



Electrical Line Clearance Plan 2025  
Lockwood Facility  
Version 1

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## 2 Document control

Document Revision						
Document Title	HCF Electrical Line Clearance Managment Plan (2025)					
Status	Written		Checked		Authorized	
Version	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
V1	BP	24/6/25	CT	16/07/25	TL	16/07/25
V2						
V3						
V4						
V5						
V6						
V7						
V8						
V9						
V10						

Table 1- Control register

### 1.1 Plan Amendment

ELCMP Clause #	Change/Updated Element	Comments

Table 2 Amendment Register

### 3 Plan Approvals & Responsibilities

#### 3.1 Specified Operator (Responsible Person)

Registered Company Name	Hazeldene's Chicken Farm Pty. Ltd.
Trading Company Name	Hazeldenes
ABN	72 004 381 346
ACN	004 381 346
Site Address	74 Hazeldenes Road, Lockwood, Vic, 3551
Specified Operator	Tony Girgis
Specified Operator Position	Chief Executive Office
Specified Operator Email	Tony.Girgis@hazeldenes.com.au
Phone	(03) 5431 1306
Website	<a href="https://hazeldenes.com.au/">https://hazeldenes.com.au/</a>

#### 3.2 Plan Development

Plan Developed	Bennie Prinsloo
Email	bennie.prinsloo@hazeldenes.com.au
Address	74 Hazeldenes Road, Lockwood, Vic, 3551
Phone	0447 641 525

#### 3.3 Plan Application

Plan Application Position	Group Engineering Manager
Plan Application Responsible	Bennie Prinsloo
Plan Application Email	bennie.prinsloo@hazeldenes.com.au
Plan Application Address	74 Hazeldenes Road, Lockwood, Vic, 3551
Plan Application Phone	0447 641 525

#### 3.4 Company Information and Location

Hazeldenes is an integrated poultry processor, with a large processing facility located in Lockwood, Victoria (approximately 15km from Bendigo) and a hatchery site in East Bendigo. Hazeldenes receives poultry from several farms which are located across the central Victoria region.

#### 3.5 Electrical Line Clearance Plan

This Electric Line Clearance Management Plan (ELC) outlines how Hazeldenes manages vegetation clearance along our electrical distribution network to mitigate the risk of failure, bushfire and to ensure our assets are safe and reliable. As the owner of the internal overhead electrical line Hazeldenes has prepared this plan in accordance with the **Electricity Safety Act 1998** and the **Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Interim Regulations 2025**

### 4 Objectives of the Line Clearance Plan

The objective of an Electrical Line Clearance Plan is to ensure the safe management of vegetation and other hazards near electrical powerlines to prevent accidents, electrical faults, fires, and service interruptions. This plan has been prepared to comply with the latest **Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Interim Regulations 2025**

Hazeldenes is committed to upholding the health and safety of its people, the community and the environment in which it operates. In alignment with our H&S Policy and safety management system procedures, we are committed to the principle of risk mitigation. This includes the ignition of fire from electrical hazards and recognizing the significant threat this may pose to our people, property and the environment which is imbedded in the ELC plan

It is the responsibility of the 'Plan Application' person mentioned above to ensure that the objectives of this plan are carried out in a practicable manner.

This plan is subject to annual review to ensure it describes current management regimes and processes, and to allow for continuous improvement.

## 5 Description of overhead electrical assets

### 5.1 General Description

The approximately 20 ha chicken processing facility located at 74 Hazeldenes Road in Lockwood consists of approximately 20% hardstand/buildings and 80% grasslands. A majority of the original bushland was cleared long ago. The site relies on a high voltage underground network 22KV with a small portion (480m) above ground which is deemed as low risk. These overhead lines consist of cleared bush land running East to West. The power lines located on the property run East/West and stretch for approximately 480m only. All 8 Hazeldenes poles are cement.

