

Part	OHS Code	Intent	P	C	Risk	Guideline Statement
<p>Part 17 Overhead Powerlines</p>	<p>Safe limit of approach distances 225(1) An employer must contact the power line operator before work is done or equipment is operated within 7.0 metres of an energized overhead power line (a) to determine the voltage of the power line, and (b) to establish the appropriate safe limit of approach distance listed in Schedule 4. 225(1.1) Except as provided for in subsection (2), an employer must ensure that the safe limit of approach distance, as established in subsection (1), is maintained and that no work is done and no equipment is operated at distances less than the established safe limit of approach distance. 225(2) An employer must notify the operator of an energized overhead power line before work is done or equipment is operated in the vicinity of the power line at distances less than the safe limit of approach distances listed in Schedule 4, and obtain the operator’s assistance in protecting workers involved.</p>	<p>Serious injury can occur from electrocution if contact with an energized powerline occurs.</p> <p>Powerlines crossing fields and rural roads create a hazard for workers and equipment. Low profile equipment can be operated within 7 meters of powerlines.</p>	L	H	M	<p>Employers must ensure workers are aware of and maintain a safe distance from overhead power lines at all times.</p> <p>The first time work needs to be done within 7 metres of a powerline, the employer must contact the power company to know the “arcing distance” and each occasion thereafter the employer must ensure the use of a spotter when moving tall or long farm equipment.</p> <p><u>Example 1:</u> long augers, sprayers, folded-up seed drills or tillage equipment."</p> <p><u>Example 2:</u> Do not set up machinery or equipment with retracted wings or extensions under a power line.</p> <p><u>Example 3:</u> Ensure equipment is lowered before transporting under power lines.</p> <p><u>Example 4:</u> When farming around powerlines leaves unseeded areas subject to weed growth, small mowing or tilling equipment could be used to manage the weed growth.</p>

	<p>225(3) An employer must ensure that earth or other materials are not placed under or beside an overhead power line if doing so reduces the safe clearance to less than the safe limit of approach distances listed in Schedule 4.</p> <p>225(4) A worker must follow the direction of the employer in maintaining the appropriate safe clearance when working in the vicinity of an overhead power line.</p> <p>Transported loads, equipment and buildings</p> <p>226 The safe limit of approach distances listed in Schedule 4 do not apply to a load, equipment or building that is transported under energized overhead power lines if the total height, including equipment transporting it, is less than 4.15 metres.</p> <p>Utility worker and tree trimmer exemption</p> <p>227 Section 225 does not apply to utility workers, qualified utility workers or utility tree trimmers working in accordance with the requirements of the Alberta Electrical and Communication Utility Code (2002).</p>			<p>Do not stack material including dirt within 7 metres of an overhead powerline.</p> <p>If ground conditions change (eg: dirt builds up), further assessment of clearance must be made.</p> <p>Employers should advise utility companies when power lines sag below minimum heights, especially for older power lines.</p>
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