

# TREE SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

### Warning

It is illegal for persons other than licensed electricians, or persons authorised by legislation, to work on the fixed wiring of any electrical installation. Penalties for conviction are severe.

Evoenergy may amend this document at any time. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to check that only the current version is being used.

### Duration and availability of this plan

This plan was first introduced in 2023 and will continue to be in effect until it is withdrawn. This plan will undergo regular review against legislation and regulations applicable to distribution and sub-transmission network service providers, industry standards, Evoenergy's strategic plans and relevant internal policies, procedures and standards and our regulatory determination. This plan will be updated as necessary in line with the outcome of these reviews.

In accordance with the Electricity Supply (Safety and Network Management) Regulation 2014 (NSW), this plan will be made available to all stakeholders who are likely to be involved in its implementation via Evoenergy's website ([www.evoenergy.com.au](http://www.evoenergy.com.au)).

All correspondence in relation to this document should be directed to:

Vegetation and Asset Inspection Manager

Evoenergy

Oakden and Anketell Street

Greenway ACT 2900

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## REGISTER INTRODUCTION TO EVOENERGY'S TREE SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Evoenergy's Tree Safety Management Plan outlines our approach to vegetation management near Evoenergy's Network. The plan will operate as a support to the Vegetation Works Plan which is required under the Utilities (Technical Regulation (Electricity Powerline Vegetation Management Code) Approval 2018 and as a Tree Management Plan under the *Electricity Supply (Safety and Network Management) Regulation 2014 (NSW)*. This plan details vegetation management safety requirements and has been prepared in consideration of community and stakeholder feedback, relevant legislation and industry guidelines. It will help Evoenergy enhance our vegetation management practices, inform the community about what Evoenergy does, why Evoenergy does it and to provide the basis for community input. By implementing this plan, Evoenergy will better:

- keep our staff, customers and community safe and minimise the possibility of accidental electrocution;
- protect our surrounding environment by minimising environmental harm, including minimising damage or destruction of vegetation;
- reduce the risk of fires caused by the electricity Network;
- minimise impact on community trees and other vegetation assets;
- work with the community to maximise any potential benefits around vegetation management; and
- prevent destruction, damage or interference with Evoenergy's Network and in turn reduce the risk of power interruptions to the community.

**Our aim is to minimise the impacts of our vegetation management activities on all areas of the environment by implementing appropriate management practices. Evoenergy's primary drivers for vegetation management are public safety and the safe maintenance and operation of Evoenergy's network.**

The plan seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of Evoenergy's *vegetation* management policies and practices. It is not intended to fully detail Evoenergy's vegetation management procedures and contractual arrangements. The plan covers areas such as:

- why we have a plan, to whom and where it applies, and when it will be implemented;
- raising community awareness;
- use of Contractors;
- *emergencies*;
- environmental issues;
- our approach to trimming and removal;
- alternatives to trimming or removal;
- safety;
- responsibilities;
- notification of upcoming works;
- auditing;
- planting guidelines; and
- costs.

Across Evoenergy's Network, there are various organisations and individuals with *vegetation* management responsibilities, in addition to Evoenergy's own responsibilities. These include landowners (both public and private) and other land occupiers. This plan sets out the responsibilities of the various groups and describes how Evoenergy plans to interact with them. While the plan applies directly to Evoenergy, it also offers guidance to the other groups.

### Evoenergy's commitment to safety

Evoenergy is committed to upholding the safe operation of its network and providing a reliable and safe supply of electricity to all customers. It gives the highest priority to safety issues, including network safety and security, environmental, workplace and public safety, bushfire risk and the safety of customer installations connected to the Evoenergy Network.

Subject always to its paramount commitment to safety, Evoenergy's Network planning objective is to comply with the many legislative and regulatory obligations that apply to infrastructure development and maintenance while at the same time efficiently managing the financial performance of its business as a Network operator.

## **Consultation & feedback**

Evoenergy appreciates the important role vegetation plays in our communities and the value placed on the visual amenity, aesthetics, appearance and impact on local streetscapes

We aim to actively seek stakeholder feedback so that specific stakeholder and broader community concerns can be considered in our decisions and that plans may be changed where appropriate. This plan will be reviewed periodically, particularly where there are significant changes to factors such as legislation, policy, industry practice, standards and responsibilities.

Feedback on this plan can be provided at any time and will be considered during times of periodic reviews. Written submissions should be addressed to:

Vegetation and Asset Inspection Manager

Evoenergy

Oakden and Anketell Street

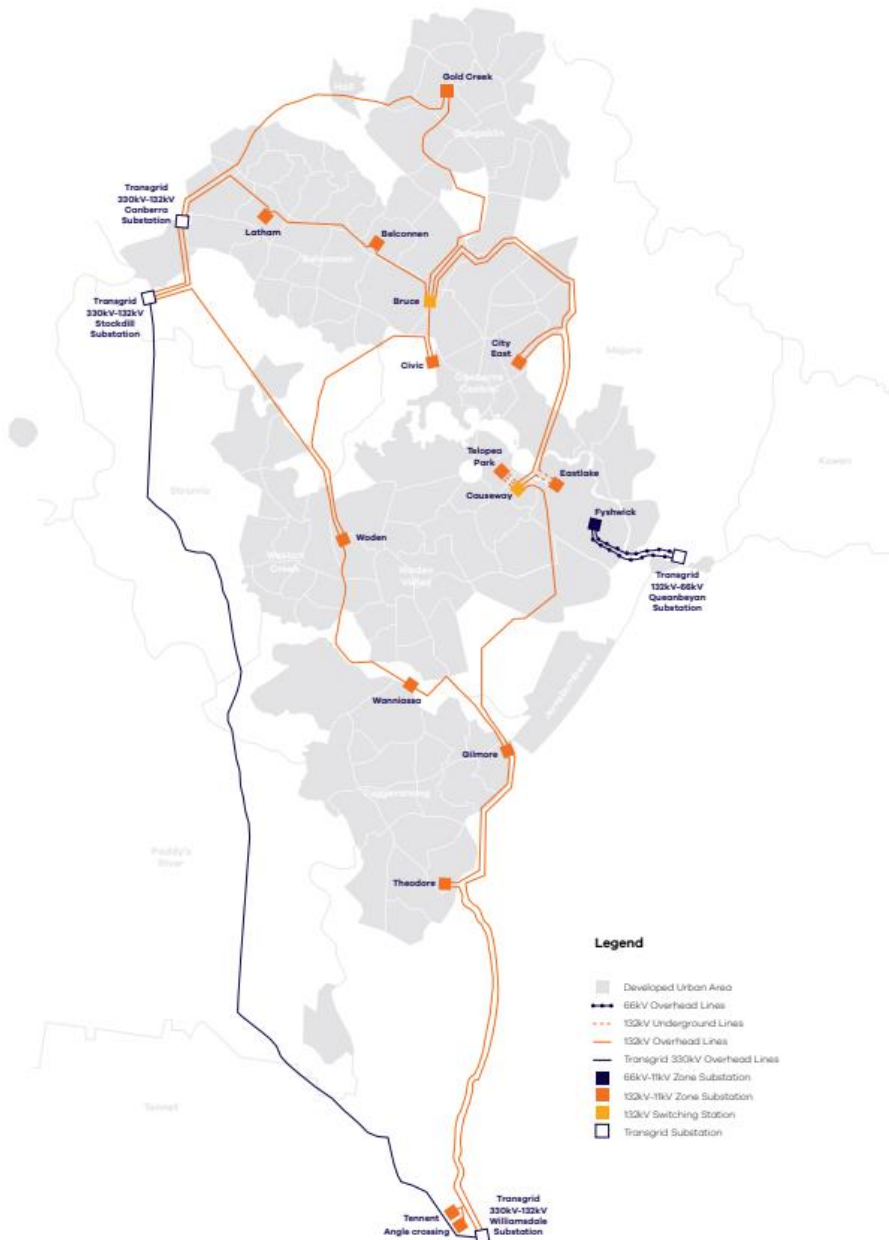
Greenway ACT 2900

## About Evoenergy and our network

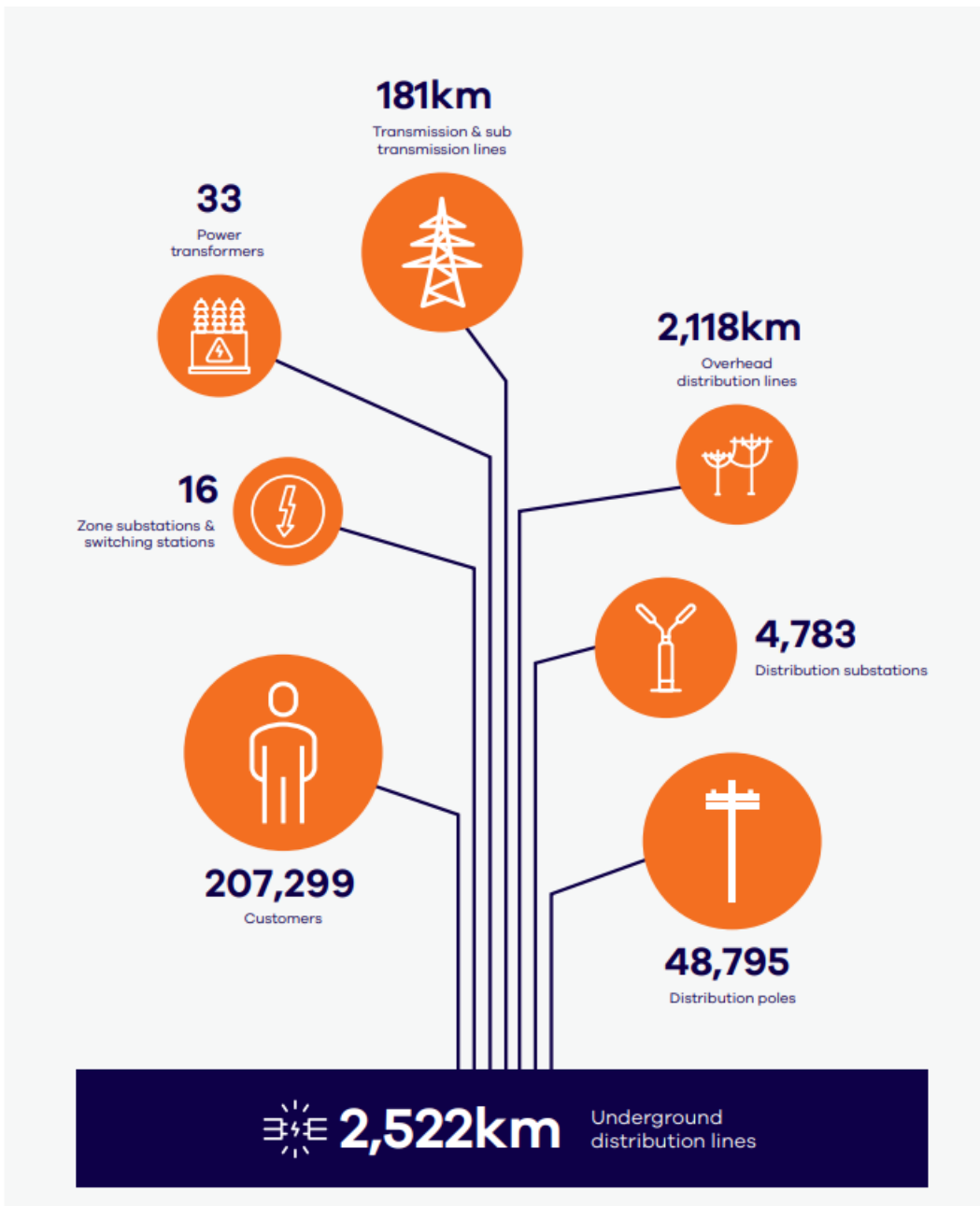
Evoenergy operates a distribution and sub-transmission electricity network in the Australian Capital Territory and into parts on New South Wales with more than 80 years' experience in delivering a safe and reliable electricity supply.

Evoenergy services a community of more than four hundred thousand people with a broad-ranging customer base covering rural, urban, residential and commercial customers. Our distribution area (Figure 1) covers an area of 2,358 square kilometres.

Figure 1: Evoenergy's distribution area



Evoenergy operates a *network* which is comprised of:



These network elements in combination are referred to throughout this plan as “the Network”. Evoenergy’s network is planned in accordance with the National Electricity Rules.

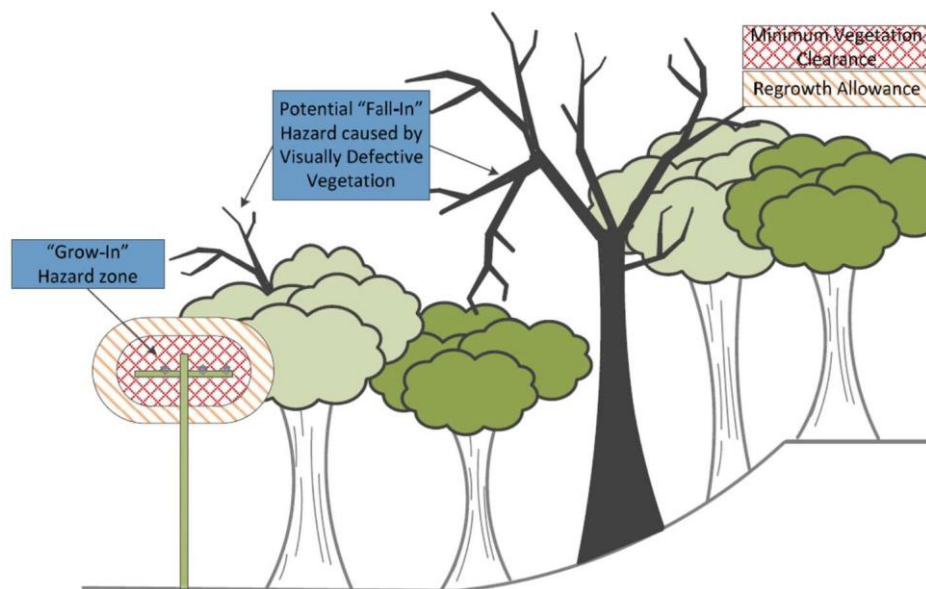
## 1. OUR APPROACH TO VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Evoenergy trims vegetation around the electricity Network to keep the community and our staff safe, while allowing us to continue providing a reliable electricity supply to our customers. Evoenergy complies with the various industry codes of practice relating to Network safety and vegetation management. As a licensed electricity distributor, our Electricity Network Safety Management System<sup>11</sup> requires vegetation to be managed in accordance with AS5577.

All vegetation associated with Evoenergy's Network Assets is to be managed in accordance with the Industry Safety Steering Committee 2016 Guide for the Management of Vegetation in the Vicinity of Electricity Assets (ISSC3). The standard requires the Minimum Vegetation Clearances stipulated in ISSC3 to be applied by default, except in particular, well defined, situations where alternative clearances may be applied. Generally, the requirements specified in [PO07342 Vegetation Management - ASP](#) are supplementary to those in ISSC3 or clarify the requirements of ISSC3 as they specifically relate to Evoenergy.

As part of Evoenergy's vegetation management program we also identify, assess and maintain Fall-in Vegetation Hazards (Hazard Trees), vegetation that sits outside of the Minimum Vegetation Clearances but that poses a risk to the Network.

**Figure 2: Vegetation Management Around Evoenergy's Network (source ISSC3 – 2016)**



Through Evoenergy's ongoing commitment to improve vegetation management and following feedback from the community and other stakeholders, we have reviewed some of our key procedures, policies and practices.

Evoenergy is currently working with ACT Government to identify and manage large trees impacting the safety of the Network. Generally, Evoenergy aims to not remove very large limbs (provided they are healthy and not an immediate risk) along with minimising trimming on heritage registered or important trees within the Minimum Vegetation Clearances. In these instances, individual assessments will be made in accordance with Evoenergy's Network Standard and we will communicate with ACT Government.

Many factors influence the development of our vegetation management standards, such as:

- safety;
- Network reliability;
- bushfire prevention
- regulatory requirements;
- streetscapes;

<sup>11</sup> An Electricity Network Safety Management System, in accordance with *Australian Standard AS 5577-2013 – Electricity Network Safety Management Systems*, is a requirement of the Electricity Network Assets Management Code 2013.

- access to Network assets;
- vegetation management options;
- tree trimming and removal;
- Network configuration;
- our environment and community;
- sustainability;
- planting; and
- costs.

As part of our approach, appropriate consideration of these factors is carried out prior to identifying the preferred vegetation management option.

Evoenergy's vegetation management program is designed around arboriculture, environmental and safety standards. The trimming techniques used by Evoenergy generally follow AS 4373 - Pruning of Amenity Trees and are intended to remove the minimum amount of vegetation necessary to achieve Minimum Vegetation Clearances whilst preserving the health and safety of the tree.

Evoenergy engages vegetation management Contractors to manage vegetation. Contractors have trimming cycles between one to two or three years, depending upon factors such as rate of regrowth, possible fire risk, climate and the type of vegetation.

Evoenergy's vegetation management also includes works to access underground cables, prevent unauthorised access to Evoenergy's Network and ensure safety signage remains visible.



## 2. SAFETY & RESPONSIBILITIES

Maintaining safety around Evoenergy's Network is one of our key priorities. Keeping vegetation (particularly tree branches) clear of powerlines, substations and associated infrastructure helps to keep the community safe and prevents damage to property. This section outlines the dangers associated with vegetation near Evoenergy's Network and defines the safety responsibilities of Evoenergy and others who plant and maintain vegetation.

### 2.1 Keeping the community safe

Every year storms and bushfires affect people and their properties in the ACT. Due to the inherent risks of live electricity, safety must always be the first priority when considering the clearance between vegetation and Evoenergy's Network.

#### Evoenergy takes this obligation to the community very seriously

To keep the community safe, the Minimum Vegetation Clearances around Evoenergy's Network need to be maintained. If branches are within the Clearing Requirement, they are trimmed back to the nearest growth point or branch collar to protect the health of the tree and prevent poorly attached regrowth that would create future safety hazards. Maintaining these clearances around Evoenergy's Network is one of our key priorities and responsibilities to our customers and the community.

Some of the dangers of vegetation near Evoenergy's Network include:

- falling branches bringing live wires to the ground;
- possible ignition of fires and bushfires;
- branches pushing live overhead wires together, causing the wires to short out, burn through and fall to the ground. This is a particular issue during times of high wind or storms;
- accidental electrocution from unauthorised access to live wires or equipment;
- electrical injury from touching vegetation in contact with powerlines, particularly high voltage powerlines;
- unauthorised access to Evoenergy's Network.

#### Evoenergy sees this as a shared responsibility. We ask you in the community to take responsibility for your trees and vegetation along with your safety and behaviour.