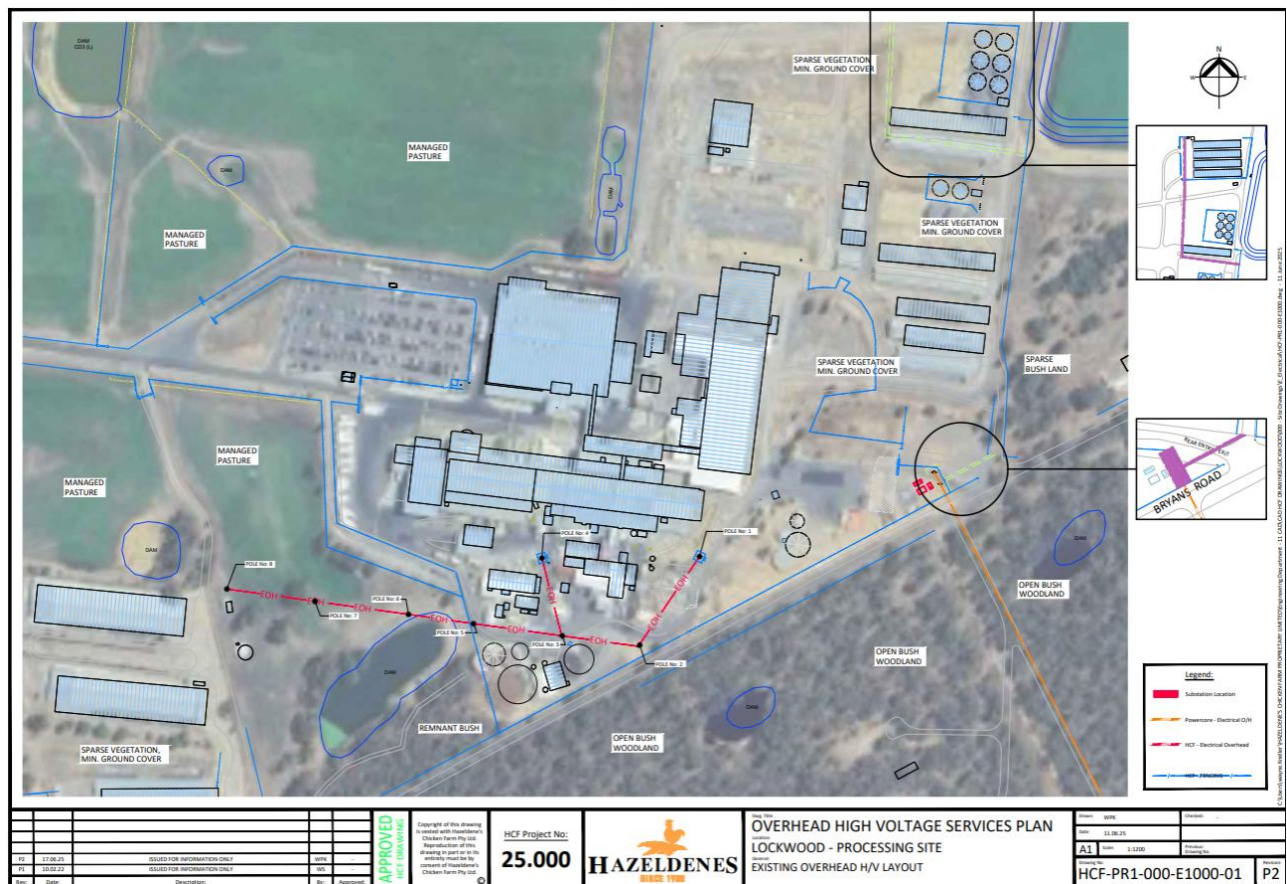


Figure 1 – Site Map with Power Pole Locations and numbers



## 5.2 Images (Electrical Infrastructure)



Figure 2 Powercor supply poles sub station 1 with REFCL Isolation transformer 1



Figure 3 Pole 1



Figure 4 Pole 2



Figure 5 Pole 3



Figure 6 Pole 4



Figure 7 Pole 5



Figure 8 Pole 6



Figure 9 Pole 7



### 5.3 Aerial Conductor's Detail

Conductor size: 7/3.00 AL  
Voltage 22kV  
Total conductor span 480m  
Pole 1 to pole 2 - 86m  
Pole 2 to pole 3 - 61m  
Pole 3 to pole 4 - 66m  
Pole 3 to pole 5 - 70m  
Pole 5 to pole 6 - 53m  
Pole 6 to pole 7 - 75m  
Pole 7 to pole 8 - 70m

