



ESA002 Electricity Network Connection Standard.docx

21 March 2019

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of these Network Connection Standards (Standards) is to provide guidance on Vector’s technical requirements to allow the safe connection and operation of all electrical installations owned or operated by a customer. The Standards are applicable to all customers (including prospective customers).

1.1.1 Intended audience

These Standards are intended primarily for **Electrical Service Providers** and all **Customers** connected (or intending to be connected) to Vector’s electricity network. Sections address a particular audience as shown below:

Sections	Targeted audience	Content
1	Customers and Electrical Service Providers	Introductory sections that provide context for the Standard.
2-4	Customers	Important guidelines for customers to establish, change and maintain a connection to Vector’s electricity network.
5	Electrical Service Providers	Technical requirements for connections to Vector’s electricity network.
6	Customers and Electrical Service Providers	The various types of connections to Vector’s electricity network, along with the ownership boundaries, responsibilities and specific requirements for each connection type. It is important that Electrical Service Providers and customers understand the configuration that is applicable to them as well as any specific requirements and responsibilities of these installations. Most of this section is not applicable to customers with simple residential connections.

1.1.2 Scope of this Standard:

- Guidelines for customers to establish, maintain and modify connections to Vector’s electricity network
- Technical requirements for customer installations to be connected to Vector’s electricity network.
- Provide guidance on ownership boundaries and responsibilities between customers and Vector.

1.2 Who can carry out electrical work on private property?

The following Electrical Service Providers can carry out work on electrical installations:

- Registered Electricians,
- Registered Electrical Installers,
- Registered Distribution Line Mechanics,
- Registered Substation Maintainers, and
- Registered Cable Jointers.

For further guidance on the selection of Electrical Service Providers, please refer to section 2.3.

1.3 Health, Safety and Environment

Vector takes the safety of customers, employees, contractors and members of the public very seriously. Any work conducted on and around Vector's equipment by external parties must be conducted in line with Vector's policies. Vector will not allow connection of any customer installation to its network unless it has been issued with a Certificate of Compliance (CoC) by the registered electrician who completed the work. See section 5 for details on CoCs.

1.4 Summary of roles and responsibilities

Responsible Party	Technical requirement
Electrical Service Providers <i>(Employed by Customer)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and install equipment and fittings according to the latest legislation and best practices such as AS/NZS3000, Electrical Codes of Practices, Electricity Act 1993, Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 and the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. Installation must have a Certificate of Compliance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide customers with technical support for their installation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain customer's installation, including fault restoration.
Electricity Customer <i>(Property owner or occupier)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain installation so that safety hazards are controlled. Undertake mandatory periodic maintenance as per section 3.2 (special installations only). Maintain minimum electrical clearance from Vector's live equipment as per section 3.4. If Vector's equipment is installed on their property, they must provide unobstructed access to this equipment at all times as per section 3.5.
Electricity Retailer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install and manage customer's metering. Select the appropriate electricity tariff in respect of the customer. Establish a contract for the delivery of lines services with the customer. Charge the customer for energy and lines services.
Vector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the process for new connections or modifications to existing connections. Manage Vector's electricity network to deliver lines services.

1.5 Definitions

Term	Definition
A or Amps	Abbreviation for 'ampere', a base unit of electrical current.
AC	Abbreviation for 'alternating current'.
Certificate of Compliance or CoC (Electrical)	A certificate issued by a licensed electrical worker to certify that installation or Part installation under Part 1 or Part 2 of AS/NZS 3000 are safe to be connected to the specified system of electrical supply.
Service Pit or Pillar	A fitting on the Vector's LV distribution network which acts as the Point of Supply for customers supplied by an underground cable.
Conductor	Material that allows the flow of electrical current in one or more directions.
Customer	Any person who is supplied, or who applies to be supplied with electricity from Vector's electricity network via a Point of Supply. Each customer site has a unique ICP number.
CT metering	For installations larger than 100A three-phase, CT (current transformer) metering may be required to avoid the use of larger conductor connections for the revenue meters. The use of CT metering is subject to the requirements of the metering equipment owner.
DC	Abbreviation for 'direct current'.
Earthed	Electrically connected to a general mass of earth and is regarded to be at zero potential.
Electric shock	Occurs upon contact of a (human or animal) body part with any live conductor that causes a magnitude of current to pass through the body.
Electrical appliance	Any device that consumes electrical power when connected to the customer's AC electrical supply.
Electrical safety Certificate (ESC)	Provides a legally recognisable statement that the connected installation or part installation, or any fitting that supplies an installation or a part of an installation, is safe to use following prescribed electrical work. Note that this can be incorporated into the Certification of Compliance.
Energy/Power	Energy is the ability to do work, measured in electricity distribution terminology as kilowatt-hours (kWh). Power is the measure of rate of use of energy and is defined in electricity distribution terminology as kilowatts (kW).

