

# Branch Manual: Pesticide Notification Plan

## CECM1000.10j



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Environmental  
Services



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## 1.0 PURPOSE

This pesticide notification plan (the plan) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). "Pesticides" is a generic reference and it includes herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, termiticides and rodenticides. Essential Energy must ensure that any pesticides used to control weeds, or used as part of its general land management practices, are used in accordance with the Pesticides Act 1999 (NSW) and the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (NSW).

The plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid contact with pesticides if they wish. Essential Energy ensures that pesticides are applied to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community or the environment.

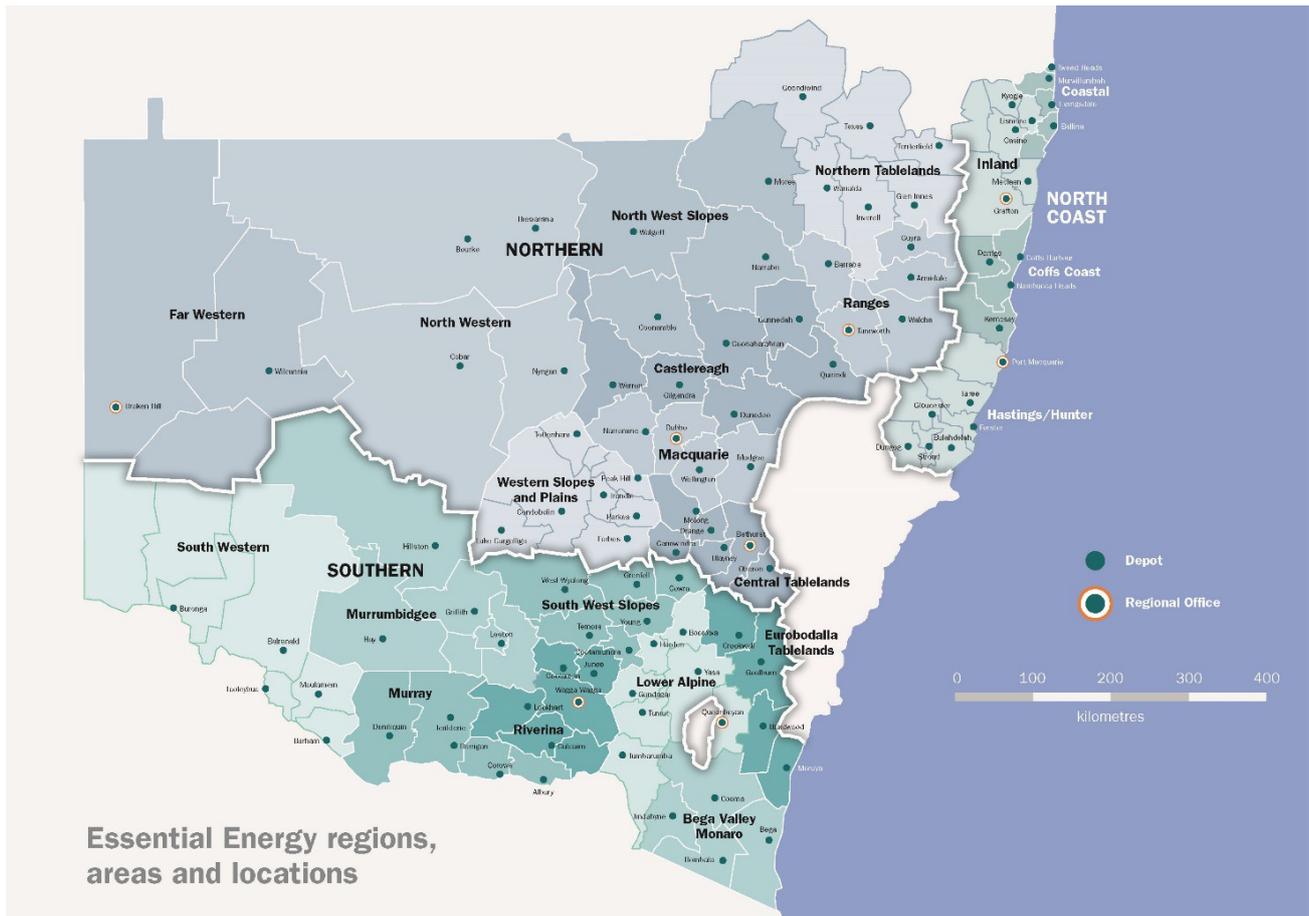
**NOTE:** Essential Energy's documentation applies to all persons engaged to work under our Environmental Management System (EMS).