### 5.4 Overhead Power Lines and surroundings

This ELC plan applies to 480 meters of overhead electrical lines and 8 concrete poles. All poles are owned by Hazeldenes. The infrastructure and surrounding area are maintained by Hazeldenes. The above-mentioned at-risk electric line is in (according to definition and EnergySafe Victoria) a Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area (HBRA). All lines are within Hazeldenes property/perimeter fence. The area is cleared of trees with grassland and paved areas. There are only 200m lines across grassland with some trees in the surrounding western area as per Figure 10, 11 & 12.



Figure 10 200m Grass area with some surrounding trees



Figure 11 3 Trees in surrounding areas



Figure 12 BMO Bush Fire management overlay



## 6 Electrical Line Clearance Particulars

Section 5 covers the specifics requirements of the ELC plan with relation to the Electrical Safety Regulation 2020 (Electrical Line Clearance), referencing part 2 Prescribed Code of Practice provision 9

Reg 9(2)	<b>Obligation to prepare a plan</b>	
	The Plan must be reviewed annually to be submitted before the 30 <sup>th</sup> March with any amendments as part of Hazeldenes annual risk review program	
	This ELC plan is the first version that has been developed during consultation with Energy safe Victoria while developing the Bush fire management plan. File location: <a href="#">HCF Electrical Line Clearance Management - VI (Draft).docx</a>  All draft marked documents are under review or development	
9 (4) (a)	Name Address of responsible person	Refer to section 2.1 of this document
9 (4) (b)	The name, position, address and telephone number of the individual who was responsible for the preparation of the management plan	Refer to section 2.2 of this document
9 (4) (c)	The name, position, address and telephone number of the persons who are responsible for carrying out the management plan	Refer to section 2.3 of this document
9 (4) (d)	The telephone number of a person who can be contacted in an emergency requires clearance of a tree from an electric line that the responsible person is required to keep clear of trees	Refer to section 2.3 of this document
9 (4) (e)	The objectives of the management plan	Refer to section 3 of this document
9 (4) (f)	The land to which the management plan applies (as indicated on map)	Refer to section 4.1 of this document <i>Figure 13– Site Map with Power Pole Locations and numbers</i>
9 (4) (g)	Any hazardous bushfire risk areas and low bushfire risk areas in the land referred to in paragraph (f) as indicated on the map	Refer to section 4.4 of this document <i>Figure 14- 200m Grass area with some surrounding trees</i>
9 (4) (h)	The location of areas of containing trees which may need to be cut or removed to ensure compliance with the Code and that are - (i) indigenous to Victoria; or (ii) listed in a planning scheme to be of ecological, historical or aesthetic significance; or (iii) trees of cultural or environmental significance	Refer to section 4.4 of this document <i>Figure 15- 3 Trees in surrounding areas</i>
9 (4) (i)	The means which the responsible person is required to use to identify a tree specified in paragraph (h)(i) (ii) or (iii)	Refer to section 6.1 of this document
9 (4) (j)	The management procedures that the responsible person is required to adopt to ensure compliance with the Code, which must– (i) include details of the methods to be adopted for managing trees and maintaining a minimum clearance space as required by the Code (ii) specify the method for determining an additional distance that allows for cable sag and sway for the purpose of determining a minimum clearance space	Refer to section 6 of this document
9 (4) (k)	Procedure to be adopted if it is not practicable to comply with AS 4373 while cutting a tree in accordance with the Code	Refer to section 6 of this document

