

Roads

Master Specification

RD-EL-C3 Supply and Installation of Conduits and Pits

Document Information

KNet Number: 13469967

Document Version: 4

Document Date: July 2022

DEPARTMENT FOR
INFRASTRUCTURE
AND TRANSPORT



Government of South Australia

Department for Infrastructure
and Transport

Document Amendment Record

Version	Change Description	Date
1	Initial issue (formerly R53) General review and update.	02/07/19
2	Formatting for publishing	20/09/19
3	Merge Section 6 and 8 to rationalise the requirements of electrical and communications conduits; Merge Section 7 and 9 to rationalise the requirements of electrical and communications pits; Added requirement when adding new pits over existing conduit runs.	August 2021
4	Change minimum concrete reinforcement for pits to align with standard drawings. General document update and further clarification.	July 2022

Document Management

This document is the Property of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport and contains information that is confidential to the Department. It must not be copied or reproduced in any way without the written consent of the Department. This is a controlled document and it will be updated and reissued as approved changes are made.

Contents

Contents	3
RD-EL-C3 Supply and Installation of Conduits and Pits	4
1 General	4
2 Compliance with Legislation	4
3 Materials	5
4 Design of Conduits and Pits	6
5 Trenching, Boring and Backfill	6
6 Installation of Electrical and Communications Conduit	6
7 Installation of Electrical and Communications Pits	8
8 Electrical Trench Caution Tape and Cable Position Marker Posts	9
9 Verification of Conduit Condition	9
10 "As-Constructed" Drawings	10
11 Hold Points	10
12 Verification Requirements and Records	10
13 Appendix 1: Buried Cable Warning Sign Post Details and Installation	11
14 Appendix 2: Buried Power Cable Warning Sign	12

RD-EL-C3 Supply and Installation of Conduits and Pits

1 General

- 1.1 This Part specifies the requirements for the supply and installation of conduits and pits for electrical and communications purposes.
- 1.2 Where relevant to the Contractor's work, the Contractor shall comply with:
- a) AS/NZS 2053 Conduits and Fittings for Electrical Installations.
 - b) AS/NZS 2648.1 Underground marking tape - Non-detectable tape.
 - c) AS/NZS 3000 Electrical installations (known as the Australian/New Zealand Wiring Rules).
 - d) AS/CA S008 Requirements for customer cabling products.
 - e) AS/CA S009 Installation requirements for customer cabling (Wiring Rules).
- 1.3 The following Departmental Drawings referenced in this Part are listed in Table RD-EL-C3 1-1, includes all current published amendments:

Table RD-EL-C3 1-1 DIT Standard Drawings

Drawing No	Sheet No.	Title
S-4055	34	Plastic Electrical Pit No. 7 with Concrete Covers
	35	Plastic Electrical Pit No. 8 with Concrete Covers
	36	Plastic Electrical Pit Nos. 6 & 8 (2 Lids / Pit)
	56	Road Lighting - Submersible Switchboard / Isolation Pit - Single Phase for P2 and P3 Pit Applications
	66	Plastic Pits - Non Secured Concrete Lids & Surrounds
	67	Plastic Pits & Secure Steel Lids - Class A & Surrounds
	68	Plastic Pits & Secure Steel Lids - Class A & B Surrounds
	69	Plastic Pits & Lockable Steel Lids Class A & B Surrounds
	70	Secure & Lockable Steel Lid Components
	73	Signal Controller - UPS Distribution General Layout & Interconnection Single Line Diagram

- 1.4 The Department's Technical Standards and Guidelines including above drawings are available from the following web site: <https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/standards>.
- 1.5 Where this Part specifies a higher standard than that required by the above Australian Standards, the requirements of this Part will take precedence.