The plan sets out, with respect to accessible public places, how Essential Energy and/or its workers will notify members of the community of pesticide applications, and also where notification of certain applications will not be made by Essential Energy.

The plan describes:

- which public places are covered by the plan;
- who regularly uses these public places, and an estimate of the level of use by such persons;
- how and when Essential Energy will provide the community with information about its pesticide applications in public places (i.e. what notification arrangements will be used);
- how the community can access this plan and get more information about Essential Energy's notification arrangements;
- how future reviews of the plan will be conducted;
- contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan with Essential Energy; and
- situations where Essential Energy will be using pesticides in public places and will not be notifying the public.

The aim of this plan is to address the community's general right to know about pesticide applications made to public places that are wholly or partly owned or controlled by Essential Energy.



**Figure 1 – Essential Energy Network Coverage**

The majority of pesticide use by, or on behalf of, Essential Energy consists of applying, by hand, solid fungicides during timber pole inspections, selective and non-selective herbicides (preference is given to use of selective herbicides where applicable) for weed control and occasionally for vegetation regrowth control, and applying insecticides by hand to manage certain insect pests, such as termites. Bait, powder, and liquid insecticides are used for termite control to protect timber structures, and as a consequence, public and worker safety, whenever this is considered an effective solution.

Essential Energy also uses household quantities of some pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes, including home gardening. These include herbicides, aerosol insecticides for wasps, ants, spiders, cockroaches, etc, and rodenticide baits for mice and rats.

The frequency of programmed pesticide applications depends upon seasonal growth conditions. Typically, the frequency ranges from a one to a four-year cycle for pole inspection and treatment, and noxious weed and vegetation regrowth control. Other applications are on an as-needed basis.

Further information on Essential Energy's pesticide use can be obtained by calling Essential Energy General Enquiries on 13 23 91 or by visiting the website [www.essentialenergy.com.au](http://www.essentialenergy.com.au).

## 2.0 ACTIONS

### 2.1 Public Places Covered by This Plan

Essential Energy proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places within Essential Energy's area wherever Essential Energy's assets of Electricity, Water and Sewer are situated near:

- parks and public gardens;
- playgrounds;
- schools and TAFE facilities;
- picnic areas;
- sporting fields and ovals;
- road verges, reserves, laneways, and pathway easements accessible to the public (including National Parks, State Forests and on Crown Lands); and
- golf courses.

Information will not be provided to the community for pesticide use in the interiors of Essential Energy buildings, for example:

- offices;
- depots; and
- zone substations.

Essential Energy's estimate of the level of community use, and regular user groups for each of these public place categories, is summarised in Table 1. Although not required by the Regulation, a summary of the type of pesticide use in each category of public place is also provided.

### 2.2 Public Places Covered by This Plan

This section of the plan describes how and when Essential Energy will provide notice of pesticide use in public places.

These notification arrangements are based on Essential Energy's assessment of:

- the level of usage of public places where pesticides may be used;
- the extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (e.g. young children, sick, pregnant, and elderly people) and are likely to use these areas regularly;
- the extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides;
- types of pesticide used:
  - where, how and in what quantities they are applied; and
  - where they reside once applied; and
- the resulting accessibility and contact risk to the public.

Notice of pesticide use will be provided by the following:

- erection or placement of signs at the time of application; and/or
- information on Essential Energy's website: [www.essentialenergy.com.au](http://www.essentialenergy.com.au)

Table 1 sets out the notification arrangements for Essential Energy's pesticide applications.