#### Evoenergy's safety responsibilities

Due to the safety risks outlined above, Evoenergy is required to manage vegetation so it does not grow into Minimum Vegetation Clearances near Evoenergy's Network. It is essential that vegetation is kept clear of Evoenergy's Network, so that we can deliver a safe and reliable electricity supply.

Evoenergy manages vegetation which requires the Minimum Vegetation Clearances stipulated in ISSC3 to be applied by default, except in well-defined situations where alternative clearances may be applied.

It should be noted that ISSC3 specifies that vegetation management work must only be performed by accredited persons working in accordance with Evoenergy's Electrical Safety Rules when vegetation is being trimmed near Evoenergy's Network.

In addition, Evoenergy considers bushfire risk management<sup>2</sup> to be of critical importance.

### 2.2 Safety responsibilities for landowners and occupiers

Landowners and occupiers are responsible for keeping private overhead powerlines free of vegetation and should ensure only appropriate trees are planted in areas that are close to powerlines. Evoenergy are

<sup>2</sup> Evoenergy's management of bushfire risk is part of Evoenergy's Electricity Network Safety Management System in accordance with [AS 5577-2013](#) which provides a national framework for the harmonisation of energy safety systems, including the *maintenance* of network asset integrity, vegetation management and *bushfire* risk mitigation.

responsible for ensuring that their powerlines and poles are inspected at regular intervals. Details of Evoenergy's policy regarding private and shared overhead powerlines, is covered in Section 3.2 of this document.

**Landowners and occupiers should monitor the Minimum Vegetation Clearance between vegetation and Evoenergy's Network to ensure the Minimum Vegetation Clearance is kept free of vegetation.**

Evoenergy should be contacted for advice if the Minimum Vegetation Clearance is compromised. Where the landowner or occupier is responsible for vegetation management, then they should either enter into an arrangement with Evoenergy or engage an accredited or authorised Contractor to carry out the work. The tree trimming guideline in Attachment 5 shows who is responsible for vegetation management in various situations. If landowners and occupiers with responsibility for vegetation management do not maintain the Minimum Vegetation Clearances, or do not permit Evoenergy to, Evoenergy may arrange for the work to be done and will charge the landowner or occupier for the costs.



Trimming or removal of vegetation near powerlines can be extremely dangerous. Any tree trimming performed within three metres of Evoenergy powerlines must only be done by workers accredited under the WorkCover 'Code of Practice – Work Near Overhead Power Lines' and the work must be carried out according to the Code of Practice. Tree trimming within the No Go Zone (as defined in the Code of Practice) must only be done at the direction of Evoenergy, and vegetation management workers must not enter the No Go Zone at any time unless they are specifically authorised by Evoenergy.

### **2.3 Safety responsibilities for Vegetation Management Workers**

Vegetation management workers must be appropriately accredited and/or authorised to carry out vegetation management work where the vegetation, the workers, or their equipment are within three metres of Evoenergy's Network.

While carrying out vegetation management, workers must not endanger themselves or members of the public and must comply with all relevant legislation, codes of practice and safety procedures. Workers must follow the requirements of Evoenergy's Electrical Safety Rules (for work carried out by or on behalf of Evoenergy), or the WorkCover Code of Practice – Work Near Overhead Power Lines (for work carried out by or on behalf of external parties).

### **2.4 Safety responsibilities for people planting vegetation near Evoenergy's Network or Private Assets and Overhead Powerlines**

Trees and other tall-growing vegetation should not be planted near Evoenergy's Network or private assets and overhead powerlines. Planting low-growing shrubs that will not result in the destruction of, damage to, or interference with the poles and other assets or powerlines is advised as it will minimise future hazards.

Where trees are planted which may impact our Network Evoenergy may recover the costs from the landowner or occupier for the ongoing vegetation maintenance.

Refer to Attachment 2 of this plan for guidance on what to plant near Evoenergy's Network.

## **3. CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

This section describes Evoenergy's approach to improving the community's understanding of vegetation management issues, Evoenergy's expectations of landowners and occupiers, the steps Evoenergy takes regarding vegetation trimming and removal, our use of qualified Contractors and how Evoenergy will audit their work to maintain standards and enhance the process.

### **3.1 How Evoenergy works to improve community understanding of vegetation management issues**

Evoenergy will continue to promote safety and environmental issues relating to the planting and management of vegetation near Evoenergy's Network to increase customer and community understanding.

Evoenergy will:

- liaise with landowners and occupiers, state and local government bodies (regulators, fire control bodies) and other community-based environmental organisations such as Landcare and other groups, as appropriate;
- distribute information covering safety issues, clearances, trimming techniques and planting guidelines;
- provide information on Evoenergy's website [www.Evoenergy.com.au](http://www.Evoenergy.com.au); and
- listen and respond to community concerns and customer enquiries.

### **3.2 Evoenergy's Overhead Private and Shared Mains Policy**

Evoenergy has developed a policy for the management of privately owned overhead powerlines whereby we proactively inspect/audit private overhead powerlines in bushfire prone areas and subsequently deal with any powerlines found to represent an unacceptably high risk, especially bushfire risk.

Evoenergy inspects and audits private overhead powerlines in bushfire prone areas in accordance with [PO07312 Pole and Line Inspection Manual](#) and any bushfire risk issues identified, including vegetation clearance issues.

Landowners and occupiers are responsible for keeping the powerlines they own free of vegetation and ensuring only appropriate trees are planted in areas that are close to powerlines. Evoenergy are responsible for ensuring that their powerlines and poles are inspected, tested at regular intervals.

In cases where landowners and occupiers have not rectified safety defects that have been identified, it may be necessary for Evoenergy to disconnect these powerlines. This may include removing any overhead service line to the customer's installation. Even when a service has been disconnected, the landowner or occupier remains responsible for maintaining the customer installation in a safe condition.

### **3.3 Evoenergy's expectations of landowners and occupiers**

Landowners and occupiers are required to share the responsibility under this plan. This means upholding the correct location and planting of appropriate tree species and through the monitoring of Minimum Vegetation Clearances and making arrangements, where they are responsible, for timely vegetation management works, to be carried out by appropriately qualified and accredited workers. The tree trimming guideline in Attachment 5 shows who is responsible for vegetation management in various situations.

### **3.4 Steps Evoenergy take regarding trimming and removal**

Evoenergy's program focuses on trimming and maintaining vegetation where practicable, so we don't have to remove trees entirely. Some faster growing trees, or those that pose recurring safety issues may need to be removed, but that is a last resort. Evoenergy will seek to resolve vegetation management issues, particularly regarding trimming or removal of vegetation, directly and on a cooperative basis with the responsible landowner or occupier. However, Evoenergy may carry out trimming or removal work if:

- it is considered necessary for safety, to prevent damage to Evoenergy's Network and to maintain electricity supply; and

- the responsible landowners or occupiers do not arrange for the work to be performed and/or grant permission for the work to be carried out. If this occurs the landowner or occupier may be responsible for the associated costs<sup>3</sup>.

### 3.5 Notification before vegetation management is carried out

Evoenergy works closely with ACT Government and Contractors to issue notifications in accordance with our legal obligations and legislative requirements. Evoenergy or its Contractors will keep relevant groups informed of their activities, work locations and nature of the work being carried out.

Evoenergy will provide a notice to the Parks and Conservation Service, Conservator, National Capital Authority or Regulator as required for inspection, maintenance and emergency works on protected land this is reserved or acquired in accordance with any agreed procedures and protocols. Due to the nature of emergency works, notification may be carried out following work completion.

Evoenergy's vegetation management work requires the continual maintenance of Minimum Vegetation Clearances and does not involve planned work carried out to defined schedules within each area, written notification to landowners and occupiers on and adjacent to any site where vegetation is to be trimmed is not required. Where any work is to be carried out that will substantially damage a tree, as defined by the Tree Protection Act 2005, Evoenergy will follow the notification process required. This clause does not impact on the requirements for notification of electrical work on private property.

By law, a tree situated on any premises that could destroy, damage or interfere with Evoenergy's Network, or could make Evoenergy's Network become a potential cause of bushfire or a potential risk to public safety, may be trimmed or removed.

On land where Evoenergy does not have an easement<sup>4</sup> or ownership, a written notice to the owner or occupier of the premises requiring the owner to trim or remove the tree may be made. If the work is not carried out as required by the notice, Evoenergy may carry out the work itself. In an emergency, Evoenergy, at our own expense, may trim or remove the tree our self.

### 3.6 What will Evoenergy do in an emergency?

Trees and other vegetation may need to be trimmed or removed under emergency conditions where the trees or vegetation could destroy, damage or interfere with Evoenergy's Network or could make Evoenergy's Network become a potential cause of bushfire or risk to public safety.

In such an emergency, trees and other vegetation may be trimmed or removed without notice.

### 3.7 Evoenergy's contractor expertise

Vegetation management Contractors working for us must be able to meet a range of requirements, including appropriate certifications, expertise and experience, as well as health, safety and environmental management methods. Contract personnel receive arboriculture training in correct trimming techniques, additional job-specific electrical safety training and awareness training in our environmental management practices.

<sup>3</sup> Under Section 48 of the [Electricity Supply Act 1995 \(NSW\)](#) Evoenergy can serve a notice on owners and *occupiers* (including local *Councils*) requiring landowners to trim or remove *trees* on their property where those *trees* could destroy, damage or interfere with the Evoenergy's *Network* or make Evoenergy's *Network* become a potential cause of *bushfire* or a potential risk to public safety. Evoenergy can also perform *vegetation* management where responsible landowners or *occupiers* do not carry out the work. Evoenergy is generally required to pay for works carried out on *trees* planted prior to the installation of Evoenergy's *Network* and *trees* which have propagated naturally.