Term	Definition
Electrical Service Provider	A person who is professionally qualified with qualifications recognised by the Electrical Workers Registration Board (https://www.ewrb.govt.nz) to carry out work on electrical installations. Depending on the type of work this may be a registered electrician, electrical installer, electrical maintainer, cable joiner or line mechanic.
Fuse	Devices that protect electrical circuits by opening the circuit if the power exceeds its rated limit. Once a fuse is blown it needs to be replaced.
Generator	Equipment that is capable of producing and exporting electricity into the electricity network.
High Voltage (HV)	Any voltage exceeding 1000 Volts AC or 1500 Volts DC.
Installation	All fittings beyond the Point of Supply that form part of a system that is used to convey electricity to a point of consumption, or used to generate or store electricity (as defined in the Electricity Act 1992 as “Electrical Installation”). Installations do not include household appliances that consume electricity.
Installation Control Point (ICP)	An Installation Control Point (ICP) is a unique identifier for each installation where a connection is made to the electricity network. Generally, there is one ICP for each installation, although some installations may have multiple ICP’s due to multiple connections to the electricity network. The ICP is specific to the site location and not attached to the customer.
Isolate	The process of disconnecting the source of electricity supply from the installation. This is generally carried out by opening a switch or circuit-breaker, removing an isolating link or fuse or disconnecting a cable or line.
kV	Abbreviation for ‘kilovolts or 1000 Volts.
Live	Means charged with electricity so that a difference in voltage exists to earth or between conductors.
Liven	The process of operating switching devices to electrically connect an installation to a source of electricity and allow electricity to flow to an installation.
Load	Any equipment or appliance that consumes electrical energy to perform its intended function, e.g. a fridge or TV. This includes any electrical losses incurred during the process.
Low Voltage (LV)	Any voltage exceeding 50 Volts AC or 120 Volts ripple free DC, but not exceeding 1000 Volts AC or 1500 Volts DC.
Metering equipment	Equipment that measures the quantity of electricity transported through an ICP and may include associated communications facilities to enable the transfer of metering information. A certified metering installation must meet the requirements of Electricity Industry Participation Code, part 10.
Overhead lines	Above ground conductors including its support structures used to transport electricity.
Point of Supply	<p>The Point of Supply is the point at which electricity equipment that exclusively supplies a property crosses that property boundary and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if there are both high voltage lines and a transformer owned by Vector on the property, the Point of Supply is the point at which electricity from the transformer enters exclusive fittings; or • if there are non-exclusive fittings on the property, the Point of Supply is the point at which those fittings become exclusive fittings; or • if the exclusive fittings on the property are owned by a customer that is a tenant or licensee of the owner or occupier of the property, the Point of Supply is the point at which those exclusive fittings enter the area leased or licenced by the owner; or • if there is a specific agreement (e.g. with Vector or a Retailer) that any other point on the property is the Point of Supply, the Point of Supply is the agreed point, (as defined in the Electricity Act 1992). <p>However, for practical purposes, the Point of Supply is the isolating fuse located either on the boundary of the property or on the pole nearest to the property.</p> <p>Please refer to section 6 to find where the Point of Supply is located in each type of configuration.</p>
Load management or Load control	Load management interrupts power to the nominated load to reduce electricity demand temporarily in accordance with the Use of System Agreement between Vector and the Electricity Retailer. Load control is commonly used on residential electric-water heaters. Customers that have load management installed on their premises may receive the benefit of a lower electricity tariff via their Electricity Retailer. Vector may load control to mitigate network or grid security issues.