2 Compliance with Legislation

- 2.1 The Contractor shall comply with:
- a) Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995 (SA); and
 - b) Electricity Act 1996 (SA).
- 2.2 The Contractor's attention is drawn to Section 12 "Licensed contractor's work to be carried out by registered worker" and Section 13 "Obligation of workers to be registered" of the Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act.
- 2.3 Pursuant to Section 61 "Electrical Installation Work" of the Electricity Act, the Contractor shall provide an electrical certificate of compliance, signed by a registered worker authorised to carry out such work, that the installation of the conduit and pits comply with the Electricity Act 1996.
- 2.4 Provision of the certificate of compliance shall constitute a **Hold Point**.
- 2.5 Works incorporating conduits for communications cabling shall comply with the applicable Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) standards.

3 Materials

Pits

- 3.1 Pits shall be made of materials that are capable of being buried in soil without adverse effects. Pits made from plastic or polycarbonate materials are acceptable. Plastic materials shall be UV stabilised. Pits and covers shall provide sufficient strength to support a wheel loading of at least one tonne without any visible damage, including to the underside of the lid.
- 3.2 Pits shall be made to the approximate dimensions shown on Drawing No. S-4055 Sheet 66-69.
- 3.3 Inspection of pits and conduits prior to installation shall be included in the Contractor's Quality Management Plan under Part PC-QA1 Quality Management Requirements or part PC-QA-2 Quality Management Requirements for Major Projects, whichever is applicable.

Pit Covers

- 3.4 Pit covers shall:
 - a) be made of reinforced concrete, keyed steel or other suitable materials with appropriately positioned lifting holes;
 - b) be tapered to facilitate easy removal (with tools) and replacement of covers;
 - c) where specified, be of secure construction such that it is not possible to remove covers without the use purpose designed tools. Secure lids shall be fabricated as detailed on Drawing S-4055 Sheet 67 and 68;
 - d) incorporate a permanent non-slip pattern on the top, created by means of casting, engraving or moulding;
 - e) be designed such that ground water can escape without removing the cover and prevent the entry of soil or any other objects; and
 - f) fit flush with the pit and the pit surround when a gasket is installed.
- 3.5 All covers shall be marked with the State logo and the following:
 - a) "ELECTRICAL" or similar where the pits houses electrical power and / or control cabling; or
 - b) "COMMUNICATIONS" or similar where the pits houses communications cabling.
- 3.6 The markings shall be marked permanently on the top of the cover by means of casting, engraving, etching moulding or similar means in a clearly legible size and font. The method of marking shall be selected so as to remain legible, and to resist damage from abrasion and UV.

Conduit

- 3.7 Unless otherwise specified, electrical conduits shall be heavy duty rigid PVC conduit to AS 2053, colour orange for underground cable and UV stabilised for above ground. Communications conduits shall conform to ACMA and / or other relevant standards. Communications conduits shall be white and compliant with AS/CA S008.
- 3.8 Flexible conduits shall not be used without the prior approval of the Principal.
- 3.9 Separation and size of Conduits shall comply with RD-EL-D3 "Conduit Design for Road Lighting, Traffic Signals and ITS".

Marking Tape

- 3.10 Marking tape shall comply with the requirements of AS 2648.1.
- 3.11 Marking tape shall be installed in accordance with AS 3000 (electrical) and / or AS/CA S009 (communications), as appropriate.

Concrete conduit protection

3.12 Concrete shall be minimum grade N20.

4 Design of Conduits and Pits

4.1 If any details relating to the location and size of conduits and pits have not been provided by the Principal, the Contractor shall prepare a conduit system design in accordance with RD-EL-D3 "Conduit Design for Road Lighting, Traffic Signals and ITS".

4.2 At least 10 working days prior to the commencement of supply and / or installation of conduits and pits, the Contractor shall provide the Conduit System Design, including complete details of the location and size of conduits and pits.

4.3 Provision of this documentation shall constitute a **Hold Point**.

5 Trenching, Boring and Backfill

5.1 Excavation and backfill of trenches shall comply with RD-EW-C2 "Trench Excavation and Backfill".

5.2 Under-road boring shall comply with RD-EW-C3 "Boring".

5.3 Reinstatement of any existing pavements to be retained shall comply with RD-PV-C6 "Reinstatement of Existing Pavements".

5.4 All work associated with the installation and / or removal of conduits and pits shall be completed prior to the construction of any new road pavement.