<sup>4</sup> Including *easements* under existing use rights

All vegetation management Contract personnel are required to successfully complete a Cert II in ESI - Powerline Vegetation Control and be approved by Evoenergy prior to being authorised to undertake trimming near Evoenergy's Network.

Contractors are required to employ staff suitably qualified with Arboriculture Australia to be available within the Contract area to oversee trimming activities and to maintain appropriate standards.

Evoenergy's vegetation management Contractors are also required to have in place an Environmental Management System and a Contract-specific Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The overall aim of Evoenergy's vegetation management program is to achieve and maintain the necessary Minimum Vegetation Clearances whilst taking into consideration, as far as is practicable, the natural habit of the vegetation in the interests of its long-term health.

### **3.8 Checks undertaken on our contractors**

Evoenergy audits its Contractors on an ongoing basis to confirm appropriate work practices are being maintained and that all contractual and environmental requirements are being met. Contractors are provided with feedback from Evoenergy audits and this information will also be used to enhance this plan and Evoenergy's vegetation management system.

### **3.9 Evoenergy in-house expertise**

Horticulturists and arborists are employed by Evoenergy to audit the work of Evoenergy's Contractors and provide advice to Councils and the ACT community. This enables Evoenergy to give feedback and to provide timely, specialist advice.

## 4. ENVIRONMENT AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

This section looks at the range of potential environmental factors associated with Evoenergy's vegetation management activities along with how Evoenergy intends to manage the, including:

- environmental assessment, approvals licences and permits;
- threatened species populations or communities;
- noise and vibration;
- waste management;
- heritage status;
- erosion and sediment control;
- pollution control;
- noxious weeds and pathogens;
- visual impact; and
- Urban Heat Island Effect.

### 4.1 Background

Evoenergy maintains an Environmental Management System (EMS), certified to AS/NZS ISO 14001, which establishes a framework for managing Evoenergy's environmental issues and supports our environmental policy.

The EMS requires Evoenergy to identify the environmental issues relating to the activities we carry out and to use a risk assessment process to determine the significance of Evoenergy's impact. This system covers the environmental issues associated with Evoenergy's vegetation management activities.

Evoenergy aims to implement environmental best-practice while still considering other factors such as legislative requirements, community expectations and the use of the most appropriate, cost-effective measures.

In addition to the requirements outlined in this plan, Evoenergy or its Contractors will carry out all appropriate environmental assessments and obtain all necessary approvals, licences and permits associated with our vegetation management activities. The following sections provide a general overview of some of the most common environmental issues or factors that may arise.

### 4.2 Environmental assessment, approvals, licences and permits

Evoenergy or its Contractors will conduct an environmental assessment, where required, and obtain all necessary approvals, licences and permits.

Section 48 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995 (NSW) provides certain exemptions from obtaining local government permit approvals required by Tree Preservation Orders under a local environmental plan (LEP) and certain other environmental planning instruments. Where trees could destroy, damage or interfere with Evoenergy's electrical Network, or make Evoenergy's electrical Network become a potential source of a bushfire or risk to public safety, exemptions apply. These exemptions, however, do not apply to certain areas and trees subject to consent orders.

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2017 (NSW) defines vegetation management works as exempt development if those works are undertaken in accordance with this plan and if they meet certain conditions.

Regardless of the above exemptions, Evoenergy is still required to comply with requirements of other Acts which may necessitate assessments, approvals or permits. Examples include: the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Fisheries Act 2000.

Evoenergy follows procedures agreed with EES for the inspection, maintenance and emergency works on land reserved and acquired under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. A list of some of the relevant legislation and environmental planning instruments is set out in Attachment 4 - Reference Documents.

### 4.3 Heritage

Evoenergy will always act to preserve natural and cultural heritage features including Aboriginal heritage objects and places, historic structures and relics, memorial gardens, parks, tree plantings and landscapes, including aquatic landscapes, in accordance with relevant statutory requirements such as those contained in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the Heritage Act 2004 and the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

#### Works would stop immediately where heritage objects are suspected or identified.

Significant, memorial and heritage trees, or vegetation in protected areas and marine environments, may require particular management to minimise potential dangers or damage. Alternatives to trimming, as described in Section 6, will be considered, but trimming may be necessary where other options are not feasible because of technical, economic or aesthetic considerations.

### 4.4 Native vegetation

Evoenergy's goal is to protect and preserve native vegetation and in particular threatened species, populations and/or communities. Evoenergy will act in accordance with all relevant legislation including the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974, Local Land Services Act 2013, Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017 and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth).

Evoenergy recognises that in some instances Evoenergy's powerline corridors, substations and depot sites can prove to be valuable ecological areas containing threatened species, populations or communities of flora and fauna.

### 4.5 Wildlife habitat

Evoenergy will prevent or minimise disturbing wildlife habitat such as hollow bearing trees or bush rock. Where wildlife is detected and is likely to be impacted by the works, Evoenergy's Environmental Services group will be contacted to undertake an assessment.

Local wildlife rescue organisations will be contacted for the rescue or care of native wildlife where necessary.

### 4.6 Erosion and sediment control

Evoenergy will prevent or minimise erosion and sedimentation by limiting disturbance to low-growing species, vegetative ground covers and topsoil. Evoenergy will act in accordance with Erosion and Sediment Control OOC.

Where it is considered that erosion may occur, the stumps and the root structures of trimmed vegetation will be retained where practicable.

Appropriate sedimentation and erosion control practices will be implemented on sites where soil has been exposed and there is the potential for erosion to occur.

### 4.7 Noise and vibration

While undertaking vegetation management works Evoenergy considers the impacts of noise and vibration on the community. Every effort will be made to minimise any disturbance, while achieving the objectives of the works. Due to the nature of tree trimming, it is generally not practicable to provide acoustic screening. For example, some of our work is done some distance off the ground and close to live powerlines, but work will be completed in a safe and timely manner at appropriate times.

### 4.8 Pollution control

Measures will be put in place to prevent pollution of waters. These measures are detailed in the Environmental Protection Guidelines.

This will include ensuring watercourses and water bodies are not polluted by materials such as rubbish, felled or cut vegetation, toilet waste, silt, fuel spillage, herbicide and herbicide containers. Refuelling operations or decanting of herbicides shall be conducted at least 30 metres away from watercourses with all appropriate protection methods in place.



Spillage of oil, fuels or chemicals is to be avoided, but where a spillage or leakage has occurred, the relevant Emergency Response Plan and Environmental Protection Guidelines shall be followed so that adequate control measures are implemented and the appropriate notifications are carried out.

## 4.9 Waste management

Where practicable all waste generated from Evoenergy's vegetation management works, unless it is from noxious weeds, will be mulched and reused.

Any mulch supplied to others is done so in accordance with a Risk Management Protocol prepared in accordance with the EPA's Mulch Order.

Waste must be disposed of offsite unless site specific requirements allow otherwise. Waste may only be left to decompose naturally onsite where the landowner or occupier's written permission has been obtained and it will not present a safety risk.

Where waste from noxious and environmental weed species is likely to self-seed, it will be removed to an EPA approved licensed landfill site or treated to prevent propagation. Waste requiring disposal must be appropriately classified prior to lawful disposal.

**Cut materials stockpiled on site following Evoenergy's routine vegetation maintenance works will be removed within 48 hours.**

**During major storm events Evoenergy will prioritise the restoration of supply and removal of associated vegetation hazards, removal of consequent vegetation waste is the responsibility of the tree owner.**

Evoenergy will generally not remove trees or branches that are blown down or where a tree falls over from natural causes. In certain situations, such as emergencies, Evoenergy may be required to trim or remove private vegetation that could destroy, damage or interfere with Evoenergy's Network or could make Evoenergy's Network become a potential cause of bushfire or risk to public safety. Responsibility of the associated vegetation waste is classified in accordance with Attachment 5.

## 4.10 Noxious weeds and pathogens

Evoenergy's aim is to prevent or minimise the spread of noxious and environmental weeds and pathogens when carrying out vegetation management works. Areas which are particularly vulnerable to noxious weeds and pathogens include areas where threatened species are likely to be present, orchards, vineyards, undisturbed bushland, State forests and within or adjacent to protected areas such as National Parks and conservation areas.

Evoenergy will minimise the transport of weed materials and seeds by cleaning vehicles and equipment and removing weed material following activities in weed infested areas. Other methods may also be used to control the spread of weeds. These include digging and removal, selective use of herbicides, replanting and re-vegetating with low-growing locally indigenous plants, as well as creating ground cover with leaves and mulch.

Evoenergy will minimise the spread of pathogens in vulnerable areas by cleaning and disinfecting boots, personal items and all components of vehicles and equipment of soil and vegetation.

## 4.11 Visual impact

Evoenergy recognises the importance of maintaining local aesthetics and minimising the visual impact of tree trimming.

The primary objective of Evoenergy's trimming program is to strike the appropriate balance between maintaining the necessary Minimum Vegetation Clearances and working with the natural habit of each tree in the interests of its long-term health where practicable. Minimum Vegetation Clearances and trimming are outlined further in Evoenergy's [PO07342 Vegetation Management - ASP](#)

Evoenergy will endeavour to minimise the visual impact on the local area whilst upholding our obligation to safety of workers and the community and Network reliability.



