City of STONNINGTON

ELECTRIC LINE CLEARANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

2025

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Version	Document date	Distributed
Final	*27/03/2023*	*30/03/2023*
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Update	*07/04/2025*	*07/04/2025*

Contents

Disclaimer:

This Electric Line Clearance Management Plan ('Plan') has been developed by the City of Stonnington to inform Energy Safe Victoria, Energy Distribution Businesses (DB's) and all other interested parties about the vegetation management processes and strategies undertaken by the City of Stonnington to care for its trees that are in the vicinity electricity assets. This Plan is to satisfy the requirements of the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020 (Vic).

The City of Stonnington notifies users of this Plan that some of the content / statements made in this Plan are based on, assumptions, estimates, predictions, and projections made as part of the City of Stonnington Tree Management planning / development process and some of the content / statements are based on actions that the City of Stonnington intends to take in the future. The City of Stonnington may, decide to take different actions to those it currently intends to take if circumstances change, or assumptions and estimates prove to be inaccurate, and events do not occur as predicted or projected. The users of this Plan accept responsibility and all risk for using material in this document. The users should seek expert advice in relation to their own circumstances and must rely solely on their own judgement and expert advice obtained.

The City of Stonnington does not guarantee and will not be liable for, whether in contract, tort (including negligence), equity or otherwise, to compensate or indemnify any person for any loss, injury or damage arising directly or indirectly from any person using or relying on any content / statements in this Plan.

April 2025

Introduction

The City of Stonnington covers an area of 25.6 square kilometres. It is bound to the east by Warrigal Road and to the west by Punt Road. The Yarra River and Gardiners Creek define the northern boundary and Dandenong Road forms the southern boundary. The City of Stonnington has a population of approximately 123,000 as of 2021 with people living in the suburbs of Prahran, Windsor, South Yarra, Toorak, Hawksburn, Armadale, Malvern, Malvern East, Glen Iris, and Kooyong.

The topography of the City is undulating with residential development varying from high density in the west to predominantly single dwellings on suburban blocks in the east. The City includes a number of significant strip shopping centres and the large Chadstone shopping centre in the east. The City also includes areas of parkland and open space especially along the Gardiners Creek corridor.

The City of Stonnington enjoys an excellent reputation for its street tree plantings, which make a significant contribution to Stonnington's amenity appeal. In particular, the City is noted for its tree lined boulevards and its green leafy streetscapes.

Mission

The City of Stonnington is committed to implementing a series of diverse strategies to manage vegetation within the urban environment. In so doing Council will effectively and efficiently balance the priorities of compliance with the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020, public and personnel safety, preservation and enhancement of urban streetscapes, stakeholder satisfaction with Council operations, and the continuous improvement of the relationship between all parties involved in this management process.

Vision

The City of Stonnington in co-operation with our stakeholders including CitiPower and United Energy, will seek to implement a series of strategies for managing our vegetation on a tree-by-tree basis.

Our aim is to both minimise the potential for contact between powerlines and vegetation, and to reduce the adverse effect of pruning trees near electric lines on the appearance of trees in the City of Stonnington.

STRUCTURE OF PLAN

The Electric Line Clearance Management Plan (Plan) has been structured to align with the relevant clauses of the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020 Victoria (Regulations).

The corresponding section of the Plan is numbered identically to the section of the Regulations to allow for cross referencing.

DISTRIBUTION BUSINESSES AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

The names and contact details for the Distribution Businesses that operate within the City of Stonnington are:

CitiPower / United Energy

Name:	Jason Craig
Position:	Vegetation Stakeholder Improvement Lead
Distribution Company:	CitiPower/Powercor
Telephone Number:	0402 386 940

The names and contact details for the other Responsible Persons that operate or provide advice regarding electric lines within the City of Stonnington are:

Organisation	Contact	Phone
VicTrack	Pamela James	(03) 9619-8892
Metro Trains	Katrina Lewis	0405 506 488
Yarra Trams	Tobias Meyer	0410 473 749

SERVICE PROVIDERS OPERATE UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS TO MANAGE VEGETATION TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE.

- T21015 Programmed Street Tree Pruning and Maintenance (Tree Serve)
- T21016 Reactive Tree Pruning and Maintenance (Citywide)

PART 2 SECTION 9 PREPARATION OF A MANAGEMENT PLAN

9(2) PREPARATION OF A MANAGEMENT PLAN BY MARCH 31ST

City of Stonnington is a Responsible Person required to prepare an Electric Line Clearance Management Plan for the purpose of the Regulations. This document is prepared in accordance with Section 9 of the Regulations.

City of Stonnington, Manager Open Space and Environment and Senior Arborist or delegated authority will review and amend the Electric Line Clearance Management Plan annually.

Preparation of this document is scheduled in the Arboricultural Unit calendar for the first week in March every year. The preparation of this document will include a review of all processes and procedures and their effectiveness in meeting the plan objectives 9(4)(e).

The revised Plan for the subsequent financial year will be submitted to the Director, Environment & Infrastructure for review and authorisation prior to the 31st March each year.

City of Stonnington, Senior Arborist or delegated authority will submit the Electric Line Clearance Management Plan within 14 days of a request from Energy Safe Victoria (ESV).

The document has been prepared consistent with Council's Urban Forest Strategy 2017 – 2022 and Street Tree Policy. The Urban Forest Strategy (2017) identifies the importance of trees in cooling the urban environment, and supporting the health, wellbeing and prosperity of a growing population that has little private access to vegetation. The Street Tree Policy commits Council to urban forest expansion by prioritising the creation of increased tree canopy cover throughout the city and includes an aim to minimise conflict with infrastructure through appropriate species selection.

The implementation and review of the Plan is part of Council's strategic reporting framework and is reported within the Business Unit's monthly report.

- Council will conduct a review by the 31st March annually to address any changes in personnel, policy or programs.
- When the new annual Plan is completed, Council will upload the Plan to the website and at the same time, remove the superseded Plan.
- A complete review of the Plan will also be implemented should there be a change of Service Provider or Contract methodology. This review could occur at any time.
- The amended Plan and the requirement to comply with the Plan will be brought to the attention of Council's Service Providers annually at the monthly contract meeting following the review.
- The amended Plan and the requirement to comply with the Plan will be brought to the attention of relevant Council personnel following each annual review.

The Plan is stored in Council's document management system and will be available on the Council's website www.stonnington.vic.gov.au.

As part of the above annual review Council will ensure that all specific policies relevant documents, personnel documentation, training, program, and resourcing requirements are reviewed and updated as required to ensure compliance with the Regulations.

There are no Exemptions in operation at the time of writing this Plan.

9(4) MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS

9(4)(a) NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON:

Name: Dale Dickson, CEO, City of Stonnington

Address: 311 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, Victoria 3144

Telephone Number: (03) 8290-1333

Email Address: council@stonnington.vic.gov.au

The CEO is Council's principal representative in its role as a Responsible Person under the Electricity Safety Act 1998.

9(4)(b) NAME, POSITION, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE PERSON WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PLAN:

Name: Simon Holloway

Position: Director, Environment & Infrastructure

Address: 293 Tooronga Road, Malvern, Victoria 3144

Telephone Number: (03) 8290-2055

Email Address: shollowa@stonnington.vic.gov.au

Signature _____

9(4)(c) NAME, POSITION, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CARRYING OUT THE PLAN:

Name: Nadia Ford

Position: Manager, City Environment

Address: 293 Tooronga Road, Malvern, Victoria 3144

Telephone Number: (03) 8290-1033

Email Address: dmazza@stonnington.vic.gov.au

Name: Paul FitzGerald

Position: Coordinator Tree Management, City Environment

Address: 293 Tooronga Road, Malvern, Victoria 3144

Telephone Number: (03) 8290-2056

Email Address: pafitzgerald@stonnington.vic.gov.au

9(4)(d) THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF A PERSON WHO CAN BE CONTACTED IN AN EMERGENCY THAT REQUIRES CLEARANCE OF AN ELECTRIC LINE THAT THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON IS REQUIRED TO KEEP CLEAR OF TREES OR PARTS OF TREES.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE No: (03) 8290-1333 (24 hours, 7 days a week)

9(4)(e) THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PLAN:

The following are identified as the key objectives of this Plan:

- To ensure public safety at all times in relation to fire risk, human injury and continuity of supply resulting from the contact between power lines and vegetation.

- Where reasonably practicable and within their level of competence, Council employees and Service Providers will aim to ensure Electricity Safety.

- To achieve compliance with the Electricity Safety Act 1998 and the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020 and the incorporated Code of Practice.

- To maintain the health and amenity of the community's trees by applying appropriate standards and practices. Where practicable within the limitations imposed by the Regulations our tree management will be industry best practice.

- In the unlikely event that compliance cannot be readily achieved by pruning, Council will implement a documented process of 6-monthly inspections on these trees while developing an alternative engineering solution in conjunction with the Distribution Business.

- To ensure protection of areas of important local and significant vegetation throughout the Council's Declared Area. This protection includes, but is not limited to, sites containing botanically, historically or culturally important vegetation, or vegetation of outstanding aesthetic or ecological significance, and/or the habitat of rare or endangered species.

- Establishing an open dialogue with relevant distribution company(s) vegetation management group to ensure both parties have a clear understanding of each other's priorities. This will be achieved through an annual meeting with relevant distribution company(s) managers and City of Stonnington's responsible employee.

- To ensure provision of a safe working place for employees and Service Providers undertaking vegetation clearance pruning and any employee or Service Providers who conduct other maintenance vegetation works within the vicinity of powerlines.

- To ensure community satisfaction with the manner in which the necessary works are carried out.

Compliance with the key objectives is measured by an ongoing process of auditing and Contract performance monitoring as detailed in section 9(4)(n) of this Plan.

9(4)(f) THE LAND TO WHICH THE MANAGEMENT PLAN APPLIES - MAPS

The land to which this Plan applies is shown in the Declared Area maps below. A larger map is included in Attachment 1.