9 (4) (l)	A description of each alternative compliance mechanism in respect of which the responsible person has applied or proposes, for approval under clause 31 of the Code	There are nil alternative mechanisms associated with this ELC plan
9 (4) (m)	The details of each approval for an alternative compliance mechanism that- (i) the responsible person holds (ii) is in effect	There are nil alternative mechanisms associated with this ELC plan
9 (4) (n)	A description of measures that must be used to assess the performance of the responsible person under the management plan	Refer to section 6.2.1 of this document
9 (4) (o)	Details of the audit process that must be used to determine the responsible person's compliance with the Code	Refer to section 7 of this document
9 (4) (p)	The qualifications and experience that the responsible person must require of the persons who are to carry out the inspection, cutting or removal of trees	Refer to section 8 of this document
9 (4) (q)	Notification and consultation procedures, including the form of notice to be given in accordance with the Code	Refer to section 6.2.2 of this document
9 (4) (r)	Dispute resolution procedures	Refer to section 6.2.2 of this document
9 (4) (s)	Details of any exemption granted by energy Safe Victoria	Hazeldenes does not hold any Exemptions

Table 3- Obligation reference

## 7 Maintenance & Management of Vegetation

Vegetation management forms an integral part of Hazeldenes' High Voltage (HV) asset maintenance program, which includes both annual and three-yearly (external) inspections, as well as an internally managed annual vegetation spraying plan.

### External Program

#### Annual HV Assessment

An annual visual inspection of the overhead HV lines and associated poles is conducted by Nilsen. This assessment is non-intrusive and is designed to identify any visible risks or maintenance requirements, including vegetation-related issues.

#### Three-Yearly HV Shutdown and Maintenance

A comprehensive HV shutdown is carried out every three years. This more intrusive assessment provides the opportunity to perform in-depth maintenance activities, including vegetation clearing and control, where deemed necessary based on inspection outcomes.

### Internal Program

As part of the internal maintenance strategy for HV assets, Hazeldenes implements an annual vegetation spraying program across all substations. This includes the preparation of a report outlining the status and extent of vegetation growth to inform future management actions and ensure regulatory compliance.

### Managing Electrical line works and maintenance

All High overhead electrical line works conducted on the Hazeldenes site, including electric line clearance activities, shall be undertaken by appropriately qualified and authorised contractors. Contractors engaged must possess the necessary competencies, certifications, and approvals to perform HV and vegetation management tasks safely and in compliance with relevant legislation and industry standards.

All contracted works must be executed in accordance with the following:

- **Electricity Safety Act 1998 (VIC)**  
Establishes the legal duties for ensuring the safe operation and maintenance of electrical infrastructure, including the management of associated vegetation.
- **Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2025 (VIC)**  
Specifies the minimum clearance requirements, inspection and maintenance responsibilities, and environmental considerations for vegetation near electric lines.
- **Australian Standard AS 4373-2007 – Pruning of Amenity Trees**  
Outlines accepted arboricultural practices for pruning, ensuring that vegetation management is conducted without causing long-term harm to tree health.
- **Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) Guidelines and Enforcement Notices**  
Provides regulatory guidance, technical expectations, and compliance obligations as enforced by the state safety authority.
- **SWSOP025 S&W Risk Management Procedure**  
Adhere to Hazeldenes safe working procedures for any highrisk work as per procedures

Hazeldenes is committed to ensuring that all HV and vegetation works are carried out with the highest standards of safety, compliance, and environmental responsibility.

## 7.1 Vegetation management

Vegetation management, as outlined in the ELC Plan, encompasses all trees and undergrowth that require maintenance or removal to ensure compliance with relevant regulations and codes enforced by Energy Safe Victoria.

The area in question comprises entirely private land that has been cleared for development. Accordingly, there are no trees within this area that meet any of the following classifications:

- Indigenous to Victoria.
- Identified in a planning scheme as having ecological, historical, or aesthetic significance.
- Considered to hold cultural or environmental significance.