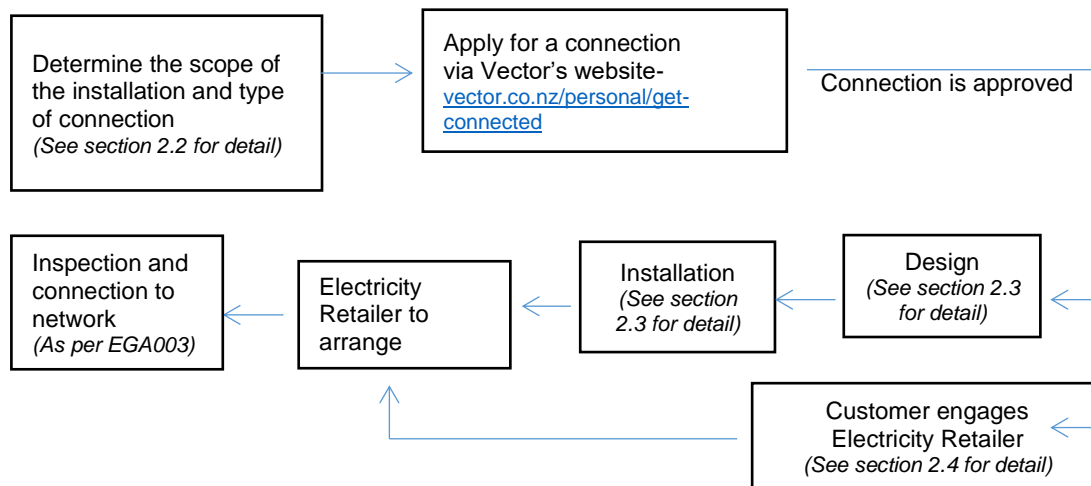
Term	Definition
Paralleling	Arranging electrical loads with separate electrical pathways to the electrical supply.
Residential area	Areas that are zoned residential in the Auckland Unitary Plan.
Residual current device (RCD)	A device for isolating supply to protected circuits, socket-outlets, or appliances in the event of a current flow to earth that exceeds a predetermined level.
Electricity Retailer	Electricity Retailer means an entity that supplies electricity to another person or other persons for any purpose other than for resupply by the other person or persons.
Rural area	Areas zoned as rural in the Auckland Unitary Plan.
Service cable	An underground cable owned by the customer, that electrically connects the customer's switchboard to the Point of Supply.
Service line	An overhead line owned by the customer, that electrically connects the customer's switchboard to the Point of Supply.
Switchboard	Consisting of a panel of mounted electric switches within a customer's installation, arranged so a number of circuits may be connected or disconnected.
Temporary supply	A temporary connection usually required by builders or other tradespeople as an electrical supply at a worksite where there are no existing electrical network supplies available.
Use of System Agreement	An agreement governing the terms and conditions on which Electricity Retailers use Vector's electricity network to convey electricity to customers.
Volts (V)	Abbreviation for the measure of voltage.
Vector's electricity network	Comprises a network of electrical lines, cables and other electrical equipment utilised to transport electricity to customers.
Record of inspection (RoI)	Requirements for a record of inspection for electrical work is defined in Regulation 72 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010.
HV Engineering Consultant	A specialist consultant who advises customers on the design of HV installations.
PCBU	Person conducting a business or undertaking (as defined in the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015).
Service connection	Is the cable or overhead line on the customer's property beyond Vector's Point of Supply
Prospective Short circuit current	Prospective short circuit current is the highest electric current that can exist in an electrical system under fault conditions.

2 CONNECTING TO VECTOR'S ELECTRICITY NETWORK

This section details the process for establishing a new connection to Vector's electricity network.

2.1 Summary of the application process for a new connection

The diagram below depicts a basic overview of the processes required to establish a new connection. For further details refer to: vector.co.nz/personal/get-connected.



2.2 Determining the scope of the installation

Prior to applying for a connection on Vector's [website](http://vector.co.nz), it is important the customer understands the requirements (capacity, solar, EV charger, large appliances, etc) of their electrical installation to ensure they are applying for the appropriate connection (for example, a residential connection or an industrial / commercial connection; a single-phase connection or a three-phase connection).

If a customer applies for the wrong connection type, this can result in significant delays and additional rework costs. For more information, please refer to sections 5 and 6 of this Standard.

In all cases it is recommended that the customer discusses requirements of the installation with the Electrical Service Provider carrying out the design of their installation prior to applying for a connection. The table below identifies specific requirements the customer may wish to discuss with their Electrical Service Provider.

The customer and their Electrical Service Provider are responsible for scoping and applying for the correct connection. The customer or the Electrical Service Provider (but not both) will make an application to Vector for the connection. Vector takes no responsibility for scoping the requirements of the customers installation or for metering or livening the site.