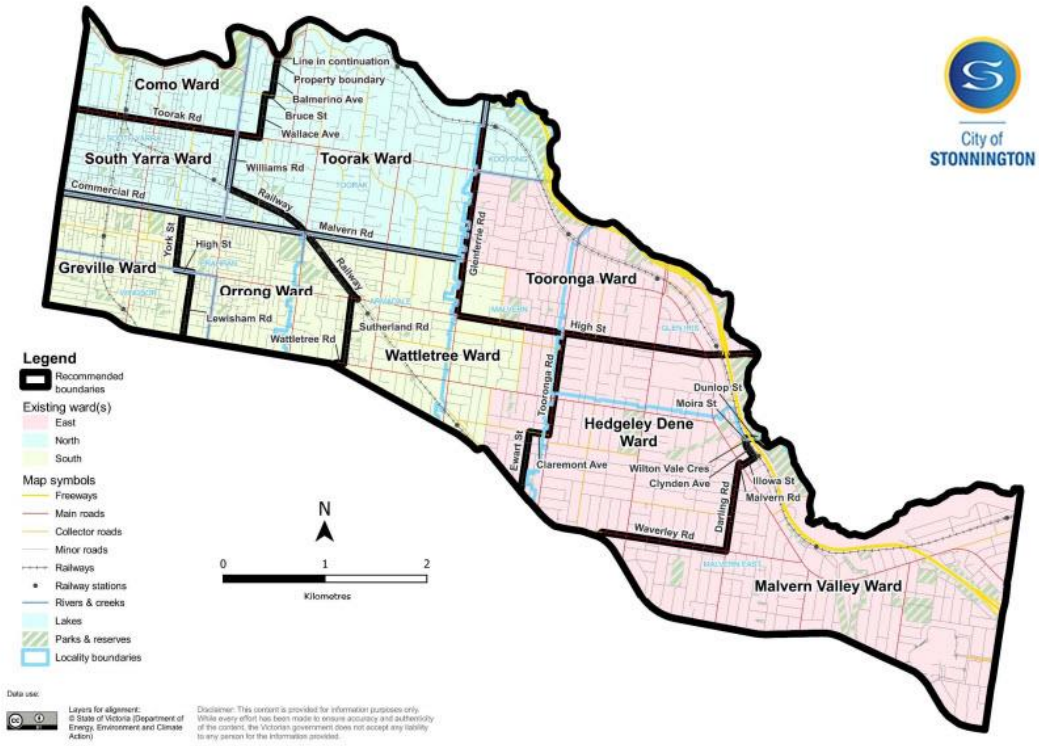


Figure 1: Map of the City of Stonnington

The entire City of Stonnington, approximately 25.6 square kilometres is a Declared Area bound to the east by Warrigal Road and to the west by Punt Road. The Yarra River and Gardiners Creek define the northern boundary and Dandenong Road forms the southern boundary.

9(4)(g) ANY HAZARDOUS BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS AND LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS IN THE LAND REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH (f);

The entire of the Declared Area managed by Council is rated Low Bushfire Risk Area (LBRA) based on the CFA Fire Hazard Ratings.

9(4)(h) EACH AREA THAT THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON KNOWS CONTAINS A TREE THAT THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON MAY NEED TO CUT OR REMOVE TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE AND THAT IS –

(i) Indigenous to Victoria

For the purposes of this Plan, indigenous vegetation means species locally indigenous to the Council area and does not include commercial and ornamental Australian native species, which are commonly planted as street trees, even where those species may be indigenous to other parts of Victoria.

Council's Declared Area predominantly consists of exotic species with fewer native species and a small number of indigenous species. There are no indigenous trees

(remnant or forest vegetation) that will need to be cut or removed to ensure compliance with the current Regulations.

Areas of environmental and ecological and aesthetical importance have been identified throughout the municipality and included as Heritage and Environmental Significance Overlays in the City of Stonnington Planning Scheme. Based on the historical annual line clearance program no indigenous trees of significance have been identified in the Declared Area that will be affected by electric line clearance

There are no permit requirements that affect electric line clearance for any pruning or removal of indigenous tree species within the City of Stonnington.

Additional resources available to identify significant indigenous trees are -

a. Reference to the Heritage Register as per the meaning of the Heritage Act 1995 http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/

b. Reference to the National Trust Register and regular communication with the Local History Officer http://trusttrees.org.au/

c. Reference to the Threatened Species Advisory Lists as published by the relevant State department https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/conserving-threatened-species/threatened-species-advisory-lists

No trees of significance have been identified since the previous Plan. Should any be identified in the future records of each tree are recorded on the relevant Service Provider's system and transferred to the City of Stonnington tree database.

(ii) Listed in planning scheme to be of ecological, historical or aesthetic significance

Based on the historical annual line clearance program no trees of significance have been identified in the Declared Area that will be affected by electric line clearance.

All Heritage, Environmental Significance and Vegetation Protection overlays affecting vegetation managed by Council within the Declared Area are subject to exemptions.

Exemptions apply for any action which is necessary to:

- Keep the whole or any part of a tree clear of an electric line, provided the action is carried out in accordance with a code of practice prepared under Section 86 of the Electricity Safety Act 1998.
- Remove or lop a tree if the tree presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property.

Electric Line Clearance Service Provider personnel will be notified immediately any City of Stonnington trees are listed under the Stonnington Planning Scheme.

This Plan will be amended subsequent to changes to these provisions.

No trees of significance have been identified since the previous Plan.

(iii) Trees of cultural or environmental significance

Trees of Cultural or Environmental Significance for the purposes of the Plan are defined as any tree protected as Significant or Heritage by relevant State legislation or local planning controls.

The City of Stonnington is aware of one National Trust listed tree that it is responsible for maintaining to comply with the provisions of the Electrical Safety Act 1998. The tree is an English Elm (*Ulmus procera*) and listed on the National Trust Database as Regionally Significant (File No. T11829). The English Elm is located on the nature-strip outside 2b Sorrett Avenue, Malvern (corner Glenferrie Road). This tree is maintained as part of the Biennial Streets Program. The program is supervised by the City of Stonnington's Senior Arborist or delegated authority.

By their nature, these types of vegetation do not change quickly in normal circumstances. Council will review the Planning Scheme and consult with Council's Planning Department to identify any changes in State or local controls when this Plan is revised. The amended Plan and any changes as a result of this briefing will be raised with Council's Service Providers at the monthly contract meetings.

No additional trees of significance have been identified since the previous Plan.

9(4)(i) THE MEANS BY WHICH THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON WILL USE TO IDENTIFY A TREE OF THE KIND SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 9(4)(h)

As there has been an ongoing powerline clearance program around existing trees, there are no known trees from clause 9(4)(h) that will be significantly adversely affected by future powerline clearance works.

There are no known trees of habitat significance for rare or endangered species listed in Council's Declared Area within the vicinity of electric lines that require pruning or clearing to ensure compliance with the Code of Practice.

Any tree identified by Council or Service Provider as potentially significant owing to its size, species or location will be reviewed by Council using the processes and resources outlined in 9(4)(h).

Should any be identified in the future records of each tree will be recorded on the relevant Service Provider's system and transferred to the City of Stonnington database. A copy of this list is recorded in Council's electronic document management system under Trees of Importance. Council's Service providers are notified of any updates to this list.

If a specimen of high value, or a tree with or likely to contain habitat hollows, is identified by Council or its Service Providers as being non-compliant, the tree will be individually assessed to ensure that pruning is minimised, and the environmental value of the tree is preserved. This may include managing the tree in line with Clauses 4, 5 or 6 of the Code, on an increased inspection or pruning cycle. If any are identified in the future, they will be plotted on Council's mapping system and monitored to ensure that minimal impact is made in the event of works being required. If Council intends to cut or, on the advice of a suitably

qualified arborist, remove a tree that has been identified in 9(4)(h) as known habitat for fauna listed as –

a) threatened in accordance with section 10 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 or
b) listed in the Threatened Species Advisory Lists with a conservation status in Victoria of “vulnerable", "endangered" or "critically endangered" or

Council will undertake cutting or removal of the tree outside of the breeding season for that species. Where it is not practicable to undertake cutting or removal of the tree outside of the breeding season for that species, translocation of the fauna will be undertaken wherever practicable.

All pruning will take place in accordance with industry best practice and where practicable, pruning may be undertaken using Elevated Work Platforms (EWPs) or other similar methods to minimise overall site damage. Council will as far as practicable, restrict cutting or removal of native trees or of cultural or environmental significance to the minimum extent necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Code, the schedule to the Code or to make an unsafe situation safe.

In exceptional circumstances, fauna may be required to be relocated. This is not Council’s preferred option and will be used only as a last resort, for example, if the tree is assessed to be a hazard tree.

All records will be filed in Council’s document management system and kept for a minimum of 5 years.

9(4)(j) THE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES THAT THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON IS REQUIRED TO ADOPT TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE

The City of Stonnington implements an ongoing, proactive street tree pruning program to manage its tree population.

(i) Include details of the methods to be adopted for managing trees and maintaining a minimum clearance space as required by the Code:

(1) Identification of Work Required

The Senior Arborist or delegated authority is responsible for identifying trees requiring assessment to ensure compliance with the Code. The following sources have been used to identify those trees:

- Historical Maintenance Regimes.
- Tree Database.
- Street Tree Policy.
- Local Planning Scheme.
- National Trust Register of Significant Trees.
- Tree Risk Management Framework 2019-2021.

These sources will be reviewed annually as part of the Electric Line Clearance Management Plan review.

To ensure trees within the vicinity of powerlines in the Declared Area are compliant with the Code, Council has developed an ongoing tree inspection and work program. This inspection and work program ensures that trees are proactively assessed, tree amenity is considered, and clearance spaces are maintained.

As part of the inspection program, streets within the municipality are categorised as either:

- **Biennial Street -** A Biennial Street is one that has been identified as containing trees that require biennial inspection and pruning (Attachment 2 - Map of Pruning Zones and Biennial Streets). There are approximately 22,500 trees in these streets.
- **Annual Street –** An Annual Street is one that has been identified as containing trees that require additional monitoring. Trees within an Annual Street will be inspected and pruned annually (Attachment 3 - Map of Annual Streets). There are approximately 8,500 trees in these streets.

Council managed trees within these streets are assessed using a drive-by assessment and pruned in accordance with the cyclic pruning schedule (Table 1). This includes inspecting any powerline on Council land adjoining the street, or trees on that land that may affect the powerline.

Table 1: Cyclic Pruning Schedule

Year	Month	Biennial Blocks + Annual Streets	Annual streets only
Odd	January	11 & 12	26
Odd	February	23 & 24	37,44 &43
Odd	March	40, 41 & 42	34
Odd	April	29 & 30	10 & 9
Odd	May	7 & 8	20
Odd	June	13 & 17	22 & 21
Odd	July	27 & 25	47 & 48
Odd	August	38 & 39	3, 4 & 5
Odd	September	45 & 46	15 & 16
Odd	October	6 & 14	28 & 33
Odd	November	31 & 32	35 & 36
Odd	December	18 & 19	1 & 2
Even	January	26	11 & 12
Even	February	37,44 &43	23 & 24
Even	March	34	40, 41 & 42
Even	April	10 & 9	29 & 30
Even	May	20	7 & 8
Even	June	22 & 21	13 & 17
Even	July	47 & 48	27 & 25
Even	August	3, 4 & 5	38 & 39
Even	September	15 & 16	45 & 46
Even	October	28 & 33	6 & 14
Even	November	35 & 36	31 & 32
Even	December	1 & 2	18 & 19

- Trees located in an Annual Street are inspected and pruned as required annually. An Annual Street is characterised as containing large trees with High Voltage (HV) and sub transmission electric lines.

- Trees located in a Biennial Street are inspected and pruned as required biennially. A Biennial Street is characterised as containing a mixture of small and large trees with Low Voltage (LV) electric lines.

The City of Stonnington uses external Service Providers to perform all Electric Line Clearance works. These works are governed by the Contracts listed on page 6 of this document. The Contract Specifications for each contract clearly articulates the methodology required to deliver the service. Service Providers engaged under these contracts are required to comply with this Plan.

Each non-compliant tree or tree otherwise requiring compliance pruning is recorded electronically and spatially by the Service Provider. Reports of the assessment are provided to Council as part of the audit report.

The Service Provider will also assess:

- The voltage and length of the span to determine the correct Applicable Distance for clearance for the middle 2/3 of each span.
- The species of the vegetation to ascertain the regrowth potential.
- The tree for any other potential hazards.