**Note:** In public areas where multiple agencies have responsibility for land management (in this case pesticide application), and where there are no physical or visible boundaries, the agency

undertaking the pesticide application will follow their own Pesticide Notification Plan. This will include any incidental pesticide applications in areas that are controlled by other agencies.

**Table 1 – Type of Pesticide Use**

Prescribed Public Place	Type of Pesticide Use									
	1 Timber pole treatment – hand application of solid or paste fungicide inside pole & around pole base, beneath the soil	2 Timber pole treatment – hand painted application of liquid fungicide to treat damaged areas of Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA) treated poles	3 Timber pole treatment – hand application of liquid residual termiticide to soil immediately around pole base	4 Timber pole treatment – hand application of solid bait termiticide inside protective cover mounted on pole	5 Timber pole treatment – hand application of dust termiticide inside pole or inside termite gallery on the pole	6 Vegetation control – spot or spray application by hand of selective or non-selective herbicide to vegetation	7 Vegetation cut stump and or stem injection - spot application by hand of selective or non-selective herbicide to cut stumps or tree stems	8 Hand application of aerosol insecticide spray to pole top equipment and inside locked substation cabinets	9 Hand application of aerosol insecticide spray to floors, walls, cupboards, etc	10. Hand application of solid rodenticide baits
Public Parks & Gardens	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	■	■	■	⊙	N/A	N/A
Playgrounds	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	■	■	■	⊙	N/A	N/A
Picnic Areas	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	■	■	■	⊙	N/A	N/A
Sporting Fields, Ovals & golf courses	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	■	■	■	⊙	N/A	N/A
Road verges, reserves, footpaths, laneways & pathways	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	⊙	N/A	N/A
Easements accessible to the public (including National Parks etc, State forests or Crown lands)	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	⊙	N/A	N/A
Schools & TAFE's (excluding building interiors)	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	■	■	■	⊙	N/A	N/A
Interiors of certain Essential Energy buildings & depots	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
Within or adjacent to Sensitive Places	⊙	⊙	■	⊙	■	■	■	⊙	N/A	N/A

■ - Notice by display of signage during the pesticide application.

⊙ - No specific notice will be given

N/A – Not applicable

Note that information on the types of pesticide use and relevant pesticides will be provided on Essential Energy's website.

### 2.3 Emergency Pesticide Applications

In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), Essential Energy will, where possible, provide notice by posting signs nearby at the time of the application. If this is not possible, Essential Energy will provide information by public request to the person applying the pesticide.

### 2.4 Pesticide Contractors and Lessees of Public Places

Where Essential Energy uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, Essential Energy will ensure that notification is made in accordance with the notification requirements of this plan.

Where persons or organisations hold an existing lease on Essential Energy land that remains a public place and if they use pesticides in this area, Essential Energy will still require notification in accordance with the requirements of this plan.

### 2.5 Electricity Pole Inspection Licence Exemption Order 2017.

The *Electricity Pole Inspection Licence Exemption Order 2017* (the Order) allows electricity distributors to provide specific training to their employees and contractors on how to do timber pole inspections and use a pesticide to control timber pests of power poles. The Order exempts persons specified under clause 9 from meeting the licensing requirements for a pest management technician licence as required under section 45 of the *Pesticides Act 1999*. This only applies to using pesticide to control timber pests of power poles and all of the conditions of the exemption order must be complied with. A copy of the exemption order is included in Annexure A.

### 2.6 When Notification will not be provided

Other than information provided on Essential Energy's website at: [www.essentialenergy.com.au/content/safety-community](http://www.essentialenergy.com.au/content/safety-community) and unless stated otherwise elsewhere in this plan, Essential Energy does not intend to provide site-specific notice for the following pesticide applications:

- timber pole treatment – hand application of solid or paste fungicide inside the pole and around the pole base, beneath the soil;
- timber pole treatment – hand painted application of liquid fungicide to treat damaged areas of Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA) treated poles;
- timber pole treatment - hand application of liquid residual termiticide by hand to soil immediately around pole base (in non-sensitive areas not readily accessible to the public);
- timber pole treatment – hand application of solid bait termiticide inside a protective cover mounted on the pole;
- timber pole treatment - hand application of dust termiticide by hand inside pole or inside termite gallery on the pole (in non-sensitive areas not readily accessible to the public);
- vegetation control - cut stump and or stem injection - spot application by hand of selective or non-selective herbicide to cut stumps or tree stems in non-sensitive areas not readily accessible to the public;
- hand application of aerosol insecticide spray to pole top equipment and inside locked substation cabinets;
- hand application of aerosol insecticide spray to floors, walls, cupboards, etc; and
- hand application of solid rodenticide baits.