6 Installation of Electrical and Communications Conduit

General

6.1 Communications conduit shall comply with the requirements specified in AS/CA:S008 and shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS:S009 Section 18 Underground Cabling.

6.2 Conduits shall be laid out in straight lines avoiding unnecessary bends and generally parallel or normal to the carriageway.

6.3 Variations in levels or changes in direction of underground ducts shall be achieved by using the natural flexibility of the conduits. Where this is not possible, the use of pre-manufactured "sweeper" (large-radius) bends matching the conduit size and type is permitted. Flexible conduit shall not be used for underground conduit connections.

6.4 "Large sweep" bends shall be used to provide entry into junction pits and light pole footings.

6.5 The Department requires no more than 90 degrees total bends (cumulative in all directions) shall occur between pits. If direction changes totalling more than 90 degrees are required, additional pits shall be installed to facilitate the direction changes.

6.6 Prior approval from the Principal for a departure from Clause 6.5 shall be obtained through the design review process. Such departures shall be recorded on the project's Non-Conformance Register.

6.7 Where practical, direction changes may be accomplished by curving the conduit in the ground to a curvature radius of no less than 130 times the conduit diameter. This shall not constitute a bend for the purposes of Clause 6.6 above.

6.8 Conduit joints shall be thoroughly cleaned of dirt and grease and burrs removed where any conduit is cut to length, before being cemented together using a solvent cement approved by the conduit manufacturer.

6.9 Draw cords shall be installed in all electrical and communications conduits and be continuous and without joins for the full length of the conduit. A "tail" of at least 3m shall be provided at each end of the draw cord. Tails shall be coiled, secured and neatly laid in the pit at each end of the run, to avoid

being inadvertently pulled back into the conduit from the other end. Draw cords shall be 4 mm diameter polyethylene mono rope with a breaking load of 5 kN. A draw cord shall remain in a conduit following installation of cables. As per RD-ITS-C3 “Telecommunications Cabling”, draw cords shall not be used to haul cables – they shall rather be used to haul through a purpose-designed braided hauling cable.

Electrical Conduits Cover

- 6.10 Notwithstanding AS/NZS 3000, the cover for conduits without additional protection shall be a minimum of 500 mm and a maximum of 800 mm below finished level. Conduits shall be installed at a uniform depth. Where the existence of public utility services, other underground obstructions or ground conditions restrict the laying of conduits to less than 500 mm cover, the conduits shall be encased in concrete in accordance with AS/NZS 3000 or as approved by the Technical Regulator.
- 6.11 Prior to pouring concrete, a **Hold Point** shall apply.

Communications Conduits Cover

- 6.12 Communications conduit shall be located at least 450 mm below the natural ground where located in the road reserve and shall be laid out in straight lines avoiding unnecessary bends and generally parallel or normal to the carriageway. The conduit shall be able to be identified in the field as the property of the Department.
- 6.13 If the minimum cover cannot be provided (e.g. due to ground conditions), communications conduit shall be installed in accordance with AS/CA S009 Para 18.6.2. Where this is required, the Contractor shall obtain the approval of the Principal’s authorised representative for the proposed installation method prior to installing the conduit. Provision of the Principal’s approval shall constitute a **Hold Point**.

Conduits Cover within Rail Boundaries

- 6.14 Minimum depths of cover within rail boundaries shall comply with Table RD-EL-C3 6-1.

Table RD-EL-C3 6-1 Minimum Cover below Rail Level

Line Category	Cover below rail level (metres)
Main Lines	1.2
Secondary Lines	1.0
Elsewhere	0.6

- 6.15 In all cases, minimum cover depths shall be maintained to a minimum distance of 3 m measured perpendicular to the outer rail.