The Applicable Distance is determined based on the Code, the relevant sections of which are included in Attachment 4.

Trees that the Service Provider believes cannot be successfully pruned in accordance with the Code will be brought to the attention of Council. The Council will then inspect the tree and if they believe the tree cannot be pruned to comply with the Code, Council will investigate and implement an alternative method to ensure safety and continuity of supply. The following alternatives will be investigated when Council confirms that a tree cannot be pruned to comply with the Code:

- Applying an Exception.
- Advocating for transition of overhead electric lines to underground cable infrastructure.
- Advocating for conversion of overhead electric lines to Aerial Bundle Cable (ABC) or covered conductors.
- Advocating for an alternative engineering solution.

Records of each pruning undertaken on each tree are recorded on the relevant Service Provider’s system and transferred to the City of Stonnington tree database.

Reports of non-compliance from relevant distribution company(s), residents or other sources will be investigated by a suitably qualified Council employee or Service Provider. Once the investigation has been completed a Service Provider will carry out any pruning action to rectify a confirmed non-compliance.

Where necessary, the Senior Arborist will liaise with the Service Provider to determine the cause of the non-compliance. Where the non-compliance is a failure to follow the Contract specification, this will be documented as a contract non-conformance in the monthly

Contract meeting. Where the non-compliance is caused by unanticipated regrowth, the species and growing conditions will be identified to determine if the tree is likely to breach the Code clearance requirements again. Appropriate inspection regimes will be implemented to address any identified issues.

Consultation is undertaken as required with the distribution business representatives shown on page 5 to maintain open communication and discuss clearance issues regarding the following:

- Requesting of assistance for suppressions and shutdowns.
- Clarification of declared area responsibilities.
- Changes to regulations.
- Urgent works.
- Other issues as they arise.

(2) Hazard Trees

The Electricity Safety Act 1998 (Victoria) Section 86B requires that a municipal council must specify, within its Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP):

(a) procedures and criteria for the identification of trees that are likely to fall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line (hazard trees); and

(b) procedures for the notification of responsible persons of trees that are hazard trees in relation to electric lines for which they are responsible.

City of Stonnington's Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) refers to this Electric Line Clearance Management Plan in relation to Hazard trees.

During the inspection of the Declared Area, the Service Provider will also inspect areas adjacent to the clearance space or regrowth space for Hazard trees.

'Hazard Tree' means a tree that has been assessed by a suitably qualified arborist as:

- Has or is likely to fail and will contact an electric line if this occurs.
- Has regrowth that will enter the clearance space before next scheduled visit.

Trees identified as potentially hazardous during these routine inspections are noted and details referred to the City of Stonnington Senior Arborist or delegated authority and transferred to the Customer Request Management System.

The tree management process for the removal of a hazard tree is as follows:

- The assessment must take into consideration whether the tree falls in the definitions in 9(4)(h).
- Trees in contact or likely to contact an electric line are referred immediately by phone to the City of Stonnington Senior Arborist or delegated authority.
- Trees identified as potentially hazardous are noted and referred to the City of Stonnington Senior Arborist or delegated authority.
- This information is transferred to the Customer Request Management System.

- The tree is then inspected by a City of Stonnington arborist, or a consulting arborist employed for this purpose. The inspection considers tree health, structure, history, location and foreseeable local conditions.
- All inspection data is entered into the Customer Request Management System including a suggested works program.
- All inspections / assessments are performed by a suitably qualified arborist with all relevant training as detailed in section 9(4)(p) herein.
- Based on the inspection data a works order is generated and sent to the Service Provider via the Customer Request Management System. Works are prioritised as part of this process.
- If the cutting is occurring as part of emergency or urgent works, the tree must not be cut further than 1 metre from the minimum clearance space for a span of an electric line.
- If a tree is to be removed and time allows, surrounding residents and ward councillors will be notified.

Emergency or reactive works are recorded in the Customer Request Management System and closed out in that system once completed.

(3) Assessment of Regrowth Space

The assessor will be a suitably qualified arborist as per the description in section 9(4)(p) herein.

The assessor will observe the amount of regrowth for each species pruned and use this information when identifying pruning required to achieve compliance with the Code. Consideration will also be given to the voltage, span length, relevant pruning cycle, and the significance of each tree proposed to be pruned. Analysis of the clearance achieved is assessed in conjunction with such factors as species and soil type and rainfall rates to provide additional information on the adequacy of clearing cycles and clearances.

Subject to the significance of the tree, tree pruning frequencies may be adjusted to accommodate observed growth rates and achieve compliance with the Code.

To determine the level of pruning required to ensure adequate space for regrowth between inspection periods, the Service Provider applies the following formula:

Typical annual growth extension (m) X *years to next inspection/prune* (1 or 2 years)
= *Amount to be pruned* (m)

Examples of this formula -

Melaleuca linariifolia

- *regrowth 0.3m per annum* X *2 year = 0.6m clearance beyond minimum Clearance Space*

Quercus robur

- *regrowth 0.8m per annum* X *1 years = 0.8m clearance beyond minimum Clearance Space*

(4) Pruning to maintain the Clearance Space

Clearance pruning is undertaken by a pre-qualified Service Provider engaged through one of the contracts specified on page 6.

The Service Provider will implement the pruning program to clear trees identified as being in, or likely to grow into, the Clearance Space as identified through the assessment process described in section 9(4)(j)(i)(1) herein.

In order to achieve pruning of acceptable quality, all pruning personnel, either Council employees or Service Providers, must have the following as a minimum:

- Formal training as outlined in 9(4)(p) that incorporates modern tree pruning practices including awareness of AS4373 and natural target pruning principles.
- Project induction including awareness training in the Code of Practice and this Management Plan.

Records of each pruning undertaken on each tree are recorded and stored in Council's Tree Register.
Hazardous trees identified during these routine inspections are programmed for pruning or removal and prioritised according to their hazard potential.

Emergency or reactive works are recorded and closed out in Council's Request Management System once completed.

Council acknowledges its role of supervising staff and Service Providers to ensure that work is performed safely and consistently with the Regulations. Service Providers and other staff working on behalf of Council shall at all times comply with the safe approach distances contained in the Electricity Safety (General) Regulations 2019.

As part of its regular contract reporting, Council will ensure that the Service Provider has appropriately trained and inducted its employees into these requirements.

In the event that the safe approach distances cannot be maintained work shall cease immediately and advice from the relevant distribution business will be sought. This may involve shutdown or the use of live line workers with suppression of the auto reclose function. The City of Stonnington, Senior Arborist or delegated authority and its Service Provider are responsible for organising required 'Shutdowns' and 'Suppressions'.

(5) Alternative methods that may be adopted to maintain the clearance space

The following alternatives will be investigated when Council confirm that a tree/s cannot be pruned to comply with the Code:

- Applying an Exception for that tree.
- Advocating for transition of overhead electric lines to underground cable infrastructure.
- Working with the relevant distribution business to convert overhead electric lines to Aerial Bundle Conductor (ABC) or covered conductors.
- Working with the relevant distribution business to implement an alternative engineering solution.

(ii) Specify the method for determining an additional distance that allows for cable sag and sway

The City of Stonnington, being an inner metropolitan municipality, primarily has spans of less than 45 metres in length. If longer spans are identified the City of Stonnington and/or its Service Providers will:

- Use Schedule 2 – Applicable distance for the middle two thirds of a span of an electric line and in particular Graphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 to determine the additional clearance distance required to allow for cable sag and sway for spans up to 100 metres. Refer to Attachment 4 for the graphs.
- Council has obtained the location of spans over 100m in length from the relevant Distribution Businesses. The additional sag and sway allowances are calculated from the tables in Attachment 4.
- The list contains 40 spans over 100m and is stored in Council's electronic document management system. Refer to Attachment 4 for a copy of the list.
- A copy has been supplied to Council's Service Providers.
- This list is reviewed annually as part of the preparation of this Plan and discussed at the annual meeting in July of every year with the, network owners United Energy and CitiPower.

9(4)(k) THE PROCEDURES TO BE ADOPTED IF IT IS NOT PRACTICABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AS 4373 WHILE CUTTING A TREE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE.

The City of Stonnington and its Service Providers will cut trees in accordance with AS 4373 as far as practicable while also ensuring:

- Safe approach distances are maintained.
- A safe work environment when working at heights.
- Minimum clearance is achieved.
- An affordable level of productivity.

Definition: 'As far as Practicable' means that which is reasonably able to be done while taking into account all relevant matters including safety, the impact of the pruning on the tree and the requirements of the Regulations and the Code.

If it is not practicable to comply with the requirements of AS 4373 while cutting a tree in accordance with the Code, the City of Stonnington and/or its Service Providers will:

- Refer the affected trees to the Senior Arborist or delegated authority for assessment.
- Consider alternative solutions to comply with the Code such as an engineered solutions or exceptions and exemptions.
- Seek approval from the Senior Arborist or delegated authority when compliance with AS 4373 is unable to be achieved.
- Notify residents when required about cutting not in accordance with AS 4373.

If the Senior Arborist or delegated authority confirms that a tree cannot be cut in accordance with AS 4373 to meet the required clearances, the City of Stonnington will assess the appropriateness of applying Exceptions for these trees.

The City of Stonnington will also:

- Provide its Service Providers with the definition of ‘As far as Practicable’.
- Requires its Service Providers to document when and how their personnel were made aware of this definition of ‘As far as Practicable’.
- Audit a percentage of the trees pruned proactively as part of the scheduled maintenance within Biennial Streets and Annual Streets to review compliance with pruning benchmarks.
- Forward non-compliance lists to the City of Stonnington Service Providers as rework lists. This data will be maintained by the City of Stonnington as a spreadsheet file in the electronic document management system.
- As part of its preparation of this document, include a review of all processes and procedures and their effectiveness in meeting the Plan objectives and ensure all current versions of regulations, Codes and Standards (e.g. AS 4373) are being applied.
- Have a monthly meeting with its Service Providers and include as an item for discussion, the Code and related provisions.

9(4)(l) A DESCRIPTION OF EACH ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE MECHANISM IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON HAS APPLIED, OR PROPOSES TO APPLY, FOR APPROVAL UNDER CLAUSE 31 OF THE CODE.

Council does not hold approval or intend to apply for any alternative compliance mechanisms at the time of preparation of this Plan.

9(4)(m) THE DETAILS OF EACH APPROVAL FOR AN ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE MECHANISM

(i) that the Responsible Person holds -

Council does not hold approval or intend to apply for any alternative compliance mechanisms at the time of preparation of this Plan.

(ii) that is in effect

Council has no alternative compliance mechanisms in effect at the time of preparation of this Plan.

9(4)(n) A DESCRIPTION OF THE MEASUREMENTS THAT MUST BE USED TO ASSESS THE PERFORMANCE OF THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON UNDER THE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

The City of Stonnington will assess its performance against the service standards outlined in the contracts specified on page 6, and the performance criteria set out below.