In the application of the following pesticide methods the opportunity for contact with the general public is negligible – there are no significant fumes, vapours, mists or spray drifts and the pesticides are not reasonably accessible following application:

- Application of solid and/or paste fungicide occurs either within the pole itself and/or around the pole base beneath the soil. The solid fungicides are either small rods (about the size, shape and consistency of a big piece of blackboard chalk) placed inside holes drilled into the timber poles (the holes are plugged afterwards) or small pellets of the same material contained inside a plastic bubble wrap bandage that is wrapped around the base of the pole below ground level. The pesticide uses naturally occurring mineral salts to control rot in the timber. The paste is injected into any holes in the timber and is also wrapped in a bandage around the pole base, all below ground level.
- Application of liquid fungicide paint to damaged CCA poles occurs by hand paint brush and typically uses several teaspoons of paint to scarred areas of a timber pole beneath the damaged CCA treated sapwood. This is done to repair mechanical damage from car accidents and the like. The paint is absorbed into the timber fibres and dries quickly.
- Application by hand of liquid residual termiticide by hand to soil immediately around pole base (in non-sensitive areas not readily accessible to the public).
- Application of solid bait termiticide is done by hand and involves placing two sealed plastic bags of termiticide inside a protective container secured and sealed to the timber pole. The container cover is secured using tamper-resistant fixings and is sealed against weather ingress. The termiticide is classed as a non-toxic substance to people according to the criteria of SafeWork Australia and the product's Safety Data Sheet.
- Application of dust termiticide by hand inside pole or inside termite gallery on the pole (in non-sensitive areas not readily accessible to the public).
- Application by hand of aerosol insecticides occurs on pole top equipment or inside the locked cabinets of ground level substations to remove insect pests such as wasps, spiders or ants that could potentially pose a threat to workers who need to work on the equipment, or possibly to members of the public in the vicinity of the equipment. These insecticides are those typically available to the general public and are applied to a localised area with no general access to the public.
- Application by hand of aerosol insecticide spray and rodenticide baits inside Essential Energy buildings and depots is typically done outside of business hours to reduce potential risks to workers or to the public (in those limited areas accessible to the public).

Spot weed control or cut stump applications inside Essential Energy depots is done by hand using domestically available pesticides and typically occurs in areas not accessible to the public.

## 2.7 What Information Will Be Provided

In accordance with clause 41 (h) of the Pesticides Regulation, notices of pesticide use must include all the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used;
- the purpose of the application;
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide application;
- the place where the pesticide is to be used;

- contact telephone number and email address of the appropriately nominated Essential Energy officer who people can contact to discuss the notice; and
- any warnings about limitations on the subsequent use of or entry onto the land if such warnings are specified on the approved label for the pesticide or in the permit for use of the pesticide.

Signs will be easily recognisable to the public and workers.

## 2.8 How Will the Community Be Informed of This Plan?

Essential Energy will advise the public of the plan, or any future revisions of the plan, by:

- making a copy of the plan available for public viewing free of charge, during office hours, in Essential Energy’s Regional Offices. Phone Essential Energy on 13 23 91 to find the nearest Regional Office (see the map in Figure 1);
- placing a copy of the plan on the Essential Energy website at: [www.essentialenergy.com.au/content/safety-community](http://www.essentialenergy.com.au/content/safety-community); and
- placing a notice in:
  - The NSW Government Gazette (on final publication of the document); or
  - Newspapers: The Australian and The Land.