Termination of Conduits in Pits or at Stobie Poles

- 6.16 The hole for the entry of the conduit shall be neatly drilled to a maximum of 10 mm larger than the outside diameter of the conduit and shall be effectively sealed with a flexible sealant (Selleys All Purpose Sealant or similar).
- 6.17 For intermediate pits (i.e. pits which will have cable running through them but that cable will not exit the conduit system), the entry and exit conduits shall align as much as possible.
- 6.18 For electrical terminating pits (i.e. pits where the cable exits the conduit system and terminates inside above ground equipment), the ends of conduits shall enter at 45° and protrude into the pit for a minimum of 25 mm and a maximum of 50 mm to facilitate drawing-in of cables.
- 6.19 The ends of conduits at traffic signal post footings shall terminate 25 mm inside the recess in the concrete footing.
- 6.20 Where the conduits are to be connected into an SAPN underground service pit, the hole for the entry of the conduit shall be neatly drilled to a maximum of 10 mm larger than the outside diameter of the conduit or as specified by SAPN.
- 6.21 Where conduits are attached to Stobie poles, the installation of 50 mm diameter conduit in the Stobie pole channel or the face of the Stobie pole shall be mechanically protected with galvanized pipe as

shown on Drawing No. 4516, sheet 1. Bending of the galvanized pipe shall not be permitted after the 50 mm PVC conduit has been inserted.

Additional Requirements for Communication Conduits

- 6.22 Bell mouths shall be fitted using an appropriate conduit adhesive to the entry and exit of every communications conduit in pit sizes P4 or larger, including intermediate points, prior to the commencement of cable installation and shall remain in place after installation.

Additional Requirements for Consumer Connections

- 6.23 Conduits shall be the diameter shown on the SAPN Drawing and laid in accordance with the Drawings.
- 6.24 Low voltage conduits shall be terminated in low voltage service pillars as shown on the Drawings and the following SAPN Drawings:
- a) E1921 - UD LV Service or Junction Pit, Looped, Footpath Use.
 - b) E1922 - UD Low Voltage - Service Pillar – Looped.
- 6.25 The Contractor shall contact SAPN Utilities to obtain copies of these drawings.

7 Installation of Electrical and Communications Pits

General

- 7.1 The Contractor shall install all cable draw-in pits, intermediate and junction pits in accordance with Issue for Construction drawings and RD-EL-D3 Conduit Design for Road Lighting, Traffic Signals and ITS.
- 7.2 Notwithstanding any drawing showing a formed pit, pits shall comply with Clause 3 "Materials". All pits shall be minimum size P2, unless shown otherwise on the drawings or otherwise approved by the Principal.
- 7.3 Pits shall be installed with the long dimension oriented in the direction of the main conduit run, typically parallel to the road.
- 7.4 Prior to backfilling, covers shall be fitted and visually checked to ensure that the pit is parallel to the edge of the footpath, kerb or property boundary, and is flush with the surface of the surrounding footpath, or is built-up at a maximum grade of 1:14, to conform to the fall of the footpath.
- 7.5 Pits shall be bedded in Sa-C Type C sand. Sand shall be compacted following the pit manufacturer's recommended procedures and practices. Pit sides shall be checked before and after compaction. No inward bowing of pit sides is acceptable. Temporary bracing shall be used in pits as required to prevent bowing of sides during compaction.
- 7.6 Pits shall be surrounded with a reinforced concrete apron of minimum 200 mm thickness and width (measured from each pit side, refer to Standard Drawing S-4055 Sheet 66-69). The edges of the apron shall be finished with an edging tool. Where multiple pits are installed together (e.g. Communications and Electrical), a shared apron may be used with a minimum of 100 mm of concrete between pits.
- 7.7 A template constructed of timber (or other suitable material) slightly larger in size than the pit lid and at least 25mm thick shall be installed in the top of the pits (in place of the lid) prior to pouring the concrete apron, to prevent the pit edges bowing in during pouring / curing of the concrete apron.
- 7.8 Pit lids shall be checked for proper fit before and after pouring the concrete apron. Pits where lids do not fit correctly shall be rectified prior to inspection / handover.
- 7.9 Pits shall be set flush with the finished level of the surrounding area, which shall be shaped so that water does not pond within 1 m of the pit.
- 7.10 Wherever there is a possibility that water could drain into pits, water shall be drained to low points enroute and conduit plugs shall be used to seal vacant conduits.