Evoenergy and our vegetation Contractors work hard to get this balance right, but unfortunately it is not always practicable to achieve an aesthetically pleasing result, because of:

- the species of tree;
- the position of the tree i.e. the tree has either been planted in close proximity to Evoenergy' s Network, or planted directly underneath; and/or the lack of tree maintenance - where trees have not been maintained suitably from a young age and they have grown unchecked near Evoenergy' s Network, it may be necessary to remove large amounts of vegetation or assess the overall health of the tree and if necessary remove it.

## 5. PLANTING GUIDELINES

Evoenergy recognises the value of trees to local communities and encourages the planting of trees to enhance local streetscapes in accordance with the recommendations in this plan. Where planting is planned near Evoenergy's Network, Evoenergy recommends using suitable low-growing vegetation. Tall-growing species should be planted away from Evoenergy's Network to avoid safety problems and to enable the tree to grow to its mature height without the need for trimming.

This section covers issues relating to planting near Evoenergy's Network in rural areas and urban areas along with offering planting tips. It also provides information on suitable and unsuitable species.

Evoenergy appreciates that all street plantings need to be considered holistically. Evoenergy's recommended list identifies species of trees that will minimise the trimming of vegetation necessary to avoid encroachment of Minimum Vegetation Clearances near Evoenergy's Network.

**The ACT Government has the overall responsibility to develop appropriate strategies for tree plantings in areas under its control or management.**

**Further advice on the planting of trees should be sought from the relevant Governments website and specific Tree Management Plan.**

### 5.1 Planting in Rural Areas

Low-growing species can be planted near Evoenergy's Network where they will not present a risk to public safety, interfere with Evoenergy's Network, pose a bushfire hazard, or restrict access for maintenance or repairs. A list of potentially suitable species is shown in Attachment 2.

Private nurseries often sell species native to the local area and can provide specific recommendations on low-growing species suited to local conditions.

Evoenergy recommends landowners and occupiers plant tall species away from Evoenergy's Network to maintain both safety and access to Evoenergy's Network for routine maintenance and repairs.

If tall-growing vegetation is planted close to Evoenergy's Network the landowner or occupier may be responsible for any subsequent trimming or removal work and the associated costs, in accordance with the Electricity Supply Act 1995 (NSW).

Locations such as deep gullies are the preferred sites for groups such as LandCare, Bushcare and others, who undertake planting to connect habitats. This helps to ensure that planted vegetation will have minimal impact on Evoenergy's Network. If this is not practicable then connectivity of habitat should exclude tall-growing species near Evoenergy's Network.

### 5.2 Planting in Urban Areas

We recommend only low-growing species are planted near or under Evoenergy's Network. Many trees are unsuitable for planting under or near Evoenergy's Network because they are likely to present a safety risk and there is insufficient room for the tree to grow. Taller trees can be planted nearby, provided that they will remain clear of Evoenergy's Network when fully grown.

**Please note that approval must be obtained before planting on streets and footpaths**

On private property, only suitably low-growing species should be planted under or near Evoenergy's Network. A list of potentially suitable species is shown in Attachment 2.

Private nurseries often sell species native to the local area and can provide specific recommendations on low-growing species suited to local conditions.

Evoenergy will consider including in the list additional low-growing species that may be suggested by ACT Government and other interested parties.

The planting of species which are not listed in Attachment 2 may be negotiated with individual authorities including situations where mature avenues of significance exist so that the new trees blend with the existing ones.

### 5.3 What to consider before planting

Evoenergy offers some simple advice to consider before planting:

- look up before planting to identify existing electricity assets;
- plant away from underground pits, pillar-boxes and kiosk transformers so roots don't become a problem;
- investigate whether underground services are present, including Evoenergy's underground power cables;
- contact the designated underground asset information provider for information on the location of cables and other underground infrastructure before digging, particularly on footpaths and streets;
- remember that underground services may also exist on private property – further information is available from Evoenergy's website ([www.Evoenergy.com.au](http://www.Evoenergy.com.au));
- consider how big the tree or other vegetation will grow and what impact it would have at full maturity;
- plant taller species furthest away from Evoenergy's Network – the rule of thumb is to plant a tree no closer than its potential mature height to the nearest point on Evoenergy's Network e.g. if the potential mature height of the tree is 10 metres, then do not plant the tree any closer than 10 metres to the nearest point on Evoenergy's Network;
- obtain approval before planting on streets and footpaths;
- remember that access to Evoenergy's Network will be required for maintenance and repairs in the future;
- give preference to planting species native to the local area which are often available from some private nurseries;
- plant species that will not invade the surrounding environment;
- consider the requirements of other utility and service providers, e.g. Transport Canberra for clear sight distances or interference with telecommunications cables; and look at the species lists shown in Attachment 2 for guidance on what to plant near Evoenergy's Network, including aerial bundled cables (ABC) – local nurseries can offer specific recommendations on low-growing species suited to local conditions.

## 6. NETWORK OPTIONS AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT METHODS

As part of Evoenergy's ongoing commitment to minimise the extent of tree trimming, several longer-term solutions are considered as part of the planning phase for future works. For example:

- Evoenergy requires that underground electricity is installed in all new urban residential developments;
- aerial bundled cable (ABC) which has a smaller Minimum Vegetation Clearance than standard bare overhead wires, is considered for new and relocated low voltage overhead wiring;
- replacing older overhead services with ABC style cables, removal of street light cables and enabling overhead services to be connected mid span on the mains cable (where practicable) to reduce impact on trees;
- where deemed practicable and efficient new high voltage wires are placed underground; and
- in some areas, overhead wires are placed underground in conjunction with building developments.

This section describes these Network options, the indicative costs and Evoenergy's approach to vegetation trimming, including the relevant Minimum Vegetation Clearances, vegetation removal and replacement.

### 6.1 Network options as alternatives to trimming

To minimise tree trimming, Evoenergy is happy to pursue longer-term Network options with ACT Government or other landowners and occupiers.

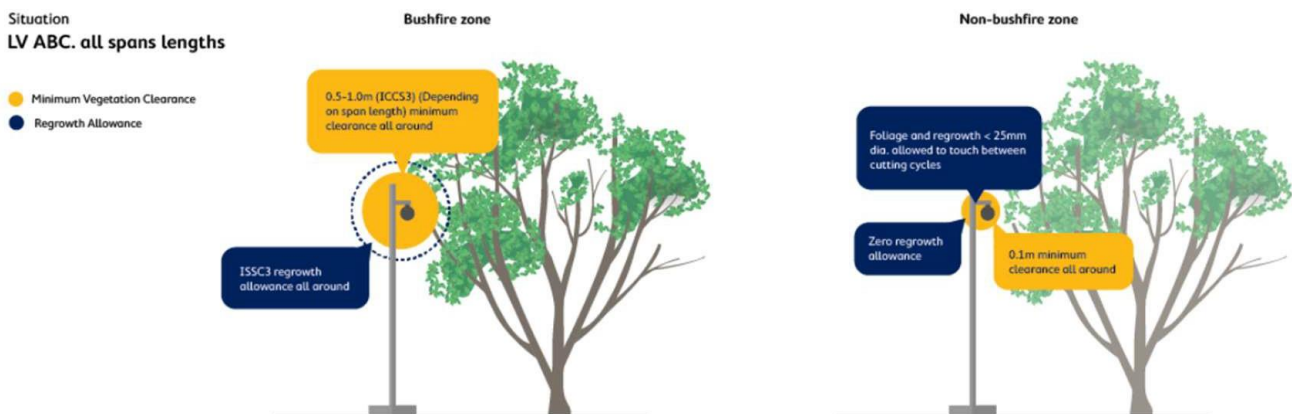
### 6.1.1 Low Voltage Aerial Bundled Cable (ABC)

By installing aerial bundled cables (ABC) the Minimum Vegetation Clearances can be significantly reduced between trees and the conductors, improving the amenity of the streetscape without compromising safety. Since 2010, Evoenergy has installed low voltage ABC.

The ACT Government are advised of programmed tree trimming works where extensive trimming is needed to obtain Minimum Vegetation Clearances. This allows the ACT Government to consider replacing bare low voltage overhead with ABC in those locations or investigate whether the trees should be removed and replaced, in consultation with residents.

Where it is agreed that ABC will be installed, and where it is safe to do so the Minimum Vegetation Clearances can be reduced to 10 centimetres.

Figure 3 – LV ABC Clearances



### 6.1.2 Underground cables

Underground electricity is installed in all new urban residential developments. Where deemed practicable and efficient new high voltage wires are also placed underground. In some areas, overhead wires are placed underground in conjunction with building developments.

Vegetation planted near underground cables should be carefully considered to ensure that it does not interfere with Evoenergy's Network. In some cases, vegetation will need to be removed if interference is assessed to be likely or if Evoenergy is required to access the cables.