Comments on the plan or any future revisions of the plan (five years from publication date), will be received and considered for a period of four weeks after the placement of the notice in The Australian and The Land newspapers. This notice signifies the start of the community consultation period. Only comments written or emailed via the contact details listed below, submitted via the Essential Energy website [www.essentialenergy.com.au](http://www.essentialenergy.com.au) or as otherwise specified in the newspaper notice, can be considered.

To discuss the plan with an Essential Energy officer call 13 23 91 and ask to speak to an Environmental Services staff member.

## 3.0 AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Position / Title	Responsibility
<b>Head of Health, Safety &amp; Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring adequate resources are provided for maintaining the Environmental Management System (EMS)</li> </ul>
<b>Operations Managers, Project Managers, Senior Resource Supervisors, Resources Supervisors, Field Managers, Managers and Crew Coordinators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing a risk assessment prior to undertaking works and implementing the required controls;</li> <li>• Raising a TotalSAFE for any hazards, near misses or incidents;</li> <li>• Transporting any dangerous goods in accordance to the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (Edition 7.6, 2018) and in accordance with the Roads and Maritime Services requirements;</li> <li>• Ensuring that staff are familiar with the process of accessing SDSs in ChemAlert via EssentialNet and on their iDevice.</li> </ul>
<b>All relevant employees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use PPE and clothing when required;</li> <li>• Confirm all contractors have the necessary licences to undertake the work; and</li> <li>• Make sure all workers conduct works in accordance with CECM1000.10 documentation and other relevant documents.</li> </ul>

<b>HSE Operations and Investigations Manager or nominated team member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing advice associated with the use, handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of chemicals</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Services Manager or nominated team member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notifying the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) as soon as practicable following confirmation of an incident causing or having the potential to cause material harm to the environment.</li> </ul>

#### 4.0 DEFINITIONS

##### **CCA**

Copper chromium arsenate is a preservative used to protect timber in service from all major biodeteriogens, including decay fungi, wood boring insects, termites, and marine borers.

##### **Cut stump treatment**

Hand cutting of target vegetation followed by hand application of herbicide to stump.

##### **Fungicide**

These control, destroy, render ineffective or regulate the effect of a fungus; for example, fungicides are used to treat grey mould on grape vines and fruit trees.

##### **Herbicide**

These destroy, suppress, or prevent the spread of a weed or other unwanted vegetation; for example, the herbicide glyphosate (e.g. Roundup) is used to control a range of weeds in home gardens, bushland, and agricultural situations.

##### **Insecticide**

These destroy, suppress, stupefy, inhibit the feeding of, or prevent infestations or attacks by, an insect. Insecticides are used to control a wide variety of insect pests, including thrips, aphids, moths, fruit flies and locusts. In NSW, pesticides include products such as flea powders and liquids used externally on animals. Injections or other medicines administered internally to treat animals are veterinary medicines and are excluded.

##### **Pesticide**

Is a generic reference and it includes herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, termiticides and rodenticides.

##### **Rodenticide**

Pesticide used in the control or eradication of rodents such as mice and rats.

##### **Stem injection**

Is the application of herbicide to growing saplings and trees where the plant is left to stand and die in its growing position. Only those plants that are to be prevented from growing are treated.

##### **Termiticide**

Insecticide used to control termites.

## 5.0 REFERENCES

Internal
<a href="#">CEOP8008 - Vegetation Management Plan</a>
External
<i>Pesticides Act 1999</i>
Pesticides Regulation 2017
Victoria and Queensland have similar legislation to control the spread of invasive weeds and regulate pesticide use. Essential Energy must comply with this legislation when undertaking activities in those states. This includes the: <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> (VIC); <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1992</i> (VIC); <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> (QLD) and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2016</i> (QLD); and • <i>Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1966</i> (QLD).

## 6.0 RECORDKEEPING

Under part 4 of the pesticide regulation all people who use pesticides as part of their job must record their pesticide use. Keeping records can help track the effectiveness of pesticides, reduce health, trade and environmental impacts by providing vital information if an incident occurs and defend the pesticide user by demonstrating they used pesticides responsibly.

The record must be made within 48 hours of application and kept for 3 years.