- 7.11 All debris inside the pit shall be cleaned up and cleared at completion of the pit and conduit installation, replacement or upgrade.
- 7.12 When adding new pits over existing conduit runs, conduits shall be fully excavated to allow new pits to fit around the conduits with appropriate sealant. Conduits shall be “ring-barked” with excess conduit removed, leaving a conventional conduit entry to/exit from the new pit above the pit floor. “Scarfig” of conduits is not permitted. Uniform cover as per Clause 6.10 to 6.15 shall be maintained at the end of the process.

Drain Outlet

- 7.13 When a suitable drainage point is located near a pit, the Contractor shall drill a central drain outlet in the base of the pit and install a 50 mm PVC “stormwater” class drainpipe so that any water flows into the drainage point.

Additional Requirements for Communications Pits

- 7.14 Communications pits shall be installed in accordance with (as a minimum) the requirements of AS/CA S009 Section 18 “Underground Cabling”.
- 7.15 If electricity cables pass underneath the communications pit, a protective concrete slab shall be provided underneath the pit before placing the bedding sand. Alternatively a self-compacting material, such as stabilised sand, can be used to backfill.

Isolation Pit for Signal Controllers

- 7.16 Where practicable, the isolation pit shall be installed at a minimum distance of 5 m from the signal controller base in footpaths, islands or medians as located during layout of footings and pits and installed as per Drawing No. S-4055, sheet 73. Isolation pit shall not be located in painted islands / medians.

8 Electrical Trench Caution Tape and Cable Position Marker Posts

- 8.1 Plastic tape marked “Electrical Cable” shall be laid along the full length of all electrical conduit trenches, 300 mm above the conduit, unless otherwise specified. More than one tape shall be laid in trenches wider than 500 mm. Orange cable slabs may be used as an alternative to the tape.
- 8.2 White marking tape marked “Communications Cable” compliant with AS/NZS 2648.1 shall be installed along all communications conduit installations at a minimum of 100 mm above the conduit. More than one tape shall be laid in common service trenches.
- 8.3 Electrical or fibre optic cable position marker posts, with identification plate indicating alignment direction, shall be installed at changes of direction and not more than 200 m apart. Buried Cable warning post shall be installed in accordance with Attachment A: “Buried Cable Warning Sign Post Details and Installation”. Refer to Appendix 2: Buried Power Cable Warning Sign for electrical cable position marker sign.
- 8.4 Intermediate cable position marker shall be installed at changes of direction and not more than 200 m apart for communications conduits which contain fibre optic cable.

9 Verification of Conduit Condition

- 9.1 Unless otherwise specified, the Contractor shall undertake an internal inspection of all conduit (including conduit designed to incorporate additional cable(s) at a later stage). The inspection shall use video camera, borescope or similar equipment. It shall be undertaken after the completion of all construction work directly above the conduit and provide documentary evidence that the conduit and cables have not been damaged during installation or by subsequent construction work.

10 “As-Constructed” Drawings

- 10.1 Upon completion of the work, the Contractor shall provide to the Principal “As-Constructed” drawings showing in detail the actual location and size of conduits and pits, size of cabling, and any other relevant data on the base construction drawings.

11 Hold Points

- 11.1 The following is a summary of Hold Points referenced in this Part:

Table RD-EL-C3 11-1 Verification Requirements

Document Ref.	Hold Point	Response Time
2.4	Certificate of compliance	5 Working Days
4.3	Provision of conduits and pit sizes and locations	10 Working Days
6.11	Prior to pouring concrete	1 Working Days