Given that the high-voltage asset and its surrounding area do not include any trees of Indigenous, ecological, aesthetic, historical, cultural, or environmental significance, the ELC Plan does not incorporate specific management provisions for such vegetation. (See Figure 161- 3 Trees in surrounding areas)

## 7.2 Tree Pruning management

As this ELC plan only covers 200m of HV lines within vegetation and 3 insignificant trees more than the minimum required clearing distance in the surrounding area (Figure 17- 200m Grass area with some surrounding trees) the requirements for any tree pruning are most unlikely.

If the requirements for any pruning does arise the person responsible need to engage contractors that can execute the work within the guidelines of Hazeldenes ELC plan including full adherence to:

- **Following the minimum clearance is set out in section 6.2.1. as the minimum clearance requirements**
- **AS 4373-2007-Pruning of trees,**
- **Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2025 (VIC)**
- **Electricity Safety Act 1998 (VIC).**
- **SWSOP025 S&W Risk Management Procedure**

## 7.2.1 Guidelines to maintain line clearance specific to Hazeldenes

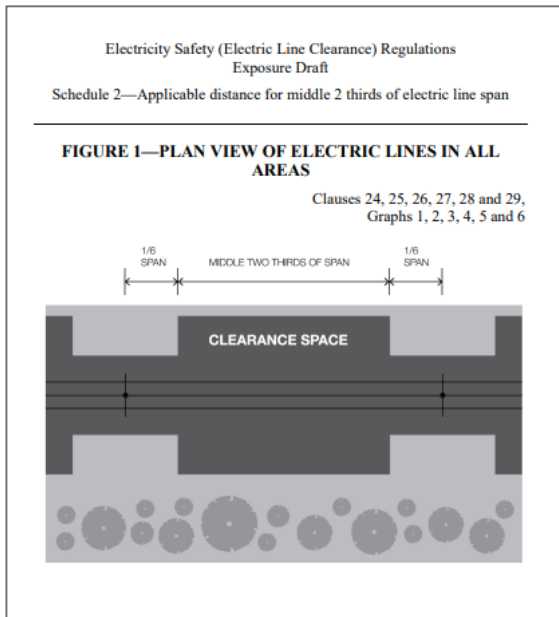
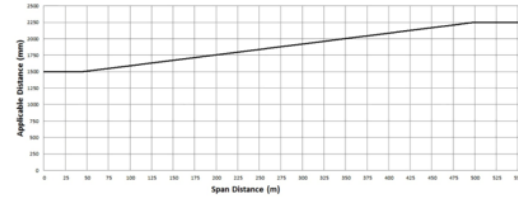


Figure 18 Guideline for Clause 28 Line Type  
(Regulations, 2025)

**Graph 5—Uninsulated low voltage and high voltage electric line (other than a 66 000 volt electric line) in a hazardous bushfire risk area**

Clauses 3 and 28



**Graph 5 Formula**

The formula by which the applicable distance for the middle two thirds of an electric line span to which clause 28 applies is calculated as follows—

For  $0 < SD \leq 45$ ,  $AD = 1500$  mm

For  $45 < SD \leq 500$ ,  $AD = 1500 + ((SD - 45) \times (500 \div 303))$

For  $500 < SD$ ,  $AD = 2250$  mm

where—

**SD** is the span distance;

**AD** is the applicable distance.

Figure 19 Applicable Distance

(Regulations, 2025)

### **Clause 28 – Uninsulated high voltage line in high hazardous bushfire area with maximum span of 90m**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Applicable Distance} &= 1500 + ((SD - 45) \times \left(\frac{500}{303}\right)) \\ &= 1500 + ((90 - 45) \times \left(\frac{500}{303}\right)) \\ &= 1574\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adding a safety factor of 30\% for sag and sway} &= (0.3 \times 1574) \\ &= 472\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Clearance Distance} &= 1574 + 472 \\ &= 2046\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

Adding Regrowth factor of 1 meter

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pruning Clearance} &= 2046 + 1000 \\ &= 3046\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

