

# SAFETY ALERT

## WORKING NEAR OVERHEAD POWERLINES

Working near overhead powerlines is a High Risk activity. Adelaide has experienced workplace fatalities associated with work activities coming into contact with electrical conductors.

The law requires certain safe exclusion zones to be maintained. These differ in distances depending on control measures used. For instance, machinery working underneath a 275kV, with a risk assessment and spotter in place, requires a 4 metre exclusion zone from the powerline.

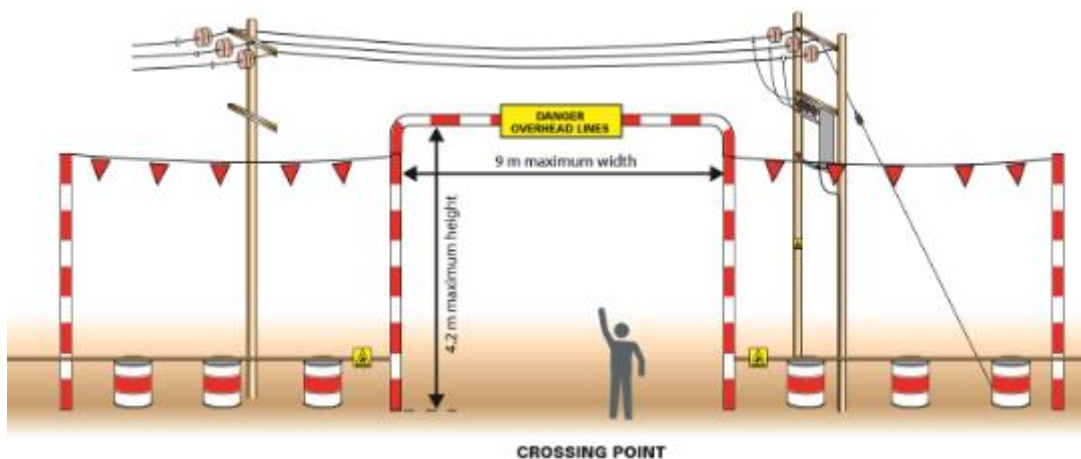
A positive initiative is to see signage being displayed at each powerline indicating the type of powerline and spotter requirements.



Spotter requirements



Flagging used to define overhead safety zone



*There are different ways of establishing a safety zone*

**Don't** panic if contact is made with live electrical wires:

- Stay on the machine
- If operating, move away
- If a fire, etc. jump well clear
- **Don't** make contact with machine and ground at the same time