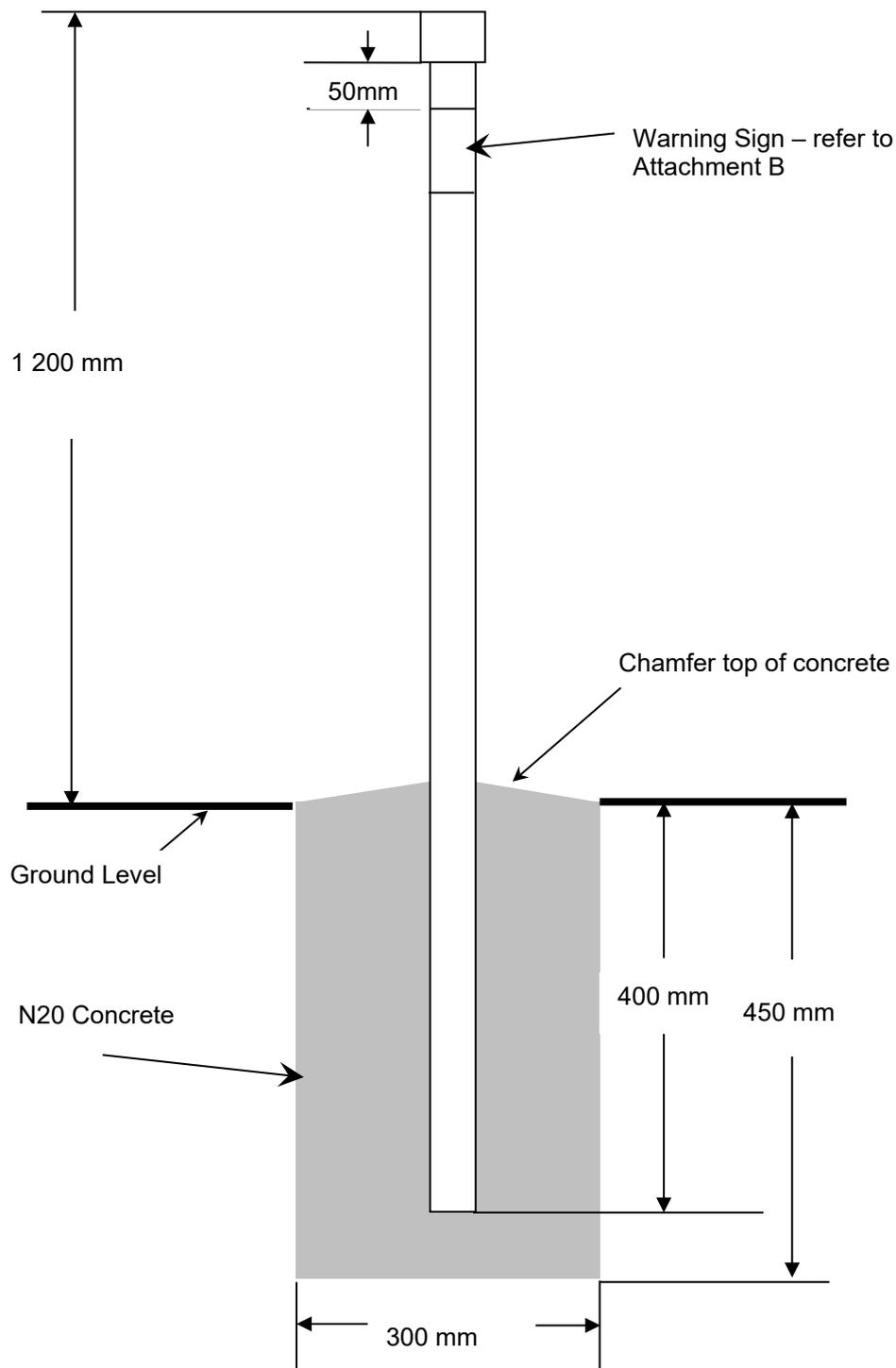
12 Verification Requirements and Records

- 12.1 In addition to any documentation provided at the Hold Points, the Contractor shall supply the following records:

Table RD-EL-C3 12-1 Verification Requirements

Document Ref.	Subject	Record to be Provided
9	Verification of Conduit Condition	Video file showing inside of conduit
10	Conduit and pit location	As-Constructed Drawings

