

## Bulletin

# Electrical hazards associated with underground cables

## Description

This information bulletin describes a number of hazards that exist when working above, in proximity to, or exposing low voltage and high voltage underground cables.

These hazards may result in:

- Electrocution
- Damage to underground electrical assets
- Disruption of the electricity supply, an essential service.

Which may result in:

- Police, NT WorkSafe and Coronial Investigations
- Criminal prosecution
- Civil prosecution
- Substantial project delays
- Lost time injuries.

Work in proximity to underground cables without the written authority of the operator of the electricity infrastructure is a breach of Regulation 21 of the Electricity Reform (Safety and Technical) Regulations.

A person must not place or maintain a corrosive, abrasive, heavy or deleterious material or substance above an underground cable.

A person must not excavate near underground cables or reduce the depth of ground cover over cables.

A person must not remove, tamper with or cover any underground cable marker.

**Remember!** You can't see underground cables – Always dial before you dig.

## Dial Before You Dig

Telephone: 1100 (Australia Wide), website: [www.1100.com.au](http://www.1100.com.au).

## Power and Water Corporation

Telephone: 1800 245 092, website: [www.powerwater.com.au](http://www.powerwater.com.au).

## Contact us

For further information please contact us on 1800 019 115, via email at [ntworksafe@nt.gov.au](mailto:ntworksafe@nt.gov.au) or go to the NT WorkSafe website at [www.worksafe.nt.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au).