## 6.2 Minimum vegetation clearances

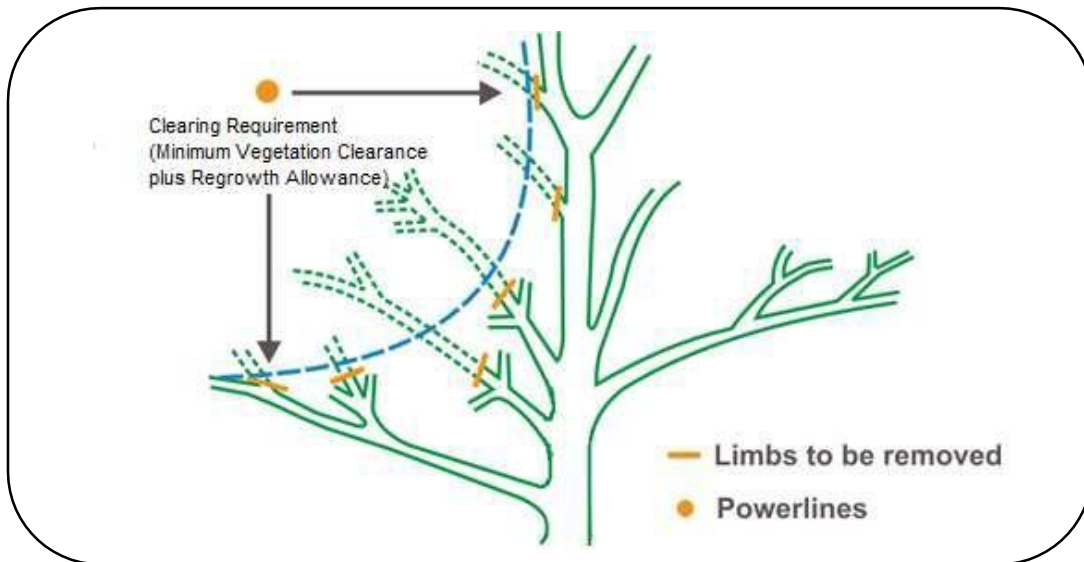
Minimum Vegetation Clearances are based on industry standards recognised by the industry regulator – the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal NSW (IPART). The industry accepted clearances are defined by ISSC3. The Minimum Vegetation Clearances depend on construction type (i.e. bare or insulated), span length, voltage and bushfire risk. In bushfire prone areas, an additional 0.5 metre clearance is required for all bare overhead wires. Refer to ISSC3 for full details.

Evoenergy applies the ISSC3 Minimum Vegetation Clearances as default, however ISSC3 also allows alternative clearances to be applied provided the principles and considerations outlined in the Guide are taken into account and they do not establish a lesser public safety and risk outcome than would be achieved by adhering to the predefined Minimum Vegetation Clearances. Evoenergy has determined that certain alternative clearances may be applied as exceptions to the ISSC3 default clearances.

The exceptions allow reduced Minimum Vegetation Clearances and Regrowth Allowances in certain situations, provided strict criteria are demonstrated to apply. The exceptions apply to low voltage bare and ABC overhead wires and high voltage ABC wires, in non-bushfire prone land areas only. Refer to Evoenergy's vegetation clearance tables for further details including the criteria which must apply before the exceptions can be implemented.

Evoenergy's vegetation management program is designed around arboricultural, environmental and safety standards. The trimming techniques used by Evoenergy and our Contractors generally follow AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees and are intended to remove the minimum amount of vegetation necessary to achieve Minimum Vegetation Clearances whilst preserving the health and safety of the tree. Once the Minimum Vegetation Clearances plus an allowance for regrowth is determined for each branch, it is then trimmed at the nearest collar (or growth point) outside the Clearing Requirement. This is a requirement under AS 4373 as it protects trees from infection or disease and reduces the development of weakly attached growth that can result from trimming trees mid-branch. See Figure 4 below:

**Figure 4 – Clearing Requirement**



Unfortunately, it is not always practicable to achieve an aesthetically pleasing result, because of:

- the species of tree;
- the position of the tree i.e. the tree has either been planted in close proximity to Evoenergy's Network, or planted directly underneath; and/or
- the lack of tree maintenance - where trees have not been maintained suitably from a young age and they have grown unchecked near Evoenergy's Network, it may be necessary to remove large amounts of vegetation.
- Evoenergy recognises that in some cases trimming may prove to be undesirable, such as where trees require trimming more often than is practicable or where trimming may impact the health of the tree.

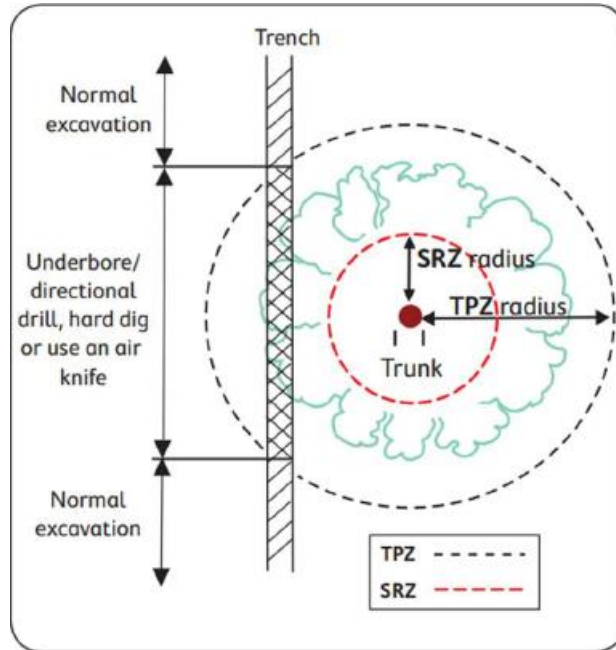
Typically, a one to three-year trimming cycle is considered to be reasonable industry practice, but this may vary depending upon various factors such as the rate of regrowth, possible fire risk, climate and the type of vegetation.

### **6.3 Requirements for underground cables near vegetation**

When installing underground cables, Evoenergy will employ techniques to minimise impacts on tree root systems. These techniques include:

- Trenching outside the structural root zone (SRZ); and
- If trenching is required within the tree protection zone (TPZ), Evoenergy will under-bore or directional drill, hand dig or use an air knife.

**Figure 5: Trenching considerations around trees**



## 6.4 Evoenergy's approach to vegetation removal

Evoenergy will not seek to remove any tree, or trim any tree in a way that substantially damages the tree, unless it considers:

- other Network options are not feasible because of technical, economic or aesthetic considerations;
- safety is compromised;
- the vegetation would otherwise facilitate unauthorised access to Evoenergy's Network;
- the Network or electricity supplies are threatened;
- the work is required for access to Evoenergy's Network (including support structures) for construction, maintenance or operational needs, or for reliability and staff safety during operation and maintenance;
- there is an unsuitable species planted near Evoenergy's Network;
- the vegetation will not respond to directional trimming;
- the vegetation cannot be maintained for appropriate periods of time due to its growth characteristics;
- the health of the vegetation is such that to leave it would pose a threat to the safety of the community, property or Evoenergy's Network; and
- the aesthetics of the vegetation are such that continued trimming irreparably damages it, and removal is considered preferable to ongoing trimming.

All vegetation removals are either approved by the appropriate environmental planning approval pathway under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act or are assessed by an Evoenergy arborist or horticulturalist. If Evoenergy plans to remove vegetation on private property, we will consult with the landowner or occupier and seek their agreement prior to the work starting, except in an emergency. The landowner or occupier may be charged for the work.

While Evoenergy does not generally require permission from ACT Government for removal of vegetation on private property, Evoenergy will generally notify Act Government of any proposed tree removals and allow them to comment on these removals. Where required by legislation, Evoenergy will also undertake consultation and obtain the relevant statutory approval from appropriate bodies.

Evoenergy may issue a notice to the landowner or occupier to remove vegetation if it is, or may be, an ongoing threat to the safety of people, property, or the integrity of Evoenergy's Network. In these circumstances permission from ACT Government may not be required but where practicable, landowners or occupiers should verify this with ACT Government prior to removing the vegetation. Notice by Evoenergy is not required in an emergency and we may remove the tree at our expense.

ACT Government and/or Evoenergy will consult with adjoining landowners or occupiers and the local community if street trees are to be removed.

**Evoenergy encourages owners or occupiers to seek ACT Government permission before removing their trees near Evoenergy's Network so that the requirements of Tree Preservation Orders under the LEP are fulfilled.**

**Safety is paramount and appropriately authorised Contractors must be used, as this work can be extremely dangerous. Refer to the safety section within this Plan to learn more on the safety requirements when carrying out this type of work.**

Saplings, the mature height of which will infringe the Minimum Vegetation Clearance or restrict access for maintenance or operational requirements, are best removed or relocated at an early stage of their growth to minimise the future safety risks, cost and disruption. Methods used for the reduction of saplings and regrowth that may be used where appropriate include slashing or mulching, hand cutting and biological (such as grazing).

Evoenergy will also assess and remove where practicable dead, dying and structurally unsound vegetation which sits outside of the Minimum Vegetation Clearance but may present a fall-in risk to the Network. The following strategies may be used to mitigate the impact of the removal process:

- replacement with a suitable species prior to the removal of the unsuitable species;
- for a group of trees, a staged removal, with staged replacement, is preferable as this reduces the visual impact;
- removal of the vegetation and subsequent replacement;
- replacement planting on the other side of the street prior to any removal; and
- consultation with the community.

## **6.5 Evoenergy's approach to replacement of trees**

**Evoenergy supports the replacement of trees with appropriate species that are native to the local area.**

**We understand their value to the environment and that this will assist in the preservation of the local ecology.**

Evoenergy understands the community's desire to replace trees that are removed, and we support this, provided the trees are planted away from Evoenergy's Network or the replacements are of a more suitable species. Planting should be in line with the guidelines for your area and the species shown in Attachment 2 of this plan. We will consider supplying replacement trees, but we will generally not replace trees that have been planted inappropriately after Evoenergy's Network was built. If Evoenergy does replace a tree, once the tree is planted all care and maintenance of that tree is the responsibility of the land owner or occupier.

Replacement trees will usually be a small size, as these plants generally establish more quickly and over several years will outgrow a plant that was larger initially.