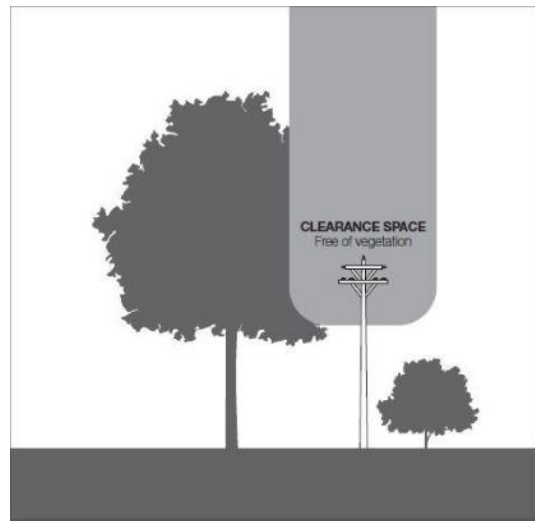


Figure 20 Clearance Space

(Regulations, 2025)

**Minimum Clearance Distance 2050mm in any direction**  
**Minimum Pruning Distance 3050mm in any direction**



### 7.2.2 Notification, consultation and disputes

As all the overhead network are on Hazeldenes own property and has been cleared from original bush land with only undergrowth and minor trees (seen in fig 10 & 11) there is no provision in the plan for any notification, consultation or disputes in Hazeldenes ELC plan

## 8 Audits and Reviews

Hazeldenes will utilize internal audits incorporated into the 3 yearly HV maintenance program to monitor the implementation of this ELC plan. The intent is to provide a mechanism to assist in identifying any potential implementation deficiencies along with creating a process for continuous improvement.

### 8.1 External Audits

External specialist resources, with the appropriate experience and expertise are engaged to assist as required. Hazeldenes will ensure an independent inspection is completed at least every 3 years by an Energy Safee Victoria registered company with the relevant training as setout in section 8 of this document.

The audit process considers actual performance and actual output and then compares these against planned performance and expected outputs. Where a nonconformance occurs, the item is noted and followed through to ensure corrective actions are taken and improvement opportunities are factored into ELC Plan with a focus on continuous improvement and performance.

#### 8.1.1 Internal Management Review

Internal management reviews will occur post any external audit, this will include a review of Audit report to identify non-conformances followed from the audit as well as improvement opportunities and recommendations.

### 8.2 Implementation Monitoring

Actions identified through inspections and audits will be tracked to close out. Upon completion of an audit, actions identified will be raised and recorded into the business Computerised Maintenance Management System (CMMS) and also sent to the relevant party for closure. These actions will be periodically reviewed and followed up for close out. Once the action is deemed to be closed, details of rectification will be recorded in the system and then closed.

All Physical works undertaken will be monitored by Hazeldenes personnel and or authorized and competent representative. An element of this monitoring is to ensure compliance with all site and legislative requirements.

#### 8.2.1 Improvements

Opportunities for continuous improvement of the plan may be identified in a range of ways. The following outline reasonably foreseeable triggers:

- Legislative change.
- Policy.
- Periodic internal document review.
- Industry practice.
- Review by the regulator (Energy Safe Victoria ESV).
- Audits.
- Incident investigations.
- Suggestions for improvement from members of the public (where practicable) or an officer of a public authority.

## 9 Competency/Training

### 9.1 Competency

As the activities and working environment within the ELC plan are deemed as high risk, Hazeldenes has developed the following table of Specific Training a- bare minimum to ensure staff are competent or qualified to undertake the work involved in the ELC plan using (Table 4- Specific Training control) as a guideline.

All personnel must be approved by Hazeldenes Group Engineering Manager prior to undertaking any electrical asset inspections or electrical line clearance work. Hazeldenes also utilize a global induction platform to control and manage contractor requirements for all works including works covered in the ELC plan.

### 9.2 Selection of a Competent Person

The individual responsible for conducting the inspection will be nominated by the Group Engineering Manager, based on the fulfilment of competency requirements, relevant regulations and the ELC plan with a focus on the task at hand.