Criteria	Measurement method	KPI
Completion of the annual inspection and pruning program	• Assessment records • Audit • Contract compliance records	• 100% on-time completion of program
Minimisation of fire risk and maintain continuity of supply through compliance with the Code	• Service Provider performance audits & Service Provider monthly reports • Records of annual inspection of Exceptions (if necessary) recorded in works management system	• 100% on-time completion of reporting
Response times in regard to requests to investigate or notifications of non-compliance	• Customer Requests System internal reports	• Meet corporate customer service benchmarks
Safety of public and workers	• Incident reports & Service Provider monthly reports	• No reportable incidents
Quality of Work (Pruning Techniques)	• Service Provider performance audits • Annual audit of Service Provider staff qualifications and training	• 100% completion of Contract benchmarks • 100% Compliance with 9(4)(o) of this Plan
Documentation & Notification of Works	• Service Provider performance audits • Customer Requests System internal reports	• 100% compliance with notification requirements
Number of complaints received regarding the Service Provider's work (Council's customer request system)	• Customer Requests System internal reports • Powerline inspection data to be reported to ELC personnel at monthly contract meeting.	• No year-on-year increase in complaints received
Number of substantiated notifications of breaches of the Code from Distribution Business (DB)	• Reports received and actioned in works management system • Reports from DB on any reported power outages as a result of non-compliance.	• No year-on-year increase in requests received
Number of substantiated requests for pruning from residents	• Customer Requests System internal reports • A review of all historic data to measure against ongoing program improvements.	• No year-on-year increase in requests received
Ensure compliance with Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020	• Satisfy all performance measure within this table	• Adherence to Electric Line Clearance Management Plan
Ensure protection of significant vegetation	• Audit of post pruning works	• All cuts compliant to Best Practice

The Service Provider is advised of the performance standards under the Plan at a meeting following the Plan review. Adherence to these performance standards is assessed during the audit details at 9(4)(o) and reviewed at each monthly contract meeting.

9(4)(o) DETAILS OF THE AUDIT PROCESSES THAT MUST BE USED TO DETERMINE THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE:

Council's compliance with this part of the Plan is dependent on the performance of its tree maintenance Service Provider. The Service Provider, and by extension, Council as a Responsible Person, will be measured/assessed through the contract performance process.

The City of Stonnington will:

- Audit 10% minimum of the trees requiring pruning to achieve Code compliance.
- Audit using suitably qualified (as defined in section 9(4)(p)) City of Stonnington arboricultural personnel or an authorised arboricultural representative to ensure that the work is compliant with this Plan and the relevant contract specification. Audits will be based on the program and reactive information provided by the Service Providers.
- Audit using the standard audit template stored in Council's Electronic Data Management System to maintain consistency when completing ELC program audits.
- Record works that are identified as being non-compliant and forward them to the Service Provider to be rectified within two (2) weeks unless otherwise arranged with the Supervisor. These reworks are subject to a further sample audit to confirm compliance is achieved. The costs associated with meeting compliance with the specifications to be borne by the Service Provider.
- Maintain non-compliance lists. This data will be maintained by the City of Stonnington as a spreadsheet file in the electronic document management system.
- Ensure non-compliant work lists are completed by the relevant Service Provider and data is returned to the City of Stonnington. The non-compliant work lists will be closed out and the data will be maintained by the City of Stonnington as a spreadsheet file in the electronic document management system.
- As part of its preparation of this Plan include a review of all processes and procedures and their effectiveness in meeting the Plan objectives and ensure all current versions of regulations, codes and standards (e.g. AS 4373) are being applied.
- During annual Service Provider review, undertake an annual desktop review of the Contractor personnel training and qualifications records to ensure compliance with 9(4)(p).
- Ensure the Service Provider has maintained their personnel training and qualifications records for ongoing and new staff at each monthly meeting.
- Ensure review of this Plan and approval of an Electric Line Clearance Management Plan is completed by 31st March every year.
- Carry out OHS Audits of its ELC Service Providers on a bimonthly basis by its independent OHS Auditor Safety Unlocked. An additional three audits are conducted specifically focussed on activities relating to ELC.
- Analyse data year on year to identify any trends that may arise and implement any necessary corrective actions. This will be conducted as part of the annual contract review at the end of each calendar year.

Where assistance is required from others such as the distribution business, a consultation process shall be used to assist in attending to the non-compliance as soon as possible.

Record keeping

All records will be stored in Council's electronic document management system. The Service Provider will keep all records in accordance with the terms and conditions clearly set out in the contractual agreement.

9(4)(p) THE QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE THAT THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON MUST REQUIRE OF THE PERSONS WHO ARE TO CARRY OUT THE PRUNING OR REMOVAL OF TREES:

The Service Provider shall demonstrate to Council that all employees working on the Contract are appropriately authorised, qualified, trained by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and current, holding appropriate qualifications that legally entitle them to undertake the work, including all refresher training that is required to maintain currency.

The Service Provider shall demonstrate to Council that all equipment is suitable to undertake the work, including certification where required, and in safe working order, including all testing required to maintain currency. This shall occur on an annual basis as a minimum or as prescribed by Council as required. It shall also occur at any time there is a change of Contractor personnel, equipment or any other circumstances that renders the information out of date.

Council shall maintain the equivalent standards for all internal personnel working on powerline clearance.

A skills matrix for personnel working on Council's line clearance program is provided below.

For the purpose of the Code, a "suitably qualified arborist" is defined as, at a minimum, an Assessing Arborist role as detailed below. Note that the superseded course codes are referred to in brackets.

Role	Qualification(s)	Refresher	Other Licences / Training that may apply
Tree worker Tree pruning and removal near powerlines (incl EWP Operator, EWP Safety Observer, Tree Climber and Tree Climber Safety Observer)	UET20321 (UET20319) Certificate II in ESI – Powerline Vegetation Control AHC20516 Certificate III Arboriculture or equivalent	Annual ESI Refresher including • HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation • UETDRRF007 (UETTDRRF10) Provide First Aid in an ESI environment • UETDRRF002 (UETTDRRF03) Perform EWP rescue • UETTDRRF08 Perform EWP controlled descent escape • UETDRVC010 Perform rescue from within a tree in the vicinity of live electrical apparatus (UETTDRVC34) Undertake release and rescue from a tree near live electrical apparatus	All • UETDREL006 Work safely near live electrical apparatus as a non-electrical worker (UETTDREL14) Working safely near live electrical apparatus as a non-electrical worker • UETTDRRF01 Apply ESI safety rules, codes of practice and procedure for work on or near electrical apparatus • UETDRRF007 (UETTDRRF10) Provide First Aid in an ESI environment • HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation • FWPHAR2208 (FWPHAR2206) Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher • AHCMOM213 (AHCARB205A) Operate and maintain chainsaws • AHCCHM201 (AHCCHM201A) Apply chemicals under supervision • Hearing conservation • Appropriate vehicle licence (car/MR/HR) • Appropriate accredited traffic management training EWP Operator & EWP Safety Observer additional • TLILIC0005 Licence to operate a boom-type elevating work platform (boom length 11 metres or more) • UETDRVC004 Control vegetation in the vicinity of live electrical apparatus from an elevated work platform (UETTDRVC25) Use elevated work platform to cut vegetation above ground level near live electrical apparatus. • UETDRVC007 Control vegetation using pruning techniques (UETTDRVC33) Apply pruning techniques to vegetation control near live electrical apparatus

Role	Qualification(s)	Refresher	Other Licences / Training that may apply
			• UETDRRF002 (UETTDRRF03) Perform EWP rescue • UETTDRRF08 Perform EWP controlled descent escape Tree Climber & Climber Safety Observer additional • UETDRVC006 Control vegetation in the vicinity of live electrical apparatus from within the tree (UETTDRVC21) Use climbing techniques to cut vegetation above ground near live electrical apparatus • UETDRVC007 Control vegetation using pruning techniques (UETTDRVC33) Apply pruning techniques to vegetation control near live electrical apparatus • UETDRVC010 Perform rescue from within a tree in the vicinity of live electrical apparatus (UETTDRVC34) Undertake release and rescue from a tree near live electrical apparatus • AHCARB322 Access trees for inspection (AHCARB312) Use standard climbing techniques to access trees
Supervisor Tree pruning and removal near powerlines	UET20321 (UET20319) Certificate II in ESI – Powerline Vegetation Control AHC20516 Certificate III Arboriculture or equivalent	Annual ESI Refresher as per Tree Worker above	• As for Tree Worker, plus the following • UETDRVC002 Assess vegetation in an electricity supply industry environment (UETTDRVC24) Assess vegetation and recommend control measures in an ESI environment • AHCPCM204 Recognise plants • Experienced and competent in the supervision of a large group of employees.
Arborist Line clearance assessment	AHC20516 Certificate III Arboriculture	Annual ESI Refresher as per Tree Worker above	• HLTAID011 Provide First Aid • Drivers licence

Role	Qualification(s)	Refresher	Other Licences / Training that may apply
			• UETDRVC002 Assess vegetation in an electricity supply industry environment (UETTDRVC24) Assess vegetation and recommend control measures in an ESI environment AHCPCM204 Recognise plants
Assessing Arborist Defect assessment	AHC20516 Certificate III Arboriculture + AHCARB408 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation module + at least 3 years of field experience.	Annual ESI Refresher as per Tree Worker above	• HLTAID011 Provide First Aid • Driver's licence • UETDRVC002 Assess vegetation in an electricity supply industry environment (UETTDRVC24) Assess vegetation and recommend control measures in an ESI environment • AHCPCM204 Recognise plants 5 years industry experience
Consultant Arborist Hazard tree and Risk assessment	Diploma in Arboriculture + 5 years' experience	Annual ESI Refresher as per Tree Worker above	• HLTAID011 Provide First Aid • Driver's licence • UETDRVC002 (UETTDRVC24) Assess vegetation and recommend control measures in an ESI environment • AHCPCM204 Recognise plants • 5 years industry experience

Council's employees or Service Providers must also maintain the minimum distances specified in the Electricity Safety (General) Regulations 2019 (specifically outlined in regulation 616) when undertaking tree clearing works, and comply with the limits of approach as outlined in:

- The 'Blue Book'
- *ESV Electrical Safety Rules for Vegetation Management Work Near Overhead Powerlines by Non-Electrical Workers*.

Council does not require persons undertaking tree cutting works to have a minimum level of experience in order to undertake the work. As long as individuals have the required training and operate to the training and safety standards outlined in the Regulations, a minimum level of experience is not required. All personnel undertaking pruning will be made aware of the pruning quality requirements detailed in 9(4)(k) during worksite induction and be suitably qualified as defined in section 9(4)(p) herein.

Where a tree that is likely to fall onto or otherwise come into contact with an electric line the tree will be risk assessed by a Consultant Arborist. If a Consultant Arborist is not

practically available, an assessment will be undertaken by an Assessing Arborist. The assessment will take into account foreseeable local conditions and consider the classification of the tree. Based on the Arborist's assessment and recommendations, the hazard tree will be actioned in compliance with the Code.

Personnel found not to be appropriately trained for the designated task must be removed from line clearance work as specified in the relevant contract.

9(4)(q) NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURES

Council understands the importance of providing notification of programmed tree pruning works to affected persons.

The City of Stonnington will -

- Have its programmed pruning works available on its website with relevant map and current pruning schedule.
- Review the routine pruning program on a monthly basis at the monthly contract meeting and update the pruning schedule on the website as required.
- Ensure the Plan is available on its website and is updated by July 1 each year.

