



Minimum Approach Distances

Think Safe. **Live Safe.**



This document provides an overview of the minimum distances that must be maintained from energized electrical equipment. For more information please contact Newfoundland Power.

Customer Service:	1-800-663-2802
Construction Services:	1-888-491-5066
Outage Emergencies:	1-800-474-5711

Purpose

Legislation and power utility standards exist to establish safe working distances, referred to as Minimum Approach Distances (MAD), for work carried out in proximity to exposed energized apparatus in an effort to minimize or eliminate the hazard of electric shock to which workers may be exposed

Occupational Health and Safety legislation and Newfoundland Power standards, outline, among other things, the distances that workers must maintain from energized electrical equipment.

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

Minimum clearance - high voltage equipment and conductors

498. (1) A worker shall not cause or permit material to be piled, stored or handled, a scaffold to be erected or dismantled or mobile crane, boom truck or similar equipment to operate in an area where overhead or underground conductors are located that are capable of energizing the material, mobile equipment or its load unless the employer has obtained in writing the voltage and minimum clearance distance required by the power utility.

(2) Where the written clearance referred to in subsection (1) is unavailable from the power utility, a **minimum 5.5 metres** shall be maintained.

Extract from Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

Section 498 requires workers to maintain a distance of 5.5 metres from electrical equipment unless a written clearance is obtained from the power utility that owns the equipment.

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

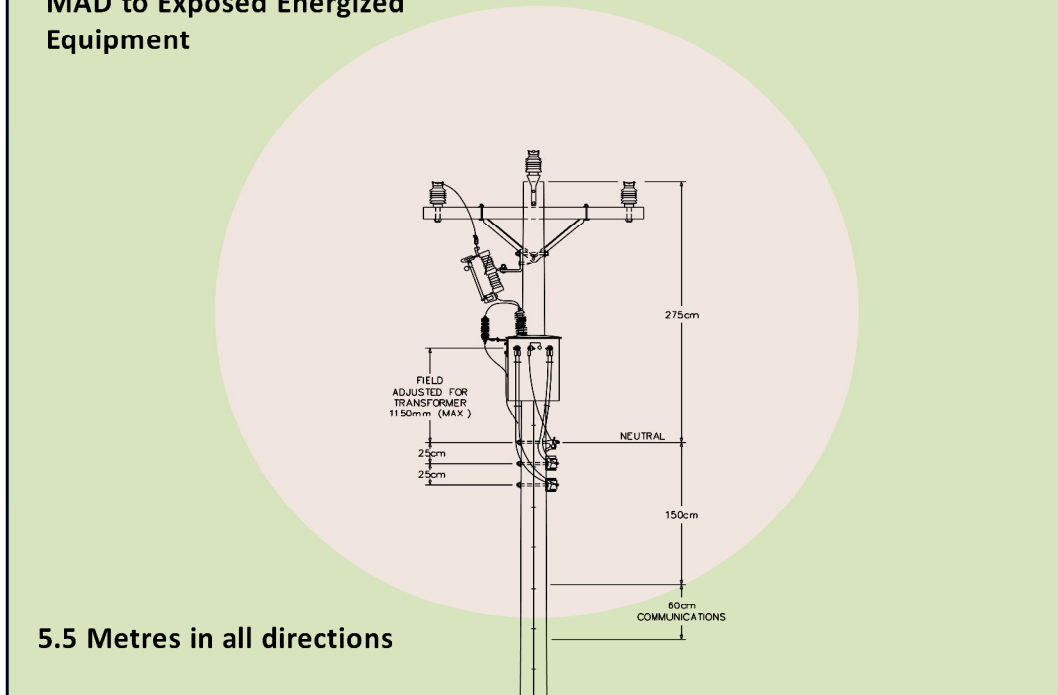
Assurance in writing

499. (1) Where the minimum distance set out in subsection 498 cannot be maintained because of the circumstances of work or the inadvertent movement of persons or equipment, an assurance in writing on a form acceptable to the minister and signed by a representative of the owner of the power system, shall be obtained.

Extract from Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

Section 499 requires workers to obtain a permit from the power utility when the minimum approach distance set out in section 498 cannot be maintained. The issuance of this form requires an on site visit and agreement that is signed by both parties.

MAD to Exposed Energized Equipment



MAD refers to the distance from energized electrical, equipment in all directions.

Written Clearance

Energized Power Line Clearance (Form 540)

Energized Power Line Permit
(for working near energized power lines)

Permit No. _____

Company Name: _____ Applicant Name: _____ Date: _____

Power Line Location: _____ Area/Department: _____

Feeder/TML: _____ Power Line Voltage (L-L): _____ Minimum Safe Distance Clearance Requirement: _____

Scope of Work (e.g. water & sewer/sign erection/scaffold for painting/mechanical ROW cutting, etc.): _____

Note: If Newfoundland Power underground conductors exist where excavation is to be undertaken, Form 544 "Record of Locating Newfoundland Power Underground Plant" shall also be issued.

Power Line Hazards Training Certificate Information

Equipment Operator: _____ Power Line Hazards Training Certificate Number: _____

If operator unavailable or for multiple operators, company representative must sign on behalf of the company ensuring all operators working under the scope of the permit have a valid Power Line Hazards Training Certificate.

Permit Effective From: Start Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____ End Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____

Emergency Contact Information: Newfoundland Power 1-800-474-5711 Gov. Services (709) 729-4444

Conditions:

1. This permit is issued in accordance with Sections 498 to 500 of the Newfoundland & Labrador Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. It is the responsibility of the person or group to whom this permit is issued to ensure that all regulations are complied with.
2. Failure to observe minimum distance clearance may lead to contact with energized power lines and cause serious injury or death.
3. All equipment operators working under this permit must hold a valid Power Line Hazards Training Certificate as per Section 483 of the Newfoundland & Labrador Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.
4. Rubber cover-up installed on service wires (<750 Volts) provides mechanical protection only. Do not lean upon, push or handle covered-up power lines.
5. This permit is in effect during daylight hours only, any variances to this daylight operation will have to be authorized by Newfoundland Power.
6. Encroachments of permanent structures (signs, billboards, sheds, etc.) on Newfoundland Power easements or rights-of-way are strictly prohibited.
7. Safety watcher (spotter) maybe required to ensure specified clearance distances are maintained.
8. Failure to comply with the requirements/conditions of this permit may result in the permit being revoked.

Special Instructions Under This Permit:

Employer/Contractor (Print): _____ Utility Representative (Print): _____

Employer/Contractor (Sign): _____ Utility Representative (Sign): _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Note: White - Power Utility; Yellow - Employer

03/2012 Form No. 540

Energized Power Line Clearance Form 540

Where written clearance is unavailable from the power utility, a minimum of 5.5 meters shall be maintained. The energized power line clearance form gives permission for "reduction of clearances" to power lines. The issuance of this form requires an on site visit and agreement that is signed by both parties.

The graphic features a white background with an orange header bar at the top right containing three white diagonal stripes. On the left is the Newfoundland Power logo, which includes the text 'NEWFOUNDLAND' in blue, 'POWER' in large blue letters, and 'A FORTIS COMPANY' in smaller blue letters below it. To the right of the logo is the title 'Minimum Approach Distances' in black. The bottom half of the graphic is a dark blue background with a bright blue lightning bolt striking down on the right side. The slogan 'Think Safe. Live Safe.' is written in white and orange text on the left side of this dark blue area.

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POWER
A FORTIS COMPANY

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