral Conditions

The following are conditions on which **nbn** provides you with the Indicative Plans. By accepting the plans, you are agreeing to these conditions. These conditions are in addition, and not in replacement of, any duties and obligations you have under applicable law.

1. **nbn** does not accept any responsibility for any inaccuracies of its plans including the Indicative Plans. You are expected to make your own inquiries and perform your own investigations (including engaging appropriately qualified plant locators, e.g BYDA Certified Locators, at your cost to locate **nbn™** Facilities during any activities you carry out on site).
2. You acknowledge that **nbn** has specifically notified you above that the Indicative Plans are likely to be more accurate in showing location of fibre optics and telecommunications cables than power cables. There may be a variation between the line depicted on the Indicative Plans and the location of any power cables.
3. You should not assume that **nbn™** Facilities follow straight lines or are installed at uniformed depths

along their lengths, even if they are indicated on plans provided to you. Careful onsite investigations are essential to locate the exact position of cables.

4. In carrying out any works in the vicinity of **nbn**™ Facilities, you must maintain the following minimum clearances:
  - 300mm when laying assets inline, horizontally or vertically.
  - 500mm when operating vibrating equipment, for example: jackhammers or vibrating plates.
  - 1000mm when operating mechanical excavators.
  - Adherence to clearances as directed by other asset owner's instructions and take into account any uncertainty for power cables.
5. You are aware that there are inherent risks and dangers associated with carrying out work in the vicinity of underground facilities (such as **nbn**™ fibre optic, copper and coaxial cables, and power cable feed to **nbn**™ assets). Damage to underground electric cables may result in:
  - Injury from electric shock or severe burns, with the possibility of death.
  - Interruption of the electricity supply to wide areas of the city.
  - Damage to your excavating plant.
  - Responsibility for the cost of repairs.
6. You must take all reasonable precautions to avoid damaging **nbn**™ Facilities. These precautions may include but not limited to the following:
  - All excavation sites should be examined for underground cables by careful hand excavation. Cable cover slabs if present must not be disturbed. Hand excavation needs to be undertaken with extreme care to minimise the likelihood of damage to the cable, for example: the blades of hand equipment should be aligned parallel to the line of the cable rather than digging across the cable.
  - If any undisclosed underground cables are located, notify **nbn** immediately.
  - All personnel must be properly briefed, particularly those associated with the use of earth-moving equipment, trenching, boring and pneumatic equipment.
  - The safety of the public and other workers must be ensured.
  - All excavations must be undertaken in accordance with all relevant legislation and regulations.
7. You will be responsible for all damage to **nbn**™ Facilities that are connected whether directly, or indirectly with work you carry out (or work that is carried out for you or on your behalf) at the Location. This will include, without limitation, all losses expenses incurred by **nbn** as a result of any such damage.
8. You must immediately report any damage to the **nbn**™ network that you are/become aware of. Notification may be by telephone - 1800 626 329.
9. Except to the extent that liability may not be capable of lawful exclusion, **nbn** and its servants and agents and the related bodies corporate of **nbn** and their servants and agents shall be under no liability whatsoever to any person for any loss or damage (including indirect or consequential loss or damage) however caused (including, without limitation, breach of contract negligence and/or breach of statute) which may be suffered or incurred from or in connection with this information sheet or any plans (including Indicative Plans) attached hereto. Except as expressly provided to the contrary in this information sheet or the attached plans (including Indicative Plans), all terms, conditions, warranties, undertakings or representations (whether expressed or implied) are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.

All works undertaken shall be in accordance with all relevant legislations, acts and regulations applicable to the particular state or territory of the Location. The following table lists all relevant documents that shall be considered and adhered to.

State/Territory	Documents
<b>National</b>	Work Health and Safety Act 2011
	Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
	Safe Work Australia - Working in the Vicinity of Overhead and Underground Electric Lines (Draft)

	Occupational Health and Safety Act 1991
<b>NSW</b>	Electricity Supply Act 1995
	Work Cover NSW - Work Near Underground Assets Guide
	Work Cover NSW - Excavation Work: Code of Practice
<b>VIC</b>	Electricity Safety Act 1998
	Electricity Safety (Network Asset) Regulations 1999
<b>QLD</b>	Electrical Safety Act 2002
	Code of Practice for Working Near Exposed Live Parts
<b>SA</b>	Electricity Act 1996
<b>TAS</b>	Tasmanian Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995
<b>WA</b>	Electricity Act 1945
	Electricity Regulations 1947
<b>NT</b>	Electricity Reform Act 2005
	Electricity Reform (Safety and Technical) Regulations 2005
<b>ACT</b>	Electricity Act 1971

Thank You,

**nbn BYDA**

Date: 16/04/2026

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**Email Address:** kosborne72@yahoo.com.au

**Status:** Signed

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**Supervised By:**

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