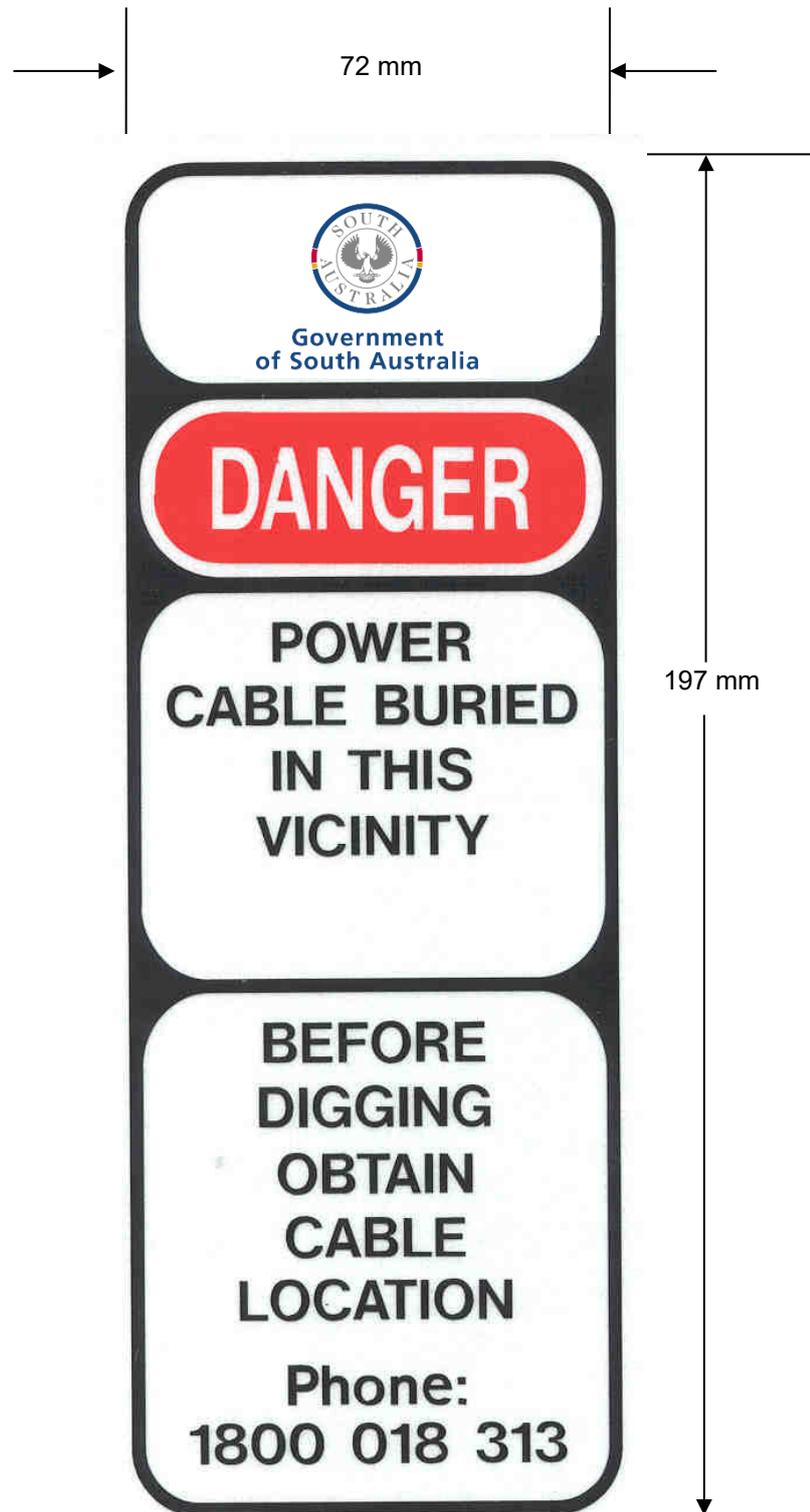
13 Appendix 1: Buried Cable Warning Sign Post Details and Installation



Note:

1. Sketch for illustration only – not to scale.
2. Capped steel post, 60 mm O/D, wall thickness 2 mm.
3. "Signal Red" powder coated finish over full length of post.
4. Posts to be located as shown on drawings.

14 Appendix 2: Buried Power Cable Warning Sign



Note:

1. Background is reflective white.
2. The word DANGER is surrounded by red.
3. All other lettering and borders are in black.