Changes to the program will be made on Council's website no less than 14 and no more than 60 days prior to the commencement of works.

Council notifies directly affected residents of tree pruning that relates to electric line clearance using the notification cards shown in Attachment 4.

Where a tree is identified as requiring immediate tree works, Stonnington Council's Service Providers will carry out the works and notify the Senior Arborist. Council staff will then notify directly affected residents of the reasons for the tree works.

9(4)(r) DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES.

The following dispute resolution procedure is in place for internal and external disputes that may arise during the period of this Plan. This staged procedure is to be followed for the resolution of disputes relating to cutting or removal of trees where it relates to electric line clearance. The details of the Council personnel holding the positions in the following flowchart are listed at the start of this Plan.

Stage 1. – Individual tree request not being addressed,

Dispute to be referred to Coordinator Tree Management, City of Stonnington for resolution.

Stage 2. – Multiple requests not being addressed or non-resolution of Stage 1 dispute.

Dispute to be escalated to Manager, Open Space and Environment, City of Stonnington;

Stage 3 – Non-resolution of Stage 2 dispute.

Dispute to be escalated to Director, Environment and Infrastructure, City of Stonnington;

Stage 4 - External dispute resolution procedure to occur if the dispute cannot be resolved via the above process;

If the dispute is not solved during the above, the dispute will be referred in writing to the:

Energy & Water Ombudsman (Victoria Limited)
GPO Box 469
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Phone: 1800 500 509

The determination of the ombudsman will be binding on the responsible person.

10(6) A RESPONSIBLE PERSON MUST ENSURE THAT COPY OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS PUBLISHED ON THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON'S INTERNET SITE.

The City of Stonnington will:

- Ensure that once reviewed and amended that the current plan is published on Council's website by July 1 each year which can be found here: https://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Services/Trees/Trees-on-Council-land#section-6

- Ensure that the superseded plan is removed from the website.

PART 2 – CLEARANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

DIVISION 1 – ROLE OF RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

(4) EXCEPTION TO MINIMUM CLEARANCE SPACE FOR STRUCTURAL BRANCHES AROUND INSULATED LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINES

The City of Stonnington applies this Exception to a number of trees throughout the municipality. This list is updated regularly and is stored in Council's electronic document management system.

The Exception relates to a structural branch with a part that is >130mm diameter within the Clearance Space for spans that are:

(i) Less than or equal to 40m in length and the branch is >150mm from the line, or
(ii) Greater than 40m in length and the branch is >300mm from the line.

Where these situations are identified and removal of the branch will significantly alter the shape of the tree or compromise its structure, Council will undertake an individual risk assessment of the tree to determine whether an Exception to the normal clearance requirements is appropriate.

All assessments of trees to which this Exception may be, or is applied, will be undertaken by a suitably qualified arborist 9(4)(p) herein within 14 months of the previous assessment.

Where the assessment determines that the branch is a low risk of impacting on the powerlines, the tree will be added to a register of trees to which this exception is being applied.

All assessment records will be held as per Council's data retention policies, and for a period of no less than 5 years.

The Senior Arborist or delegated authority will be responsible for managing this process.

(5) EXCEPTION TO MINIMUM CLEARANCE SPACE FOR SMALL BRANCHES AROUND INSULATED LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINES

The City of Stonnington is yet to identify any trees to which this exception may apply; however, trees are continually being inspected to identify trees that may meet the requirements of this Exception.

All assessments of trees to which this exception may be, or is applied, will be undertaken by a suitably qualified arborist with all relevant training as detailed in section 9(4)(p) herein.

If the City of Stonnington identifies any trees to which it intends to apply this exception it will list the tree on a register. For these tree/s it will not be required to ensure that a particular branch of a tree for which it has clearance responsibilities is clear of the minimum clearance space for a span of an electric line if:

- The electric line is:
  - An insulated cable; and
  - A low voltage electric line; and
- The branch is less than 10 mm at the point at which it enters the minimum clearance space; and
- The branch has been removed from the minimum clearance space within the last 12 months.

All assessment records will be held as per Council's data retention policies, and for a period of no less than 5 years.

The Senior Arborist or delegated authority will be responsible for managing this process.

(6) EXCEPTION TO MINIMUM CLEARANCE SPACE FOR SMALL BRANCHES AROUND UNINSULATED LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINES IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS

The City of Stonnington is yet to identify any trees to which this Exception may apply.

All assessments of trees to which this Exception may be, or is applied, will be undertaken by a suitably qualified arborist with all relevant training as detailed in section 9(4)(p) herein within 14 months of the previous assessment.

If the City of Stonnington identifies any trees to which it intends to apply this Exception, it will list the tree on a register. For these tree/s it will not be required to ensure that a particular branch of a tree for which it has clearance responsibilities is clear of the minimum clearance space for a span of an electric line if:

- The electric line is:
  - An uninsulated cable; and
  - A low voltage electric line; and
- The branch is less than 10 mm at the point at which it enters the minimum clearance space; and
- The branch is no more than 500mm inside the minimum clearance space; and
- The point at which the branch originates is below the height of the electric line; and
- In the case of a branch that comes within the minimum clearance space around the middle 2 thirds of the span, the span is fitted with—
  (i) one conductor spreader if the length of the span does not exceed 45 metres; or
  (ii) 2 conductor spreaders if the length of the span exceeds 45 metres; and
- the responsible person has completed an assessment of the risks posed by the branch; and
- the responsible person has implemented measures to effectively mitigate the identified risks.

All assessment records will be held as per Council's data retention policies, and for a period of no less than 5 years.

The Senior Arborist or delegated authority will be responsible for managing this process.

(7) EXCEPTION TO MINIMUM CLEARANCE SPACE FOR STRUCTURAL BRANCHES AROUND UNINSULATED LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINES IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS

The City of Stonnington applies this Exception to a number of trees throughout the municipality. This list is updated regularly and is stored in Council's electronic document management system.

The Exception will be applied to these trees and it will not be required to ensure that a particular branch of a tree for which it has clearance responsibilities is clear of the minimum clearance space for a span of an electric line if:

- The electric line is:
  - An uninsulated cable; and
  - A low voltage electric line; and
  - Located in a low bushfire risk area; and
- In the case of a branch that comes within the minimum clearance space around the middle two thirds of the span, the span is fitted with:
  - If the length of the span does not exceed 45 metres – one cable spreader; or
  - If the length of the span exceeds 45 metres – two cable spreaders; and
    Note: A spreader is not required to be fitted to the span if the branch comes within the minimum clearance space around the first or last sixth of the span.
- The branch is wider than 130 mm at the point at which it enters the minimum clearance space; and
- The branch is no more than 500 mm inside the minimum clearance space; and
- Within the last twelve months:
  - a suitably qualified arborist has inspected the tree of which the branch is a part; and
  - the arborist has advised the responsible person that the tree of which the branch is a part does not have any visible structural defect that could cause the branch to fail and make contact with the electric line; and
  - the responsible person has completed an assessment of the risks posed by the branch; and
  - the responsible person has implemented measures to effectively mitigate the identified risks.

Where these situations are identified and removal of the branch will significantly alter the shape of the tree or compromise its structure, Council will undertake an individual risk assessment of the tree to determine whether an Exception to the normal clearance requirements is appropriate.

All assessments of trees to which this Exception may be, or is applied, will be undertaken by a suitably qualified arborist with all relevant training as detailed in section 9(4)(p) herein within 14 months of the previous assessment.

Where the assessment determines that the branch is a low risk of impacting on the powerlines, the tree will be added to a register of trees to which this exception is being applied.

All assessment records will be held as per Council's data retention policies, and for a period of no less than 5 years.

The Senior Arborist or delegated authority will be responsible for managing this process.

(8) OWNER OR OPERATOR OF TRANSMISSION LINE MUST MANAGE TREES AROUND MINIMUM CLEARANCE SPACE

The City of Stonnington is not an owner or operator of transmission lines and is therefore not responsible for electrical clearance of vegetation around transmission lines.

(9) RESPONSIBLE PERSON MAY CUT OR REMOVE HAZARD TREE

Please see Part 1 9(4)(j)

PART 2 – CLEARANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

DIVISION 2 – MANNER OF CUTTING AND REMOVING TREES

(10) CUTTING OF TREE TO COMPLY WITH STANDARD

Please see Part 1 9(4)(k)

(11) CUTTING OR REMOVAL OF INDIGENOUS OR SIGNIFICANT TREES MUST BE MINIMISED

Please see 9(4)(h) and 9(4)(i).

(12) CUTTING OR REMOVING HABITAT FOR THREATENED FAUNA

Please see 9(4)(i).

PART 2 – CLEARANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

DIVISION 3 – NOTIFICATION, CONSULTATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

(16) RESPONSIBLE PERSON MUST PUBLISH NOTICE BEFORE CUTTING OR REMOVING CERTAIN TREES

Please see 9(4)(g).

PART 2 – CLEARANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

DIVISION 4 – ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

(20) DUTY RELATING TO THE SAFETY OF CUTTING OR REMOVAL OF TREES CLOSE TO AN ELECTRIC LINE

Where Council and its Service Provider are unsure of the safety of pruning or removing a tree, they will consult with the relevant Distribution Business, or if the tree affects a railway supply line, the relevant Railway Operator, to develop an appropriate action plan to mitigate the hazard or bring the tree into compliance with the Code.

The contact details of the relevant organisations are provided on page 7 of this Plan.

(21) DUTY RELATING TO ASSISTING TO DETERMINE THE ALLOWANCE FOR CONDUCTOR SAG AND SWAY

Notwithstanding other requirements of this clause, Council notes that an owner, operator or distribution company that is consulted by a Council under subclause 21(1) of the Regulations must assist the Council by determining the additional distance. Council will keep a record of the information provided, including the additional sag and sway distances for at least 5 years.

PART 3 – MINIMUM CLEARANCE SPACES

DIVISION 2 - ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE MECHANISMS

(31) APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE MECHANISM

Council does not hold approval for, or currently intend to use any alternative compliance mechanisms.