The following personnel/process (Table 5- Specific Training control) form part of the vetting process to ensure staff or contractors have the relevant training and competence to perform activities or tasks in a safe & controlled manner

All persons working on or near electrical apparatus shall have appropriate training, authorisation and currency of competence for the duty to be performed as outlined in Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Interim Regulations 2025

Responsible Person	Description of Work	Qualification Check	Specific Training
<b>Group Engineering Manager</b>	Arrange for a Qualified Contractor to complete inspections.	Use of Contractor management and induction system (AVETTA) System verifies the competency and licenses required during pre-qualification with prepopulated requirements	Minimum of - 22109VIC – Certificate II in Asset Inspection
<b>Head of electrical</b>	Any line Clearance work will be contracted to an approve line clearance company.	Contractor Management & induction system (AVETTA) System verifies the competency and licenses required during pre-qualification with prepopulated requirements.	Minimum of - Certificate II in ESI - Powerline Vegetation Control - UETTDRC33A Apply pruning techniques to vegetation control near live electrical apparatus - UETTDRC25A Use elevated platform to cut vegetation above ground level near live electrical apparatus
<b>Maintenance Manager</b>	Carry out audits on an 'as needs' basis	Internal Recourses (Team environment) Head of electrical, Maintenance Manager, Engineering and OHS	Understand the ELC Plan including roles and responsibilities

Table 6- Specific Training control

### 9.3 Training verification in the Electrical Line Clearance Plan

All personnel with duties related to this plan will be provided a copy of the plan from the Person responsible for the preparation of the plan.

Those personnel are responsible for reading the plan and where any aspects require further explanation to attain understanding are to communicate with the Person responsible for the preparation of the plan.

Other workers and contractors will be trained in the ELC Plan along with all personnel undertaking tasks within the area covered by this plan will be operating under a process (i.e. either a standard procedure or Job Safety Analysis/specific task risk assessment). Records of competence will be reviewed by or on behalf of Hazeldenes personnel.

## 10 Inspection Plan

### 10.1 External

A visual walk of the line is scheduled annually as part of the annual HV inspection to ensure Line clearance as set out in section 6.2.1 Guidelines to maintain line clearance. During the inspection process any nonconformance against the ELC plan will be noted with a risk rating following as a guide to act on the findings. All nonconformance will be recorded on SWSOP020 Incident Management Procedure, including any actions or remedial works logged on to Hazeldenes work order system.

### 10.2 Internal

Annual weeding program of all Electrical Sub yards including spray around poles and infrastructure and a visual inspection of the line

### 10.3 Inspection Findings and Priorities

Based on the findings during line inspections, action will be taken as per the following priority table.

Priority Code	Description	Timeframe
<b>Critical</b>	Imminent risk of vegetation falling or get in contact with overhead electrical line	Immediate attention
<b>Severe</b>	Vegetation of trees closer than the recommended Clearance distance of 2050mm	60 Days
<b>Alert</b>	Vegetation of trees within the recommended Pruning distance of 2050mm-3050mm	60-120 Days

Table 7- Risk Rating

## 11 References

Details of the Document	Description of Work	Version Number	Published/ Submitted/ Approved
Hazeldenes Lockwood – Emergency Control and Management Plan	Hazeldenes Lockwood – EPM	2	1/10/24
Hazeldenes Safety Management System Risk Management Procedure	SWSOP025 S&W Risk Management Procedure	1	1/12/24
Hazeldenes Safety Management System Risk Management Procedure	SWSOP020 Incident Management Procedure	1	1/10/23
Hazeldenes Chicken Farm High Voltage and Low Voltage Maintenance 2024	Electrical Inspection and Service Report (TP Contractor – Nilsons)	1	29/8/24

Table 8 Reference document

## 12 Bibliography

Regulations, E. S. (. L. C. I. 2., 2025. *Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Interim Regulations 2025*. [Online]  
Available at: <https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/as-made/statutory-rules/electricity-safety-electric-line-clearance-interim-regulations-2025>  
[Accessed 11 June 2025].