

What to do if contact is made with an overhead line

- Phone us with the accurate location of the incident so we can quickly get to site or remotely switch off the power.

Telephone **0800 195 4141** in emergency

- If you are in contact with or close to a damaged overhead wire move away as fast as you can and stay away until the emergency service or our engineer arrives.
- Once a line is on the ground you don't have to touch it to be killed as the current can travel through the ground or along a fence.
- Lines which have been damaged can stay live or become live again without warning by automatic operation of our system.
- Do report any damage or contact to equipment no matter how minor it seems.

Factors to be aware of:

- Electricity systems carry voltages up to 400,000 volts.
- Even the lowest voltage overhead lines can produce **10,000 times more current** than is required to kill a person.
- High Voltage electricity can jump gaps.
- Touching electricity lines or objects or people in contact with the lines can be fatal.
- Trees, string, ropes and water can conduct electricity.
- Lines that are damaged or on the ground may still be live and dangerous.

And finally remember

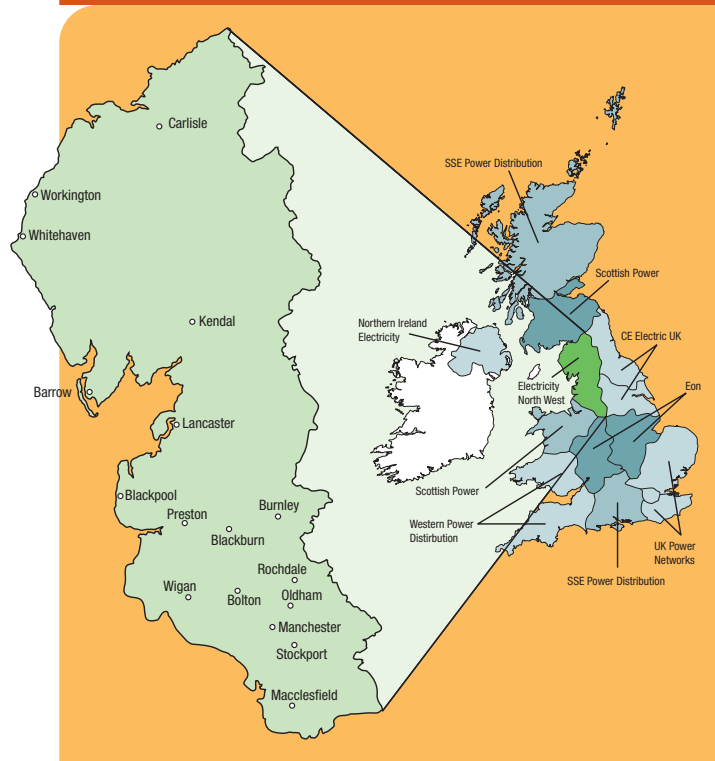
Don't get too close... you may feel the force

Contact us

To report hazards or incidents in proximity to electrical installations in Electricity North West's area call our 24 hour emergency number:

0800 195 4141

Visit our website www.enwl.co.uk



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Electricity Overhead Lines

Advice for avoiding danger when camping and caravanning



**DANGER OF DEATH
KEEP OFF**



Working throughout North West England, Electricity North West owns, operates and maintains the electricity distribution network.

Our equipment is designed so that it is not dangerous in normal circumstances; however people have been killed and injured as a result of coming close or making contact with electricity overhead lines.

Accidents have happened when people are enjoying their leisure time; for example when erecting tents or moving metal tent poles about below or alongside overhead power lines.

Children have received electric shocks when climbing trees that grow close to power lines.

Anglers can be at risk when assembling, carrying rods or fishing near overhead lines.

Making contact with overhead power lines causes electric shocks, burns and sometimes fatal injuries.



Look out! Look up!

- ⚠ Check for overhead power lines in the area where you intend to set up – remember they may be hidden by trees or obstacles.
- ⚠ Can you recognise overhead power lines? They are generally mounted on wooden poles but can also be supported on steel pylons or concrete structures.
- ⚠ Avoid placing tents or caravans underneath or less than 6 metres either side of power lines.
- ⚠ Tent and awning poles made from metal, carbon fibre and similar materials will conduct electricity especially when wet.
- ⚠ In some circumstances high voltage electricity can jump through the air which means that equipment does not actually need to touch the line for people holding it to be affected.
- ⚠ Never carry long objects vertically, always horizontally, parallel with the ground at as low a height as possible.
- ⚠ Flag poles and aerials should not be erected or moved below and close to overhead lines.
- ⚠ Don't light fires beneath overhead power lines. This could cause the line to break and fall down.
- ⚠ Never attach or tie anything off overhead power lines or electrical equipment.
- ⚠ Don't fly kites, balloons or model aircraft near to overhead lines.
- ⚠ If your property becomes entangled in a power line or lost in a substation compound call us on the number shown on the notice. 0161 228 2628
- ⚠ Tell us if you come across any string, rope or fishing line hanging from a power line. If things are left hanging and not reported someone else could get hurt or even killed.
- ⚠ Don't attempt to recover any lost property yourself

Advice for Site Owners and Operators

You have a responsibility to ensure that the public on your site are aware of any potential dangers.

Check for any overhead power lines crossing the site or close by it. To obtain plans of our network phone us on **0800 195 4749** or email:

DatamanagementDSMC@enwl.co.uk

Place "No Camping" signs to mark the area close to power lines where pitching is not allowed.

Locate playground areas well away from overhead lines.

Place signs prohibiting kite or model aircraft flying in areas of the site where power lines are present.

Make sure site users and employees are aware of the dangers described in the Look Out! Look Up! section of this leaflet.