If Council should apply to Energy Safe Victoria for approval to use an alternative compliance mechanism in respect of a span of an electric line or a class of spans, the application will contain details including:

(i) the alternative compliance mechanism; and
(ii) a written confirmation from the Distribution Business or alternative qualified provider that includes;

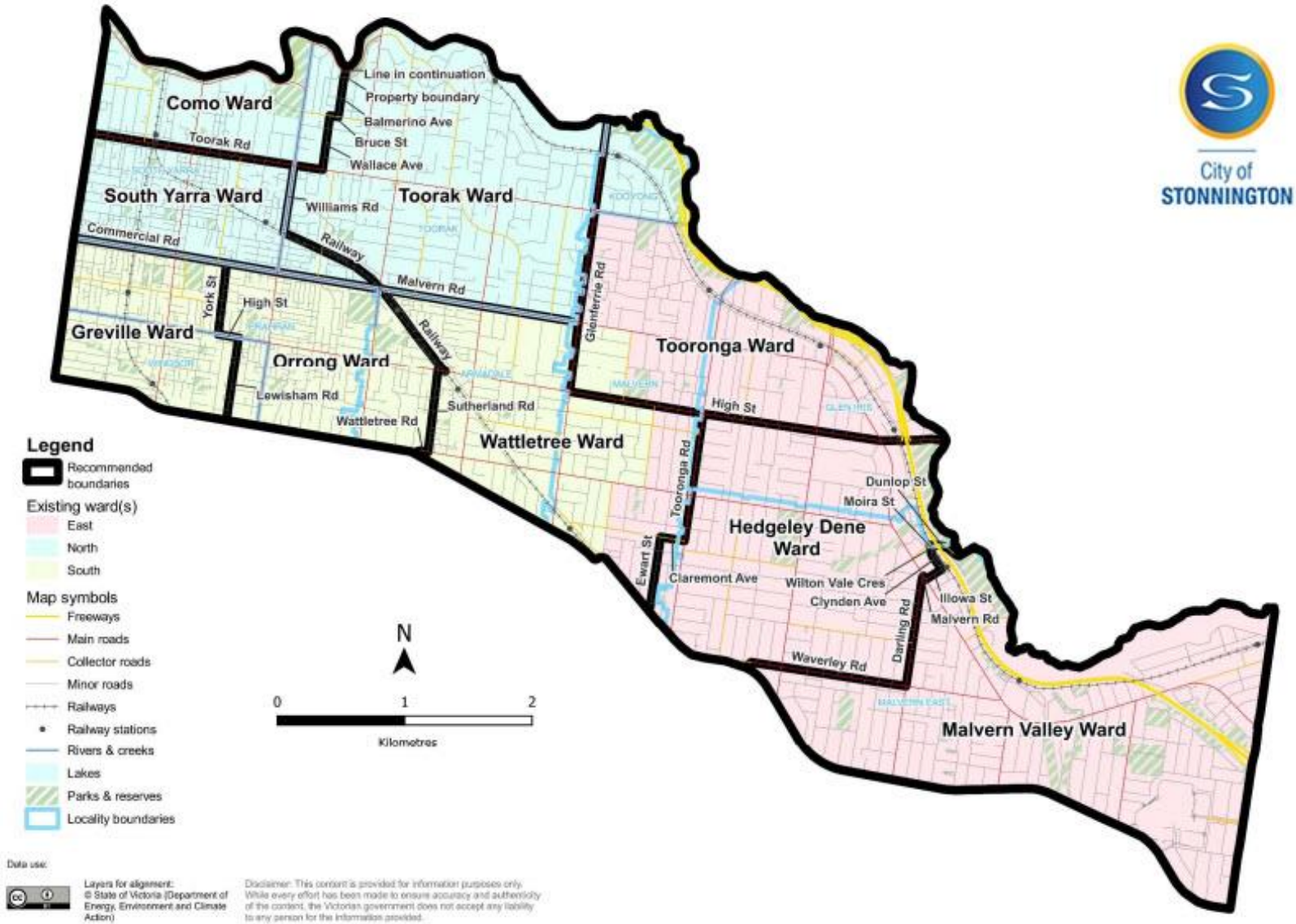
a) the procedures to be adopted for commissioning, installing, operating, maintaining and decommissioning the alternative compliance mechanism; and
b) the published technical standards that will be complied with when commissioning, installing, operating, maintaining and decommissioning the alternative compliance mechanism; and
c) specify the location of the span of electric line; or describe the class; and
d) the minimum clearance space proposed is to be applied in relation to the span, or class of spans, in respect of which the application is made; and
e) a copy of the formal safety assessment prepared by the Distribution Business or an alternative qualified provider under clause 32.

(iii) a copy of the written agreement of the owner or the operator of the span; or the owner or the operator of each span that belongs to that class.

(32) FORMAL SAFETY ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE MECHANISM

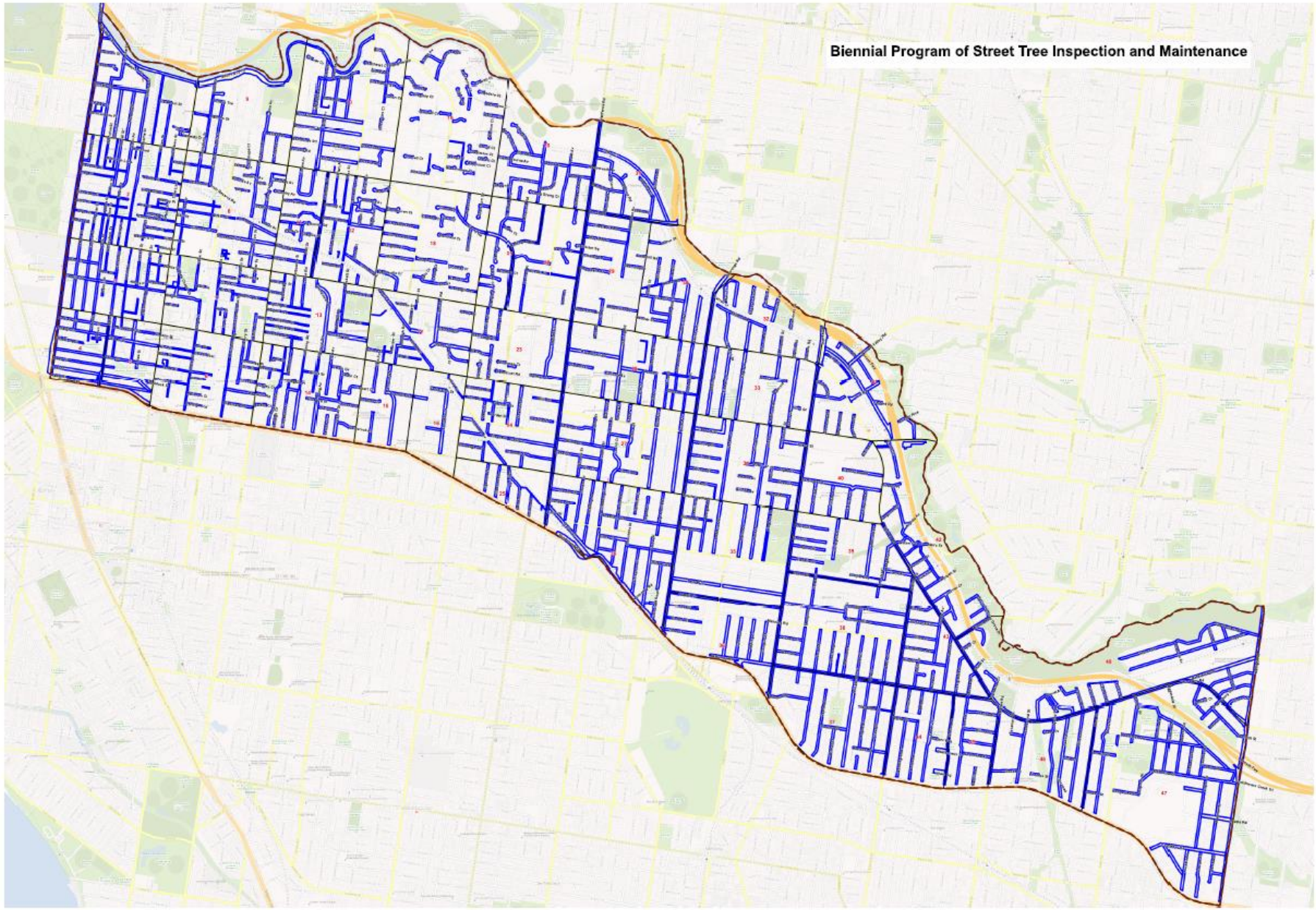
As City of Stonnington staff are not qualified to provide a formal safety assessment, this will be prepared by the Distribution Business or an alternative qualified provider and will comply with the requirements as defined in Schedule 1, Part 3, Division 2, Clause 31 of the Code.