### Domestic like uses of pesticides - Record keeping

If you use pesticides as part of your business or occupation you do not have to keep a record for jobs where you do all the following:

- you only use pesticides that are available to everyone for home or garden use, and
- you apply the pesticide by hand or by using hand-held equipment only; and
- you use the pesticide outdoors in quantities of no more than 5 litres/5 kilograms of concentrated product or 20 litres/20 kilograms of ready-to-use product; or
- you use the pesticide indoors in quantities of no more than 1 litre/1 kilogram of concentrated product or 5 litres/5 kilograms of the ready-to-use product.

Records may also not be required for certain other small-scale uses of agricultural pesticides.

The table below identifies the types of records relating to the process, their storage location and retention period.

Type of Record	Storage Location	Retention Period
Pesticide Usage Records	Held by the Pesticide Applicator. <b>NOTE:</b> As part of contractual arrangements with external parties, it is recommended that copies of pesticide records are kept by those who engage the external party.	3 years

\* The following retention periods are subject to change eg if the records are required for legal matters or legislative changes. Before disposal, retention periods should be checked and authorised by the 'Records Management Team'.

## 7.0 REVISIONS

Issue Number	Section	Details of Changes in this Revision
1	All	This policy has been renumbered, it was previously CECM1000.81
2	All	Amended footer, title, formatting and contact details.
3	All	Review to reflect changes to the regulations, addition of authorities and responsibilities, and records consistent with the updated policy library template.  Addition of a pesticide definition to make clear this policy applies to herbicides as per the regulations.
4	All	Removed footnote stating commercial in confidence as the document needs to be publicly available, as well as available to ASP's.

## Annexure A - Electricity Pole Inspection Licence Exemption Order

This exemption order, known as the Electricity Pole Inspection Licence Exemption Order, was published in New South Wales Government Gazette No. 57, published on 2 June 2017.

### Planning and Environment Notices

#### PESTICIDES REGULATION 2009

##### EXEMPTION ORDER UNDER CLAUSE 7

1. This Order is to be known as the *Electricity Pole Inspection Licence Exemption Order 2017*.

#### Commencement

2. This Order commences on publication in the NSW Government Gazette and has effect for a period of five years from that date.

#### Authority for the Exemption Order

3. The Environment Protection Authority pursuant to clause 7 of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009* grants the following exemption.

#### Replacement of previous Exemption Order

4. This Order replaces the Electricity Pole Inspection Exemption Order issued by the EPA and which was gazetted on 3 June 2016.

#### Objects of the Exemption

5. The objects of this Exemption Order are to:
- Authorise those persons described in clause 9 to use approved pesticide products to control timber pests when inspecting timber electricity poles without the need to obtain an EPA pest management technician licence.
  - Specify the chemical accreditation that is required by those persons in clause 9 who use pesticide products to control timber pests in timber electricity poles in NSW.

#### Background

6. Licensing arrangements for pest management technicians and fumigators were transferred from WorkCover NSW (now SafeWork NSW) to the EPA and on 1 September 2015 the EPA took full responsibility for issuing these licences. SafeWork NSW had previously issued exemption orders which were recognised under clause 7 of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*. Three of these exemption orders applied to electricity distributors and the EPA consolidated these three Exemption Orders (006/14, 007/14, and 008/14) into one and issued the Electricity Pole Inspection Exemption Order. This Order was only issued for one year so as to allow time for the EPA to investigate operational and training requirements in respect to pesticide use in this industry.

The *Electricity Pole Inspection Licence Exemption Order 2017* now makes provision for electricity distributors to provide specific training to their employees and contractors on how to do timber pole inspections and use a pesticide to control timber pests of power poles. All such training needs to be approved by the EPA before it can be recognised under this Exemption Order.

Under clause 5 of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009* pest management technician work is prescribed. All persons working for an electricity distributor that use pesticides to control timber pests in power poles are carrying out pest management technician work and as such are required to hold an EPA pest management technician licence. To exempt such persons from the licensing requirements, the EPA can issue an exemption order under clause 7 of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*.

## Application

7. The Order exempts persons specified under clause 9 from meeting the licensing requirements for a pest management technician licence as required under section 45 of the *Pesticides Act 1999*.

