

## Introduction

NZEC34 Section 3.2.1.3 requires that a powerline movement engineering assessment be completed for any building or structure that does not comply with the requirements of Table 2.

Vector has conducted a review of the close approach consent process and determined that, in the interest of worker and public safety, all scaffolds must be included powerline movement engineering assessments. This is in line with the requirements of Section 3.2.1.3.

Therefore, when submitting a request to apply the minimum safe distances of NZEC34 Table 3, please provide the following supplementary information:

## Required Information

1. An engineering assessment that models the distances between your proposed scaffold and the powerlines at worst case scenario conditions to confirm that Table 3 NZEC34 compliant distances can be maintained.
2. The type of scaffold:
  - (a) Standard tube and coupler scaffold.
  - (b) Proprietary, prefabricated or systems scaffold.
  - (c) Special duty scaffold.
3. Detailed scaffolding design, including how it will be constructed, please ensure you include:
  - Very clear drawings of the scaffold view with respect to the power lines, marked up in plan view, side elevation and front elevation (all three required).
  - The plan view needs to clearly show how the scaffold will be set up around any building corners.
  - Individual measurements of platforms widths, size of standards and offset of scaffold from building. Drawings need to be clear, easy to understand, to scale and marked up with distances.
4. Your scaffold designer remains responsible for ensuring that all aspects of the designed scaffold complies with the WorkSafe Guidelines for Scaffolding in New Zealand. The scaffold designer will need to provide us with details of their credentials (i.e. Scaffolding CoC, CPEng, etc), contact details and a reasonable basis for their assertion for the scaffold's compliance with the WorkSafe Guidelines.

If approved, it is expected that **PHYSICAL** copies of these documents present on site all times. Close Approach Consents will **NOT** be issued if the physical copies are not present during field assessment appointment.

## Health and Safety

The site owner or those in control of the site retains the primary responsibility for ensuring the health and safety of workers and others on site and those who may be affected by any works on that site.

While Vector will not specifically review your safety documents, it is expected that your safety documents will include controls for working near live overhead powerlines. An example of this could be:

*No scaffolding works or construction works to take place within NZEC34 Table 2 distances of the live powerlines without a Close Approach Consent.*

We strongly encourage you to obtain professional advice to ensure that your proposed works can be safely undertaken.

## Conditions

This document applies from 7 September 2025. All requests submitted to Vector from this date must include the information outlined in this document.

This document should be read in conjunction with the FAQ document and any letters or emails provided to you by the Vector CAC Team. Please ensure you check all documents and emails before reaching out.

We reiterate that in accordance with the established hierarchy of controls, the preferred risk mitigations remain undergrounding the relevant powerlines or moving the proposed building(s) further away from the powerlines.

Vector is not providing you with professional advice on scaffolds, whether for this site specifically or generally.

Vector does not complete scaffold compliance checks. It has been assumed that the scaffold plan provided meets all the relevant legal requirements and guidelines, including those issued by WorkSafe.

All persons, building, and plant etc must maintain all minimum safe approach distances stipulated under NZECP34. NZECP34 is a legally enforceable Code of Practice under the Electricity Act 1992. This applies regardless of the issue of building and resource consents. Failure to maintain safe distances will result in you and your site being reported to WorkSafe.