ATTACHMENT 1 – Declared Area Map

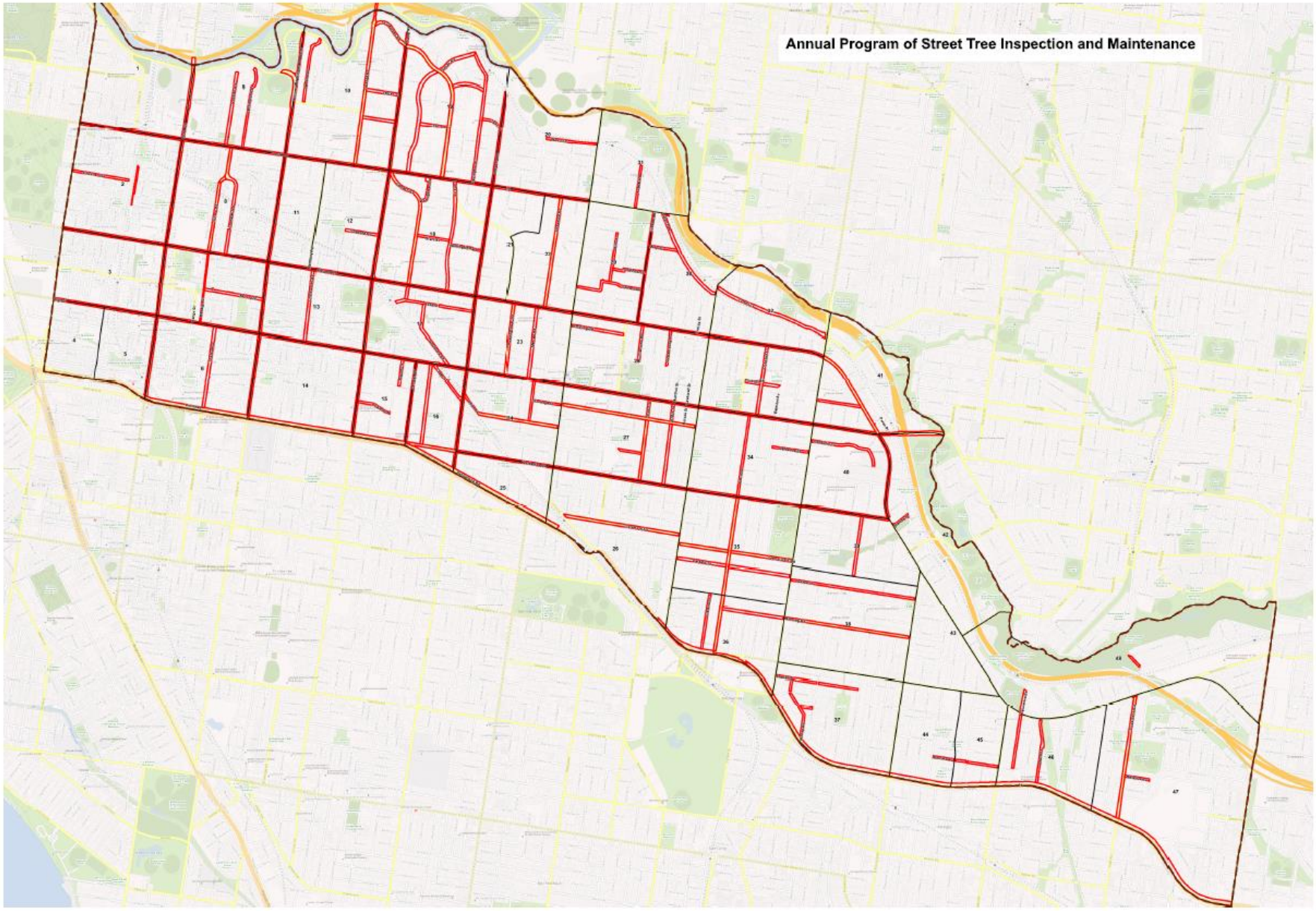


City of STONNINGTON

ATTACHMENT 2 – Map of Biennial Streets

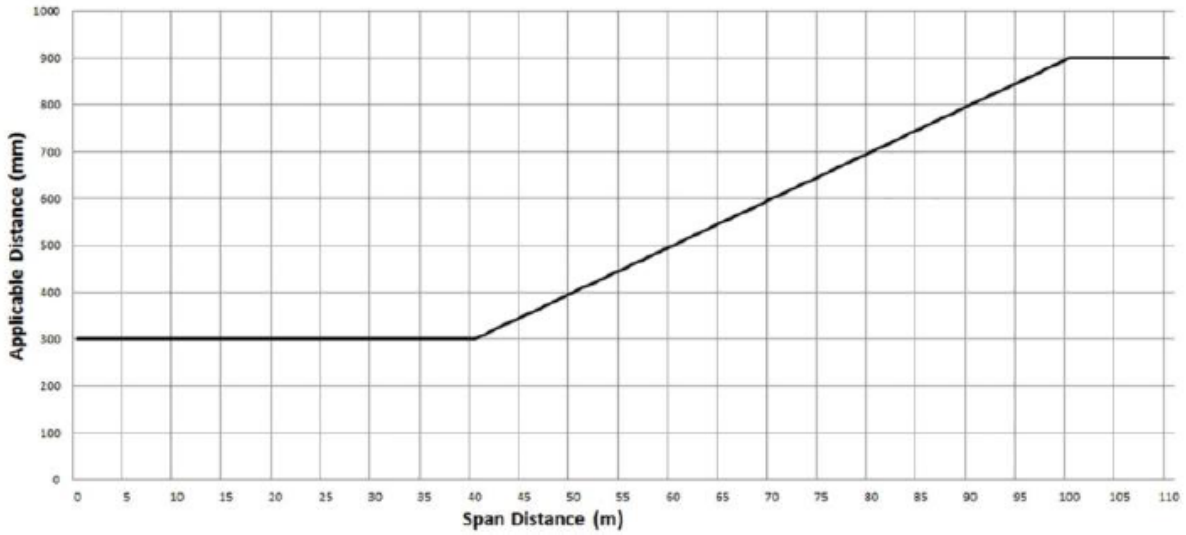


ATTACHMENT 3 – Map of Annual Streets



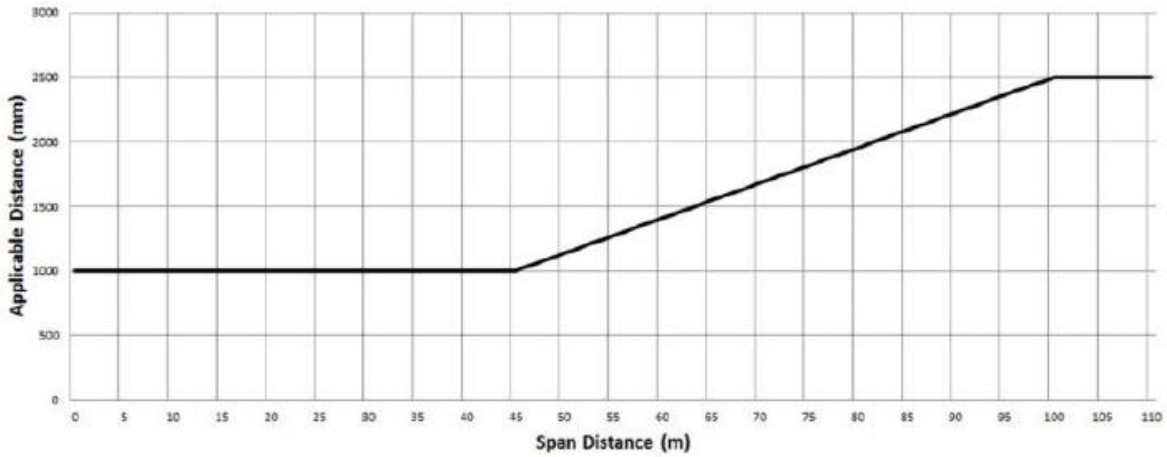
ATTACHMENT 4 - Applicable distance for middle 2/3 of span

GRAPH 1—INSULATED ELECTRIC LINES IN ALL AREAS



The formula by which the applicable distance for the middle two thirds of a span of an insulated electric line in all areas is calculated is as follows:
The applicable distance for the middle two thirds of the span is:
A. if the span distance is less than or equal to 40 m the applicable distance equals 300 mm;
B. if the span distance is greater than 40 m and less than or equal to 100 m — the applicable distance is calculated in accordance with the following expression — 300 + [(span distance minus 40) multiplied by 10];
C. if the span distance is greater than 100 metres the applicable distance equals 900 mm.

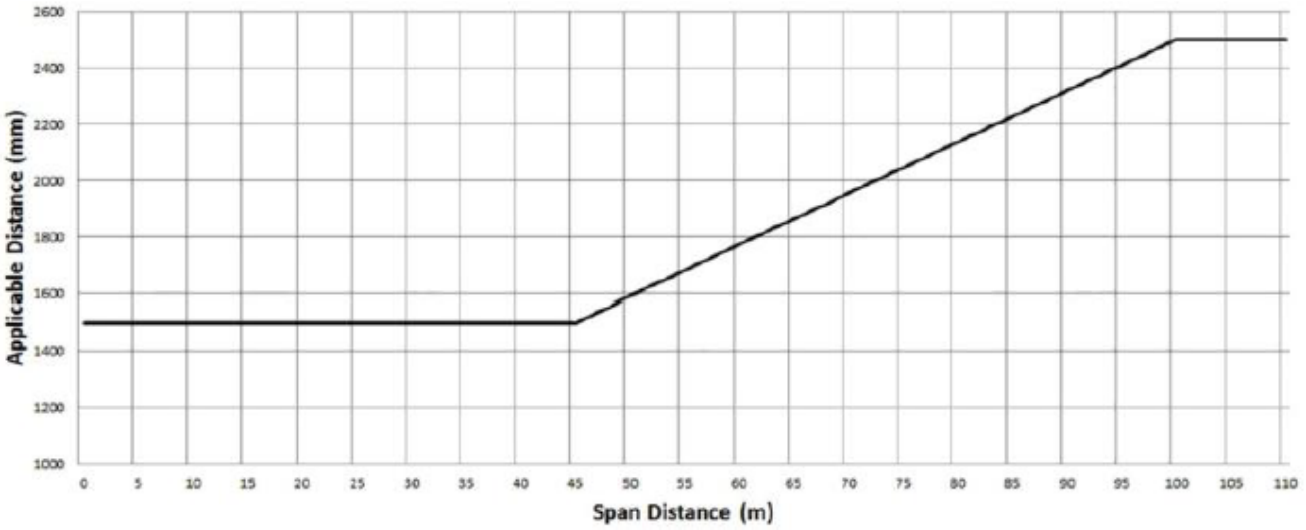
GRAPH 2: UNINSULATED LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINE IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREA



The formula by which the applicable distance for the middle two thirds of a span of uninsulated low voltage electric line in a low bushfire risk area is calculated is as follows

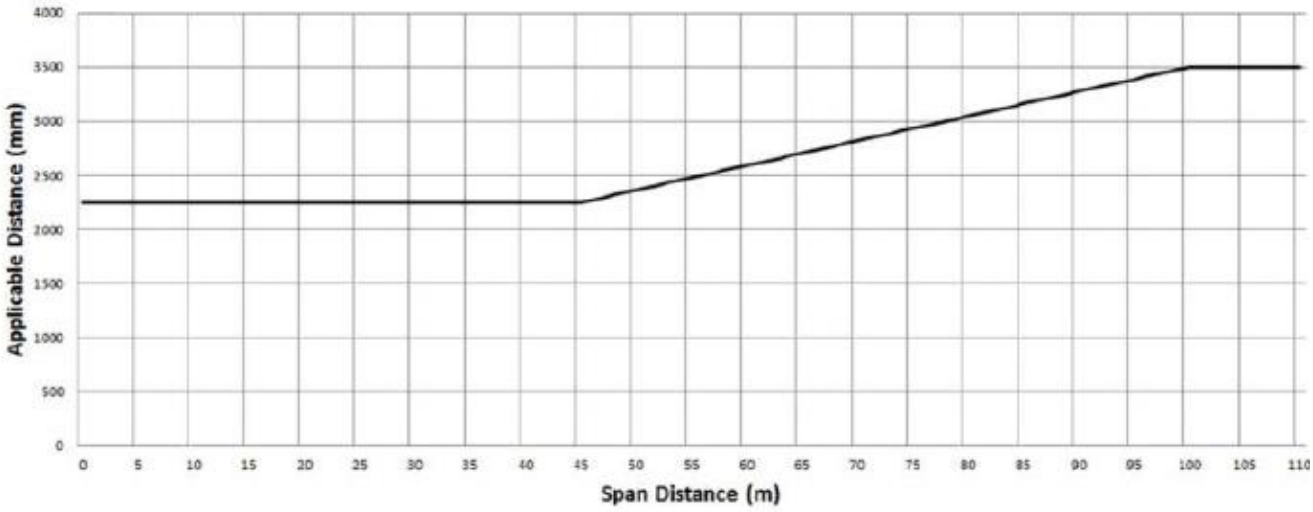
A if the span distance is less than or equal to 45 m the applicable distance equals 1000 mm;
B. If the span distance is greater than 45 m and less than or equal to 100 m the applicable distance is calculated in accordance with the following expression: 1000 + [(span distance minus 45) multiplied by (1500 divided by 55)];
C. if the span distance is greater than 100 m the applicable distance equals 2500 mm.

GRAPH 3: UNINSULATED HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINE (OTHER THAN A 66,000 VOLT ELECTRIC LINE) IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREA



The formula by which the applicable distance for the middle two thirds of a span of uninsulated high voltage electric line (other than a 66,000-volt electric line) in a low bushfire risk area is calculated is as follows:
A. if the span distance is less than or equal to 45 m the applicable distance equals 1500 mm;
B. if the span distance is greater than 45 m and less than or equal to 100 m, the applicable distance is calculated in accordance with the following expression 1500 + [(span distance minus 45) multiplied by (1000 divided by 55)];
C. if the span distance is greater than 100 m the applicable distance equals 2500 mm.

GRAPH 4: UNINSULATED 66,000 VOLT ELECTRIC LINE IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREA



The formula by which the applicable distance for the middle two thirds of a span of uninsulated 66,000 volt electric line in a low bushfire risk area is calculated is as follows:
A. if the span distance is less than or equal to 45 m the applicable distance equals 2250 mm
B. if the span distance is greater than 45 m and less than or equal to 100 m the distance calculated in accordance with the following expression 2250 + [(span distance minus 45) multiplied by (1250 divided by 55)];
C. if the span distance is greater than 100 m the applicable distance equals 3500 mm.

Tables and graphs in this section have been extracted from the Regulations.