## Definitions

8. In this Order –

**Australian Qualifications Framework** has the same meaning as in section 7 of the *Higher Education Act 2001*.

**Electricity distributor** means the electricity transmission or distribution network operators whom have responsibility of maintaining the electricity pole and wire infrastructure in NSW. They are only the companies Ausgrid, TransGrid, Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy. Should any of these companies change or modify their company name or the functionality in regards to servicing electricity poles be bestowed upon another company, then that company name also applies for the purpose of this exemption order.

**EPA** means the Environment Protection Authority (NSW).

**Supervisor** means a person that is responsible for overseeing and instructing employees and contractors on operational procedures in respect to the use of pesticides. Supervision can be indirect only where the supervisor has established an employee or contractor is competent to use pesticides without direct (onsite) supervision.

**Timber pest** means any insect or fungal organism that is structurally damaging timber electricity poles.

**Use** of a pesticide means “use” and “possession” as each of those terms is defined in the *Pesticides Act 1999*.

## Persons authorised

9. Persons authorised under this exemption are employees or contractors of an electricity distributor that:
  - (a) meet the appropriate training requirements of clause 10 of this order; and
  - (b) have been determined by the electricity distributor to be competent to carry out pole asset inspections; and
  - (c) use pesticides to control timber pests in timber power poles.

## Requirements for exemption

10. (1) A person that is the supervisor of employees and/or contractors who are authorised under clause 9 must:
  - (a) have obtained a Level 4 Chemical user's qualification issued in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) that includes the competency units AHCCHM401A- Minimise risks in the use of chemicals and AHCCHM402A- Plan and implement a chemical use program or a competency that supersedes AHCCHM401A and AHCCHM402A; and
  - (b) have undergone and successfully completed one of the following:
    - Pole Inspectors Training Course (TAFE Course No. 27510 or 357-27510V02); or
    - Competency unit UETTDRIS57A Conduct visual checking and treatment of power system poles and structures; or
    - Competency unit UETTDREL18A Inspect and treat poles and inspect electrical apparatus; or
    - EPA approved pole inspector training course developed and delivered by an electricity distributor that gives employees or their contractor's specific training in doing pole inspections and using pesticides to control timber pests in power poles. To obtain EPA approval the provider would

- need to submit the training course to the EPA for evaluation with evidence that the course aligns with TAFE Course No. 27510 or 357-27510V02 or competency unit UETTDNIS57A or UETTDREL18A. (Any conditions of the approval must be complied with); and
- (c) instruct persons who use pesticides on how to safely use pesticides and to be compliant with the requirements of the *Pesticides Act 1999* and its Regulations; and
  - (d) ensure those persons are made aware of the application and limitations of this Exemption Order.
- (2) A person authorised under clause 9 to use pesticides to control timber pests must:
- a) not be less than eighteen (18) years of age; and
  - b) have obtained Level 3 Chemical user's qualification issued in accordance with of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) AHCCHM303A- Prepare and apply chemicals and AHCCHM304A- Transport, handle and store chemicals or a competency that supersedes AHCCHM303A and AHCCHM304A; and
  - c) have undergone and successfully completed one of the following:
    - (i) Pole Inspectors Training Course (TAFE Course No. 27510 or 357-27510V02); or
    - (ii) Competency unit UETTDNIS57A Conduct visual checking and treatment of power system poles and structures; or
    - (iii) Competency unit UETTDREL18A Inspect and treat poles and inspect electrical apparatus; or
    - (iv) EPA approved pole inspector training course developed and delivered by an electricity distributor that gives employees or their contractor's specific training in doing pole inspections and using pesticides to control timber pests in power poles. To obtain EPA approval the provider would need to submit the training course to the EPA for evaluation with evidence that the course aligns with TAFE Course No. 27510 or 357-27510V02 or competency unit UETTDNIS57A or UETTDREL18A. (Any conditions of the approval must be complied with); and
  - d) be able to communicate to a level that enables them to perform their duties safely.

SARAH GARDNER  
Executive Director  
Hazardous Incidents and Environmental Health  
New South Wales Environment Protection Authority