## 7. EMERGENCY CONTACTS

[customerresolutions@evoenergy.com.au](mailto:customerresolutions@evoenergy.com.au)

## 8. VERSION CONTROL

VERSION	DETAILS	APPROVED
1.0	Initial document	Vegetation and Inspection Manager Network Services

## 9. DOCUMENT CONTROL

DOCUMENT OWNER	DOCUMENT CUSTODIAN	PUBLISH DATE	REVIEW DATE
Group Manager Customer Delivery	Vegetation and Inspection Manager Network Services	18/05/2023	18/05/2025



## ATTACHMENT 1 - DEFINITIONS

Attachment definitions noted below have the corresponding meaning in the context of this plan:

WORD / EXPRESSION	DEFINITION
<b>Access Track</b>	A dry weather 4WD or pedestrian access track that has been previously established for the purposes of accessing Evoenergy's <i>Network</i> .
<b>Accredited</b>	Workers accredited under the <u>WorkCover Code of Practice – Work Near Overhead Power Lines</u>
<b>Aerial Bundled Cable (ABC)</b>	An insulated multi-core cable, often used in substitution for multiple bare single conductors
<b>Authorised</b>	Authorised by Evoenergy
<b>Bushfire Prone Area</b>	Evoenergy defines its <i>bushfire</i> prone area by applying the Rural Fire Service <i>bushfire</i> maps to the <i>Network</i> area. These represent areas of land that can support a <i>bushfire</i> or are likely to be subject to <i>bushfire</i> attack. This also includes a buffer area around the <i>bushfire</i> danger areas to mitigate the risk of fire spread.
<b>Clearing Requirement</b>	The sum of the <i>Minimum Vegetation Clearance</i> and the <i>Regrowth Allowance</i> . It is the expected outcome immediately after the <i>vegetation</i> trimming cycle has been carried out.
<b>Easement</b>	An easement gives someone who does not own land a right to use it, or a part of it, for specific purposes . Common examples are rights of way, drainage easements and easements for electricity mains and other services. Easements are created in accordance with the Conveyancing Act 1919 and the Real Property Act 1900. They may be created for a definite period of time or in perpetuity.
<b>Emergency</b>	Where Evoenergy has reasonable cause to believe that particular <i>vegetation</i> could destroy, damage or interfere with its electricity works, or could make its electricity works become a potential cause of <i>bushfire</i> or a potential risk to public safety, and that urgent corrective action is required to manage the <i>vegetation</i> appropriately.
<b>Fall-in Vegetation Hazards (Hazard Trees)</b>	As defined in ISSC3 - visually defective <i>vegetation</i> (which is <i>vegetation</i> that is dead, dying and appears structurally unsound as identified from the perspective of the <i>Network</i> Asset as far as it is reasonably practicable to do so), that is outside the minimum Clearing Requirement distances from Electricity Assets and which may require trimming, cutting, or removal to obviate the risk of it falling, dropping, and contacting the assets.
<b>High Voltage (HV)</b>	Any voltage which is nominally more than 1000 volts alternating current.
<b>Kilovolt (kV)</b>	1000 volts.
<b>Low Voltage (LV)</b>	Not more than 1000 volts alternating current.
<b>Maintenance</b>	Activities or works that keep Evoenergy's <i>Network</i> in good condition and allow its unimpaired operation. This includes <i>vegetation</i> management activities.
<b>Minimum Vegetation Clearance</b>	The minimum clearance area surrounding an electricity asset which as far as reasonably practicable is kept free of all <i>vegetation</i> .
<b>Network</b>	For the purposes of this plan, means all those elements of Evoenergy's electrical infrastructure associated with the distribution and supply of electricity. This includes, but is not limited to: powerlines, poles, pillars, stay wires, substations, transformers and other facilities.
<b>No Go Zone</b>	The area around <i>overhead powerlines</i> into which no part of a <b>person</b> or material or cranes or vehicles or items of mobile <b>plant</b> may encroach without the approval of the <i>Network</i> operator.
	<b>Note:</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>person</b> includes hand tools, equipment or any other material held by a person.</li> <li>• <b>plant</b> includes the load, controlling ropes and any other accessories.</li> </ul>
<b>Occupier</b>	A person who is in actual occupation of the land. (Land Holder)
<b>Overhead</b>	In relation to a powerline, means a <i>powerline</i> that is above ground level.
<b>Powerline</b>	An overhead or underground electricity line, structure and equipment used for or in connection with the supply of electricity. It excludes third- party telecommunication cables.
<b>Protected area</b>	An area within: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a national park or nature reserve within the meaning of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 or</li> <li>• land that is reserved or zoned for environmental protection purposes under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 or</li> <li>• a public reserve within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993.</li> </ul>
<b>Protected Tree</b>	A tree that is the subject of or within an area, as defined in Section 48 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995, that is the subject of an interim heritage order, or a listing on the State Heritage Register, under the Heritage Act or an interim protection order under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974; or a protection conferred by any similar law. It also means a tree within a protected area.
<b>Regrowth</b>	<i>Saplings</i> , suckers and other <i>vegetation</i> that has grown or regrown after previous trimming cycles
<b>Regrowth Allowance</b>	The additional clearance allowance required that is added to the <i>Minimum Vegetation Clearance</i> , to prevent <i>vegetation regrowth</i> incursions into the <i>Minimum Vegetation Clearance</i> between trimming cycles
<b>Rural area</b>	Any area that is not an urban area
<b>Sapling</b>	An immature tree
<b>Span</b>	The <i>overhead</i> wires between two adjacent supporting poles or structures
<b>SRZ</b>	Structural Root Zone – the circular area around a <i>tree</i> at ground level with radius in metres, computed by $SRZ = 0.64 \times (50 \times \text{diameter(m)})^{0.42}$ , where trunk diameter is measured at <i>tree</i> base.
<b>Threatened species, populations or communities</b>	A species or community specified under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwth), Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or Fisheries Management Act 1994.
<b>Tree</b>	Vegetation taller than 3 metres, or having a canopy more than 3 metres in maximum diameter or having a trunk with a circumference at a height of 1 metre from the ground of more than 0.3 metres. Trees can include shrubs and other plants for the purposes of the <a href="#">Electricity Supply Act 1995</a> .
<b>TPZ</b>	Tree Protection Zone – the circular area around a <i>tree</i> at ground level with radius equal to 12 x the diameter of the <i>tree</i> trunk measured at 1.4 m above the ground.
<b>Unauthorised</b>	Not authorised by Evoenergy

<b>Urban Area</b>	The built up areas within and surrounding cities and towns. It includes suburban areas
<b>V</b>	Volts
<b>Vegetation</b>	All plant life including, but not limited to, <i>trees</i> , palms, vines, shrubs, and grasses such as bamboo but excluding lawns
<b>Weed</b>	Those species of plant defined as a pest under the <u>Biosecurity Act 2015</u> .

## ATTACHMENT 2 - PLANTS GENERALLY SUITABLE FOR USE NEAR EVOENERGY'S NETWORK

The plants identified below are generally suitable for planting near Evoenergy's *Network*. The ACT Government has the overall responsibility to develop appropriate strategies for *tree* plantings in areas under its control or management. Further advice on the planting of *trees* should be sought from the *ACT Government* website and specific Tree Management Plan. The following considerations should be factored in:

This list is not exhaustive. Contact the ACT Government for suitable species native to the local area.

Not all of the species listed are native to the whole of the Evoenergy supply area.

Some species in this list may require formal and/or correctional trimming to achieve suitability.

Minimal trimming of these species may still be required where powerlines are relatively low in height, for example, near where they connect to a building.

Evoenergy acknowledges that many hybrid species do exist. It is the responsibility of the tree owner &/or person selecting the tree to ensure the maximum growth height will not exceed 6-7 metres once mature.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT (METRES)	CULTURAL NOTES
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese Maple	4 - 5	Deciduous <i>tree</i> with finely textured foliage
<i>Acmena smithi</i> var 'Minor'	Dwarf Lilly Pilly	3 - 4	Shade tolerant, hardy, drought tender
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Silk Tree	5 - 6	Deciduous <i>tree</i> with ferny foliage and masses of pink flowers
<i>Angophora hispida</i>	Dwarf Apple	2 - 4	Hardy, drought resistant, light frost resistant, coastal.
<i>Banksia</i> spp	Banksia	2 - 6	Drought tender, heavy frost resistant, coastal. Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height
<i>Callistemon</i> spp	Bottlebrush	4-8	Very hardy, drought resistant, heavy frost resistant. Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Japanese Camellia	4 - 6	Variety of flower colours
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	Sasanqua Camellia	4 - 6	Variety of flower colours
<i>Fraxinus</i> spp	Designer Ash	2 - 6	Slow growing. Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	Fried Egg plant	3 - 8	Very hardy. Slow growing.
<i>Grevillea</i> spp	Grevillea	3 - 8	Hardy, drought resistant, frost resistant. <b>Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height.</b> <i>Grevillea Robusta</i> shall not be used.
<i>Lagerstroemia</i> spp	Crepe Myrtle	3 - 8	Deciduous tree, pink, mauve, crimson or white flowers and beautiful bark. Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height.
<i>Leptospermum</i> spp	Tea-Tree	3 - 8	Very hardy, drought resistant, coastal
<i>Magnolia</i> 'Little Gem'	Dwarf Magnolia	3 - 4	Creamy white flowers, frost tolerant

