



Pools and powerlines.

Things to know when planning or designing swimming pools for ACT backyards.

evoenergy

Pools and powerlines

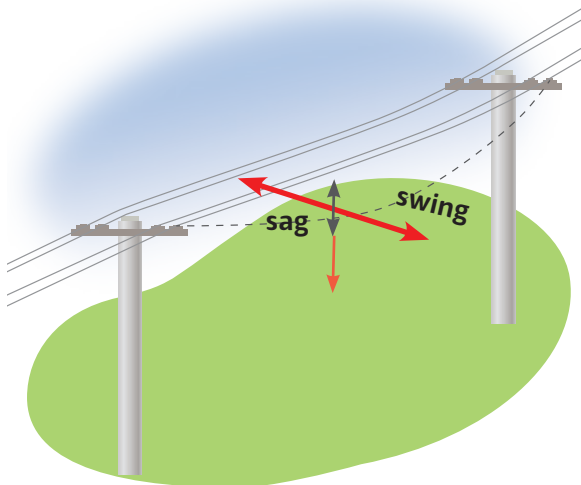
Pools and spas built underneath overhead powerlines or near substations can create serious safety hazards. We've put together this list of key points to assist you.

Minimum clearance distance

- A minimum of 3.5 metres plus sag and swing must be allowed from the edge of the pool or spa to the nearest part of the powerline.
- A minimum of 4 metres clearance must be allowed from edge of the pool or spa to the nearest pole.
- Minimum clearances of a swimming pool or spa in the vicinity of a substation will be individually assessed based on the earthing parameters in that particular location. This distance is typically 15-30 metres.
- The sag (which can increase in hot weather) and swing (which can increase in windy weather) of the line has to be taken into account to ensure this minimum clearance distance occurs in all types of weather conditions.
- Minimum clearance of 3.5 metres must be allowed from a swimming pool or spa to any underground cables. This distance can be reduced to 0.5 metres if cables are installed in a heavy duty insulating conduit.
- Swimming pool to powerlines clearance requirements are based on AS 3000 Clause 6.3, and the *Utility Networks (Public Safety) Regulation 2001* Clause 26 which requires clearance measurements to include line sag and swing. A copy of the regulations is available on the ACT Government's legislation register at www.legislation.act.gov.au
- This minimum clearance distance is a guide only and each site is reviewed on a case by case basis.
- Please contact Evoenergy for drawing 3832-020 which refers to the clearance requirements for a swimming pool from electrical infrastructure.

Sag and swing

- **Swing** is the distance that a sagging powerline can swing out from its resting position due to the effects of wind.
- **Sag** is the distance that the powerlines drops to from its attachment points on the supporting poles due mainly to the effects of temperature.



Safety

- Safety hazards include the risk of electric shock or electrocution if electrical wires fall too close to the water in the pool or spa.
- Hand held pool cleaners, which are often made of metal and have long handles, can also be dangerous under powerlines.

Reviewing your plans

- If you're putting in a new pool or spa, Evoenergy will review the plans as part of the development application. The application must include a site plan including location of the pool with clear dimensions to adjacent boundaries.

- As part of our assessment we send out an inspector to do a site visit and look at the location.
- Applications that don't meet the minimum clearance standards won't be approved.

If your design comes back as unapproved, you can consider the following options where applicable:

- reconsider the location or design of the pool or spa
- pay to insulate the powerline wires
- pay to have the tension on the wires tightened to reduce the sag
- pay to place the overhead powerlines underground.

Above-ground pools

- Above-ground pools that don't go through the development application process can also pose the same safety hazards. The same electrical safety rules and minimum clearance of 3.5 metres plus sag and swing from the edge of the pool to the powerline apply.



Dial Before You Dig

When planning to build a pool or spa, it's important to check what services are underground, on and around the block. Simply contact Dial Before You Dig and tell them your block location. They will pass the referral to the relevant services, who will send the information to you, generally within two working days.

There are two ways to lodge your enquiry.

 complete an online form at **1100.com.au**

 call **1100**

evoenergy.com.au

General enquiries

13 23 86

Emergencies and faults

13 10 93 – Electricity

13 19 09 – Natural gas

Language assistance

如果您需要幫助，請打電話給下面的號碼。

¿Necesita un intérprete? Llame al número indicado abajo.

هل تحتاج إلى مترجم؟ اتصل بالرقم أدناه.

Trebate li pomoć tumača? Nazovite niže navedeni broj.

Nếu quý vị cần sự giúp đỡ, vui lòng gọi số bên dưới.

Se vi serve un interprete, telefonate al seguente numero.

Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνέα, τηλεφωνείτε στον αριθμό παρακάτω.

13 14 50 – 24 hours