

## Things to look out for when working on a site with electrical assets

- The yellow danger of death sign, it means what it says.
- Broken wires or trees leaning on wires.
- Electrical equipment such as transformers which may be lower than the overhead lines but are still live.
- Broken stay wires which may have been caused by cattle or other animals.
- Wires or cables hanging lower than normal.
- Underground services becoming exposed.

**POWER CUT?  
CALL 105**



## Things to remember:

- Never touch overhead powerlines
- Always assume powerlines are live, even if they are on the ground or are broken.
- If your vehicle comes in to contact with electrical cables and you need to get out, **JUMP CLEAR** and take leaping strides. Make sure that one foot is off the ground at all times until you're at least 5 metres away.
- Trees, string, ropes, suspension lines and even water can conduct electricity.
- Rubber boots will not protect you.
- SP Energy Networks must be contacted in an emergency if a power line has been hit or damaged so that they can make the line safe. If they aren't aware of an incident they could try to re-energise the power line remotely.
- Around five people every year are involved in fatal accidents due to coming into contact with overhead powerlines.



# Safety Matters

## Staying safe around electrical assets



# Introduction

Every year people are seriously injured or killed when they come in to contact with high voltage electricity. This leaflet will help you and others stay safe around electrical equipment like overhead and underground cables and substations.

**If you have electrical equipment like cables or substations on or around your property, land or worksite, make sure you share the safety information in this leaflet with everyone carrying out work in the vicinity. Don't assume they know the equipment is there.**

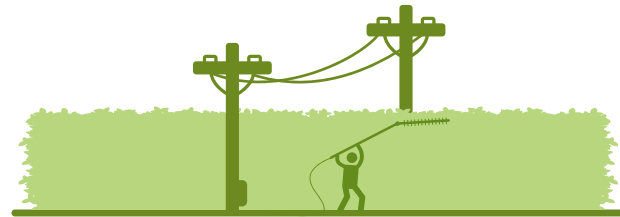
Around four people die each year in the UK due to accidental contact with overhead power lines with many more suffering injuries. The use of agricultural and construction machinery such as tipper trucks, combine harvesters & boom sprayers as well as trade equipment like ladders, scaffolding & irrigation pipes can often bring workers dangerously close to these lines.

Transmission power lines carry electricity at voltage so high that the electricity can 'jump' gaps but even power lines carrying domestic voltage (230 volts) can be fatal.

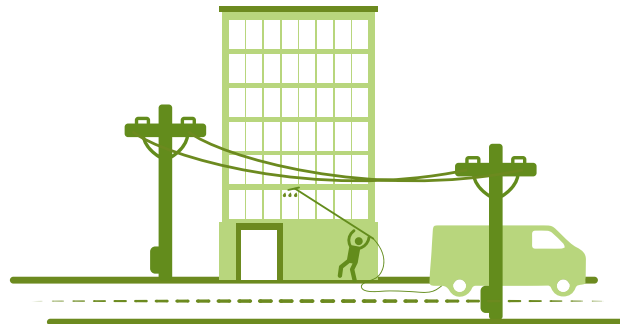
For general safety advice and enquiries, please contact us on:-

- 🌐 [www.spenergynetworks.co.uk](http://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk)
- ✉ [customercare@spenergynetworks.com](mailto:customercare@spenergynetworks.com)
- ☎ 0330 10 10 444

## Watch out when using this equipment



Extendable hedge cutter



Window cleaning



Digger



Sports equipment

## How to stay safe near overhead lines

- Seek guidance at [spenergynetworks.co.uk](http://spenergynetworks.co.uk) if working in close proximity to an overhead line
- Make sure everyone is aware of the presence and route of the electricity network, when work is being carried out on your property, land or worksite.
- Always carry out a risk assessment prior to commencing work.
- Contact SP Energy Networks in advance of any works to obtain network plans/drawings free of charge. Then carefully plan your route.
- Keep up to date with overhead line heights and heights of machinery.
- Always assess the suitability of the machinery and method of working before starting each job, especially when working near power lines.
- Identify the location of any cables by using a CAT (cable avoidance tool) prior to starting any work.