<i>Syzygium luehmannii</i>	Small-leaved Lillypilly	5	Masses of creamy white flowers in summer new growth is pale pink
<i>Tibouchina spp</i>	Lasiandra	4 - 6	Masses of velvety royal purple flowers in autumn
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo	5 - 8	Hardy, frost & drought resistant. <b>Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height.</b>
<i>Corymbia spp</i>	Western Australian Red Flowering Gum	6 - 8	Hardy, drought resistant, frost resistant. Dwarf variety only to be used. <b>Ensure variety will not exceed 6 metres in height.</b>

## ATTACHMENT 3 - PLANTS GENERALLY UNSUITABLE FOR USE NEAR EVOENERGY'S NETWORK

The plants identified below are generally unsuitable for planting near Evoenergy's Network. Other factors that should be considered include:

- Other species not listed may also be unsuitable dependent on variables such as species, cultivar, location, soil type and other environmental factors.
- The ACT Government should be consulted for suitable species native to the local area.
- Evoenergy acknowledges that many hybrid species do exist. It is the responsibility of the tree owner &/or person selecting the tree to ensure the maximum growth height will not exceed 6-7 metres once mature.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT (METRES)	CULTURAL NOTES
<i>Abies species</i>	Fir Trees	20+	Large pyramid shape, needle-like leaves, upright cones.
<i>Acacia species</i>	Wattle	6+	Large shrub, broad leaf blades, colourful seeds.
<i>Acer species</i> (not including Japanese)	Maples	8+	Easily recognisable palmate leaves and distinctive winged fruits.
<i>Acmena species</i>	Lillypilly or Bush Cherry	7+	Very hardy. Creamy white flowers with fleshy fruits.
<i>Agonis flexulosa</i> (not including dwarf cultivars)	Willow Myrtle	12+	Fibrous brown bark, long narrow leaves and small white flowers.
<i>Allocasuarina species</i>	She Oak	8+	Dense furrowed grey-brown bark and drooping grey-green needle-like foliage.
<i>Alnus species</i>	Black & Evergreen Alder	10+	Deciduous. Alternate serrated leaves.
<i>Angophora species</i> including <i>bakeri</i>	Apple Gum	8+	Rough bark. Leaves in opposite pairs.
<i>Araucaria species</i>	Bunya-Bunya, Hoop or Norfolk Island Pine	25+	Large trees with tall straight stem. Horizontal branches.
<i>Bambusa species</i>	Bamboo	10+	Hollow, tall, fast growing grasses.
<i>Bauhinia species</i>	Orchid Tree	8+	Lobed leaves. Colourful fragrant flowers.
<i>Betula species</i>	Birch	10+	Deciduous hardwood. Simple alternate leaves.
<i>Brachychiton species</i>	Lace-Dark, Flame & Kurrajong	15+	Tall deciduous. Stout stem.
<i>Callitris species</i>	Native Pine, Native Cypress	8+	Evergreen, scale-like leaves.
<i>Calodendron capense</i>	Cape Chestnut	8+	Smooth grey bark. Spectacular flowers.
<i>Castanosprum australe</i>	Moreton Bay Chestnut	20+	Very hardy. Glossy dark green leaves & low spreading branches.
<i>Casuarina species</i>	She-Oaks	8+	Tall trees with slender twigs bearing minute scale-leaves.
<i>Cedrus species</i>	Cedar, Fir, Spruce	10+	Large pyramid shape, needle-like leaves, upright cones.

<i>Celtis species</i>	Nettle-tree	10+	Drought tolerant. Simple alternate leaves.
<i>Chamaecyparis species</i> (not including dwarf cultivars)	False Cypress	20+	Decorative evergreen conifer.
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel	20+	Tall evergreen with large spreading canopy.
<i>Citharexylum spinosum</i>	Fiddlewood	10+	West Indian native with attractive foliage and fragrant flowers.
<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Japanese Cedar	20+	Very large evergreen tree.
<i>Cupressus species</i>	Cypress trees	10+	Very large evergreen tree.
<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland Cypress	10+	Very large evergreen tree.
<i>Erythrina species</i>	Coral-tree, Cock's Comb	15+	Bright red flowers. Thorny stems.
<i>Eucalyptus species</i>	Gum trees	8+	Large fast growing evergreen.
<i>Fagus species</i>	Beech	20+	Tall, round-headed and wide spreading.
<i>Ficus species</i>	Fig trees	25+	Large tree with smooth white bark.
<i>Flindersia species</i>	Flindersia	10+	Large trees with scale-like hairs.
<i>Fraxinus species</i>	Ash	8+	Light green oval shaped leaves.
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Maidenhair Tree	15+	Grey furrowed bark, fan shaped leaves.
<i>Gleditsia species</i>	Honey Locust	12+	Tall deciduous leguminous tree.
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky Oak	14+	Fast growing evergreen with a single main trunk.
<i>Harpephyllum caffrum</i>	Kaffir Plum	8+	Broad shady canopy with dark green glossy leaves.
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native Frangipani	10+	Wide growing. Gnarled branches, long leaves and distinctive flowers.
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	10+	Semi-evergreen with fragrant purple flowers.
<i>Juniperus species</i> (not including Japanese)	Juniper	10+	Hardy, slow growing coniferous tree.
<i>Lagunaria patersonii</i>	Norfolk Island Hibiscus	12+	Dense grey-green leaves.
<i>Libocedrus species</i>	New Zealand Cedar	8+	Evergreen coniferous tree.
<i>Ligustrum species</i>	Privet	10+	Evergreen tree with smooth grey bark.
<i>Liquidambar species</i>	Liquidambar	15+	Large deciduous with palmate leaves.
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip tree	15+	Large deciduous ornamental tree.
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	15+	Evergreen fast growing tree with rounded shape.
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Bull Bay Magnolia	9+	Dense tree with a dome shape and dark green glossy leaves.
<i>Melaleuca species</i>	Paper barks	8+	Tall spreading tree with thick papery bark.
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White Cedar	12+	Deciduous tree with a rounded crown.
<i>Metrosideros species</i>	New Zealand Christmas Tree, Pohutukawa	10+	Coastal evergreen with brilliant masses of flowers.
<i>Nageia falcatus</i>	Plum Fruited Yew, Oteniqua Yellowwood	10+	Evergreen woody trees with thin hard bark.
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Sour Gum, Tupelo	10+	Bright red autumn foliage.
<i>Palm species including Archontophoenix, Butia, Cocos Howea, Livistona, Phoenix and Washingtonia species</i>	Palms	8+	Tall slender stemmed tree.
<i>Pinus species</i>	Pine	15+	Large evergreen tree.
<i>Pistachia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	10+	Deciduous tree with a broad canopy.

<i>Platanus species</i>	Plane tree	15+	Scaling bark, palmate leaves.
<i>Podocarpus elatus</i>	Brown Pine	10+	Evergreen tree with brown bark.
<i>Populus species</i>	Poplar	15+	Fast growing tree with smooth bark.
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery Pear	10+	Conical or rounded crown with white flowers.
<i>Quercus species</i>	Oak	15+	Broad shady tree fruiting acorns.
<i>Salix species</i>	Willow	10+	Deciduous tree with elongated green leaves.
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Chinese Tallowwood Tree	8+	Deciduous tree with domed crown.
<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>	Umbrella Tree	10+	Tall multi-trunked tree with palmate whorled leaves.
<i>Schinus species</i>	Pepper-corn tree	10+	Fast growing long living tree with a wide canopy.
<i>Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	Queensland Firewheel Tree	15+	Wheel-like bright red, yellow and orange flowers.
<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>	Turpentine	15+	Large straight trunked tree. Leaves taste and smell of turpentine.
<i>Thuja species (not including dwarf cultivars)</i>	Arborvitae, Thuja, Western Red Cedar	8+	Evergreen tree with stringy red-brown bark.
<i>Ulmus/Zelkova spp</i>	Elm	10+	Hardy tall tree with forked trunk creating a vase profile.



## ATTACHMENT 4 - REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The following legislation and documents are relevant to this Plan, but do not form part of this Plan:

- Guide to Managing the Risks of Tree Works 2023 (Safe Work Australia)
- AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004 Environmental management systems - Requirements with guidance for use
- AS 4373 2007 – Pruning of amenity trees
- AS 5577 2013 – Electricity network safety management systems
- Evoenergy Network Asset Relocation and Undergrounding Policy Guidelines
- Evoenergy Bushfire Management Plan
- Evoenergy Electrical Safety Rules
- Evoenergy Electricity Network Safety Management System
- Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2003 (Commonwealth)
- Biosecurity Act 2015
- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- Conveyancing Act 1919
- Electricity Supply Act 1995
- Electricity Supply (Safety and Network Management) Regulation 2014
- Energy Services Corporations Act 1995
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
- Fisheries Management Act 1994
- Heritage Act 1977
- Industry Safety Steering Committee (ISSC) 3 – November 2016 Guide for the Management of Vegetation in the Vicinity of Electricity Assets, published by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, NSW
- Industry Safety Steering Committee (ISSC) 20 – September 2012 Guideline for the Management of Activities within Electricity Easements and Close to Electricity Infrastructure, published by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Industry Safety Steering Committee (ISSC) 31 – September 2019 Guideline for Management of Private Overhead Lines, published by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Managing Urban Stormwater – Transport Canberra and City Services
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019
- Environmental Protection Guidelines for Construction and Land Development in the ACT 2022
- PO07342 Vegetation Management
- Pole and Line Inspection Manual PO07312
- Pesticides Act 1989
- Procedures for Power Line Maintenance in Lands Administered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service produced by the Electricity Association
- Protection of The Environment Operations Act 1997
- Protection of The Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
- Real Property Act 1900
- Rural Fires Act 1997
- Soil Conservation Act 1938
- State Environmental Planning Policies