PLAN AND SECTION VIEW OF CLEARANCE SPACES FOR ALL AREAS PER ELECTRICITY SAFETY (ELECTRIC LINE CLEARANCE) REGULATIONS 2020

FIGURE 1 – PLAN VIEW OF ELECTRICAL LINES IN ALL AREAS

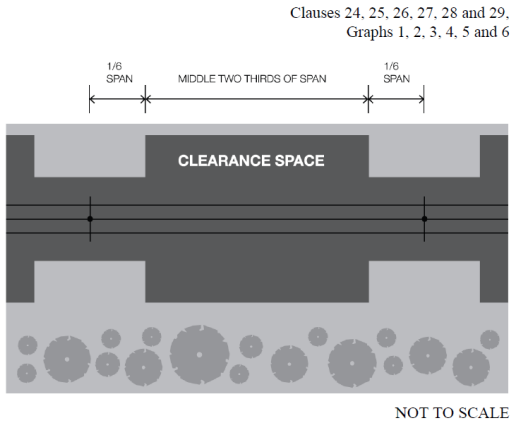


FIGURE 2 – INSULATED ELECTRICAL LINES IN ALL AREAS

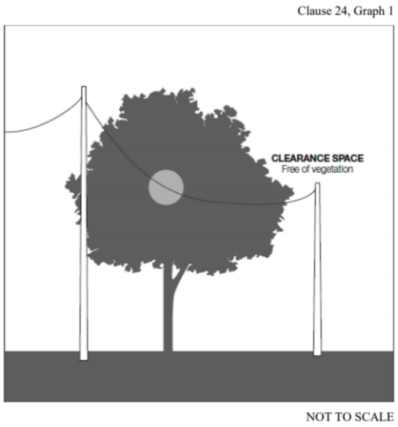


FIGURE 3 – INSULATED ELECTRICAL LINES IN ALL AREAS AND UNINSULATED HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL LINES (OTHER THAN 66 000 VOLTAGE ELECTRIC LINES) IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS

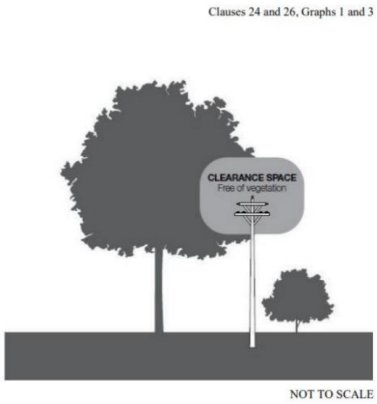


FIGURE 4 – UNINSULATED LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL LINES IN LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS

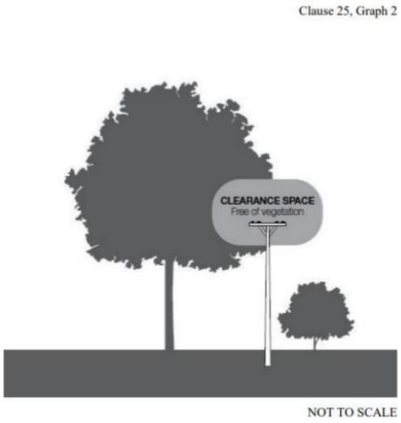
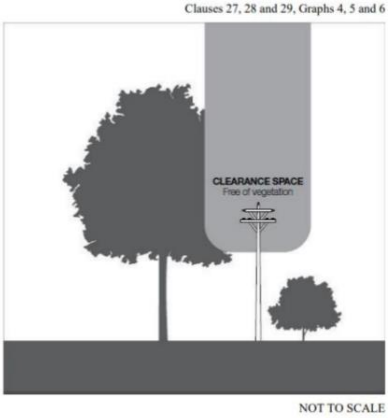


FIGURE 5 – UNINSULATED 66 000 VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL LINE IN A LOW BUSHFIRE RISK AREA AND UNINSULATED ELECTRIC LINE IN A HAZARDOUS BUSHFIRE RISK AREA



LIST OF SPANS 100M+

The below list is sourced from our network owners CitiPower and United Energy. Column F is the distances calculated by the network owners using the formula derived from their approved ELCMP : MCS = AD + SAS where MCS = Minimum Clearance Space,
AD = Applicable Distance and SAS = Sag and Sway. This information is shared with our Service Providers to guide them in the calculation of tree clearances.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Span ID	Span Length	Start Pole LIS	End Pole LIS	Highest Voltage	CP_UE MCS (	Span Owner	Span Feeder	Address	Suburb	Span Coordinates
2	24439675	218.81	8803391	2332161	22kV sub-transmissi	2.74	UE	T-MTS No21	477 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.07271799, -37.87978474] }
3	24418283	136.38	2334033	2334032	22kV sub-transmissi	6.03	UE	MTS-VR GARD No	2 GOLFERS DRIVE	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.06806562, -37.87302474] }
4	24436472	134	2333582	9490202	66kV	9.08	UE	AR 99	293B TOORONGA ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.03980349, -37.84719577] }
5	24441200	125.2	2334031	8803318	22kV sub-transmissi	6.86	UE	MTS-VR GARD No	497 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.07029106,-37.87503631]}
6	10003994	101.28	31873	31874	66kV	7.07	CitiPower	RTS-SK	7 WILLIAM STREET	SOUTH YA	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99133336, -37.84266673] }
7	10003975	101.89	31902	31903	66kV	6.91	CitiPower	RTS-SK	COMMERCIAL ROAD	SOUTH YA	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99096521, -37.84467765] }
8	10015539	102.67	31474	31473	66kV	3.5	CitiPower	BC-TK	181 WILLIAMS ROAD	SOUTH YA	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.00333476, -37.84691499] }
9	24439597	122.04	2332793	2332794	66kV	3.71	UE	MTS-EL-EM 66kV	19 SYLVESTER CRESCENT	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.06981144, -37.87726099] }
10	10003964	109.13	31901	31902	66kV	7.42	CitiPower	RTS-SK	COMMERCIAL ROAD	SOUTH YA	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99077219, -37.84561589] }
11	10003409	110.51	31896	31897	66kV	7.74	CitiPower	RTS-SK	90 GREVILLE STREET	PRAHRAN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.98992615, -37.84995152] }
12	10003408	112.04	31897	31898	66kV	7.72	CitiPower	RTS-SK	1/126A COMMERCIAL RO	PRAHRAN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99008464, -37.84895685] }
13	24587013	362.75	9490216	9490218	66kV	14.54	UE	K-RTS No1 66kV	1002 CRESCENT ROAD	GLEN IRIS	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.04734345,-37.84871993]}
14	24450467	325.91	2332554	2332556	22kV sub-transmissi	14.35	UE		624 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.08941661,-37.8829777]}
15	24441165	108.79	2334314	2333411	66kV	3.57	UE	MTS-EL-EM 66kV	614 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.08018968, -37.87829416] }
16	10553431	147.08	854745	854746	66kV	5.73	CitiPower	RTS-AR	ALEXANDRA AVENUE	SOUTH YA	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.00458944, -37.83129404] }
17	10547791	320.77	822665	822659	66kV	11.99	CitiPower	RTS-AR	GRANGE ROAD	BURNLEY	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.01469909, -37.83112428] }
18	10053778	134.89	31881	31880	66kV	8.01	CitiPower	RTS-SK	3/167 TOORAK ROAD	SOUTH YA	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[144.99218741,-37.83787836]}
19	10003415	114.01	31898	31899	66kV	7.66	CitiPower	RTS-SK	1/126A COMMERCIAL RO	PRAHRAN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99025672, -37.84794777] }
20	24587010	456.91	9490212	9490213	66kV	7.97	UE	AR 99	1 YARRA RIVER BANK	TOORAK	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.00688957,-37.83208027]}
21	24587009	298.77	9490211	9490212	66kV	7.97	UE	AR 99	25 WINIFRED CRESCENT	TOORAK	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.0108729,-37.83170953]}
22	24587007	434.09	9490209	9490210	66kV	7.97	UE	AR 99	19 YARRADALE ROAD	TOORAK	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.01938174,-37.83167935]}
23	24587002	371.66	9490204	9490205	66kV	7.97	UE	AR 99	1A RESERVE ROAD	HAWTHOF	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.03880723,-37.83906305]}
24	24587000	264.85	9490202	9490215	66kV	12.17	UE	K-RTS No1 66kV	32 WEIR STREET	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.04185567, -37.84782378] }
25	10054215	116.26	813634	27742	66kV	3.5	CitiPower	RTS-SK	GRANGE ROAD	BURNLEY	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[144.99360863,-37.83350816]}
26	24587008	412.03	9490210	9490211	66kV	7.97	UE	AR 99	106 ST GEORGES ROAD	TOORAK	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.01463212,-37.83113902]}
27	24586999	357.08	9490202	9490203	66kV	14.23	UE	AR 99	351 TOORONGA ROAD	MALVERN	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.04034412,-37.84561199]}
28	24586526	164.2	9489814	9584242	66kV	6.54	UE	MTS-OAK 66kV	624 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.08523404, -37.88008023] }
29	24586525	243.63	9489814	2332554	22kV sub-transmissi	9.20	UE		624 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.08698043, -37.88128819] }
30	24445253	192.81	2332225	9489814	22kV sub-transmissi	5.24	UE		624 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.08510982, -37.87999707] }
31	10053797	151.84	826793	31415	66kV	4.33	CitiPower	RTS-TK	ALEXANDRA AVENUE	SOUTH YA	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.00478798,-37.83120255]}
32	10004511	115.18	66984	31882	66kV	7.33	CitiPower	RTS-SK	YARRA STREET	SOUTH YA	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99319506, -37.83519968] }
33	24418663	116.92	8801452	8801453	22kV sub-transmissi	2.59	UE	MTS-VR GARD No	1 ELM ROAD	GLEN IRIS	{"type":"Point","coordinates":[145.05891445,-37.85484559]}
34	10003464	105.33	31908	31907	66kV	3.5	CitiPower	RTS-SK	167 PEEL STREET	WINDSOR	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99178495, -37.8561189] }
35	10547790	431.2	822657	854745	66kV	7.97	CitiPower	RTS-AR	1 YARRA RIVER BANK	TOORAK	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.0075598, -37.83221105] }
36	24439746	643.53	2332161	8803373	22kV sub-transmissi	UE inspection in	UE	T-MTS No21	527 WAVERLEY ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.07745314, -37.87884613] }
37	24439868	516.98	9829974	8803352	22kV sub-transmissi	UE inspection in	UE	MTS-VR CAUL No	552A WARRIGAL ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.08137485, -37.87675096] }
38	10003286	156.96	31673	96885	11kV	CP inspection in p	CitiPower	RTS-EW	DANDENONG ROAD	WINDSOR	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99741853, -37.85785167] }
39	24418340	114.03	2317316	2312973	LV	UE inspection in	UE	K 34	1855 MALVERN ROAD	MALVERN	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.05853176, -37.86600125] }
40	10547789	331.35	822659	822657	66kV	CP inspection in p	CitiPower	RTS-AR	ALEXANDRA AVENUE	TOORAK	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [145.01143028, -37.83174053] }
41	10003434	129.27	31906	31887	66kV	CP inspection in p	CitiPower	RTS-SK	128 JUBILEE STREET	WINDSOR	{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [144.99085096, -37.85497813] }

NOTIFICATION EXAMPLE