

Positioning Scaffolding Near Power Lines Risk Assessment

Business Name:	ABN:	
Business Address:		
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager:	

RISK MATRIX									
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS	
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			Elimination Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Substitution Replace the hazard.	
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	Isolation Isolate People from the hazard	
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	Engineering Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	Administrative Change	
								PPE	
Risk Rating & Required Action:								Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:	
4A Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required.								Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:	
3H Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.								1. Eliminate	
2M Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.								2. Substitute	
1L Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.								3. Isolate	
								4. Engineering	
								5. Administrative	
								6. PPE	
Consequence Scale:								Always document why a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.	
Consequence	People (injury/illness)		Project / Assets		Compliance / Reputation				
Catastrophic	Fatality or permanent total disability		project shutdown		Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution				
Major	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)		critical delay		Improvement notice; major media coverage				
Moderate	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day		moderate delay		Minor breach; adverse client comment				
Minor	First-aid only, no lost time		negligible delay		Isolated non-conformance				
Insignificant	No injury		no schedule impact		Deviation caught and corrected on site				
								<i>aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.</i>	

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
1. Preparation	Incorrect measurement, Inadequate site inspection	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a site survey to identify power lines and required distances - Verify that all personnel have the appropriate training - Ensure all measurement tools are calibrated and functional - Review site maps and previous inspection reports - Communicate dangers of power lines to all team members - Obtain necessary permits and approvals - Establish site boundaries clearly marked with signage - Schedule work during low wind conditions - Ensure all personnel have PPE relevant to the task - Implement a safety check-in process to monitor conditions 	2M
2. Deliver Materials	Material spillage, Obstruction of pathways	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use spotters to guide delivery vehicles to designated areas - Ensure load is secured during transport - Ensure clear communication via two-way radio - Follow predetermined routes for delivery vehicles - Use cranes and lifts with caution near power lines - Restrict vehicle movements in high-risk areas - Ensure materials are bundled and labelled correctly - Regularly audit the condition of delivery equipment - Train personnel on manual handling techniques to prevent injury - Establish clear unloading zones away from power lines 	2M
3. Erect Scaffolding Base	Base instability, Incorrect alignment	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow manufacturer's assembly guidelines rigidly - Use base plates, sills or other stabilising devices - Inspect and level ground surface before scaffold placement - Verify all locking devices are secure - Avoid erection in adverse weather conditions - Conduct daily inspection of condition and placement - Ensure only qualified personnel erect scaffolding - Use fall prevention systems during erection 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide adequate training on scaffold assembly - Regularly communicate safety procedures for scaffold setup 	
4. Install Vertical Tubes	Falling objects, Strikes by materials	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erect safety netting to catch falling objects - Use toe boards to prevent materials from falling - Use safety harness and lanyards to prevent falls - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Use proper tie-off techniques to prevent falls - Use proper bracing techniques to prevent collapse - Use proper erection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper dismantling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper storage techniques to prevent injury - Use proper handling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper disposal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper maintenance techniques to prevent injury - Use proper inspection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper repair techniques to prevent injury - Use proper replacement techniques to prevent injury - Use proper removal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper storage techniques to prevent injury - Use proper handling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper disposal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper maintenance techniques to prevent injury - Use proper inspection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper repair techniques to prevent injury - Use proper replacement techniques to prevent injury - Use proper removal techniques to prevent injury 	2M
5. Attach Horizontal Braces	Scaffold collapse, Snatching injuries	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use proper tie-off techniques to prevent falls - Use proper bracing techniques to prevent collapse - Use proper erection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper dismantling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper storage techniques to prevent injury - Use proper handling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper disposal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper maintenance techniques to prevent injury - Use proper inspection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper repair techniques to prevent injury - Use proper replacement techniques to prevent injury - Use proper removal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper storage techniques to prevent injury - Use proper handling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper disposal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper maintenance techniques to prevent injury - Use proper inspection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper repair techniques to prevent injury - Use proper replacement techniques to prevent injury - Use proper removal techniques to prevent injury 	2M
6. Add Platforms	Platform dislodgement, Trip hazards	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use proper tie-off techniques to prevent falls - Use proper bracing techniques to prevent collapse - Use proper erection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper dismantling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper storage techniques to prevent injury - Use proper handling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper disposal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper maintenance techniques to prevent injury - Use proper inspection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper repair techniques to prevent injury - Use proper replacement techniques to prevent injury - Use proper removal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper storage techniques to prevent injury - Use proper handling techniques to prevent injury - Use proper disposal techniques to prevent injury - Use proper maintenance techniques to prevent injury - Use proper inspection techniques to prevent injury - Use proper repair techniques to prevent injury - Use proper replacement techniques to prevent injury - Use proper removal techniques to prevent injury 	2M

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7. Install Guardrails and Toe Boards	Falls, Guardrail failure	4A		1L
8. Electrical Isolation	Electrocution, Arcing	4A		2M
9. Regulatory Compliance Check	Non-compliance, Penalties or fines	3H		1L

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10. Access Point Set Up	Restricted access, Equipment congestion	3H		1L
11. Weather Monitoring	Strong winds, Severe weather changes	4A		2M
12. Scaffold Stability Testing	Unstable structures, Inadequate load-testing	4A		2M

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13. Performance Monitoring	Systemic scaffold issues, Performance degradation	3H		1L
14. Fire Hazards Review	Ignition sources, Material compatibility	3H		2M
15. Post-Job Inspection	Undetected wear and tear, Compliance breaches	3H		1L

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SAMPLE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.