Design consideration	Recommended actions
Expected electrical load	Discuss the requirements of electrical appliances with the Electrical Service Provider to estimate the load requirements of the installation, including any load diversity (not all load will be used at the same time) as per AS/NZS3000 section 2.2.2. This information will determine the capacity to be made available on the network to meet the load requirements.
Does the customer plan on having any loads with special characteristics such as: welders, Electric Vehicle chargers, three-phase motors or single-phase motors over 1.5kW, or furnaces?	<p>These loads can cause interference on the network if the supply connection is inappropriate. In a residential situation, these loads need to be carefully designed to ensure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the switchboard and connection fuses are rated to handle the proposed load; 2) the network has the capacity to supply the proposed load; and

Design consideration	Recommended actions
	<p>3) these special loads do not cause voltage disturbances to other customers. As per section 5 of these Standards, expensive remedial costs may result if the installation / load is found to cause disturbance to other customers.</p> <p>If the customer plans on having these special loads, it is important that the customer discusses these with its Electrical Service Provider early in the application process.</p>
<p>Does the customer plan on having generators (such as solar panels or combine heat and power units) or batteries capable of exporting power onto Vector’s electricity network, installed capacity over 100 Amps three-phase, or are you adding more load to a multi-dwelling complex or commercial business?</p>	<p>These installations have more complex installation requirements. It is very important that the customer discusses these requirements with its Electrical Service Provider before applying through Vector’s website.</p> <p>Applicants considering connecting generation, including solar panels, must familiarise themselves with the process: vector.co.nz/personal/solar-old/connecting-your-generation-to-our-network</p> <p>Applicants considering connecting battery storage must consult the following: vector.co.nz/personal/batteries/connecting-your-battery-to-our-network</p>
<p>Temporary supply</p>	<p>If power is required for construction prior to a permanent connection being established, then a temporary connection may be requested. Requirements should be discussed with an Electrical Service Provider as soon as possible, in particular to establish how the temporary connection be migrated to the permanent connection at the end of the project. For information about the requirements of establishing a temporary connection, refer to section 2.5.</p>
<p>Route of service cables</p>	<p>Customers should discuss the route of their service cables with their Electrical Service Provider to ensure the route will not constrain any future construction plans, and to select a route where the customer is unlikely to dig up the cables or build over them in the future. The customer should provide a marked-up plan showing the route of any proposed underground services and location of their main switchboard for Vector to plan their work on site.</p>
<p>Connection of overhead service lines (Rural only)</p>	<p>Customers should discuss the different options for connecting their overhead service line to their house with their Electrical Service Provider. Where possible, the line should not be near trees or other areas where people, objects or vehicles are likely to approach them. In all cases, the clearance requirements of ECP34 must be complied with.</p>
<p>Sensitive loads</p>	<p>A sensitive load is electrical equipment that may malfunction due to voltage fluctuations that may be encountered during normal operation of the network.</p> <p>If the customer anticipates the load that is to be connected to the network is sensitive to voltage fluctuations, they should discuss this with their Electrical Service Provider to ensure mitigating measures are taken at the design stage. Refer to section 5 of this Standard for more information.</p>
<p>Does the customer plan on having a HV connection to Vector’s electricity network?</p>	<p>It is important that the customer understands the mandatory health and safety, maintenance and operational obligations associated with owning HV installations. Meeting these requirements has an ongoing cost, including competency requirements for those workers carrying out work and any ongoing operations. Refer to sections 3.2.1 and 6.6 for further details.</p>

2.3 Guidelines for selecting Electrical Service Providers

The selection of qualified and suitable contractors and Electrical Service Providers for work on a customer’s installation is the responsibility of that customer. A useful guide may be found on the Electrical Workers Registration Board website (www.ewrb.govt.nz) with more information on competency and scope of works found here: www.ewrb.govt.nz/working-safely-and-in-compliance/limits-of-work.

2.4 Guidelines for engaging with Electricity Retailers

Electricity Retailers have an important role in setting up a new connection to Vector's electricity network. They arrange:

- the metering installation;
- provisions for load management (if applicable); and
- the customer's power plan.

It is recommended that an Electricity Retailer is engaged as early as possible to prevent these processes delaying the connection.

Load management requires the use of non-intrusive devices to interrupt power to nominated appliances in the premises to reduce network peak demand. Customers that have load management devices installed on their premises may be eligible for a lower electricity tariff from their chosen Electricity Retailer. For information on the electricity tariffs, refer to the Power Switch website: www.powerswitch.org.nz/.

2.5 Applying for temporary power supply

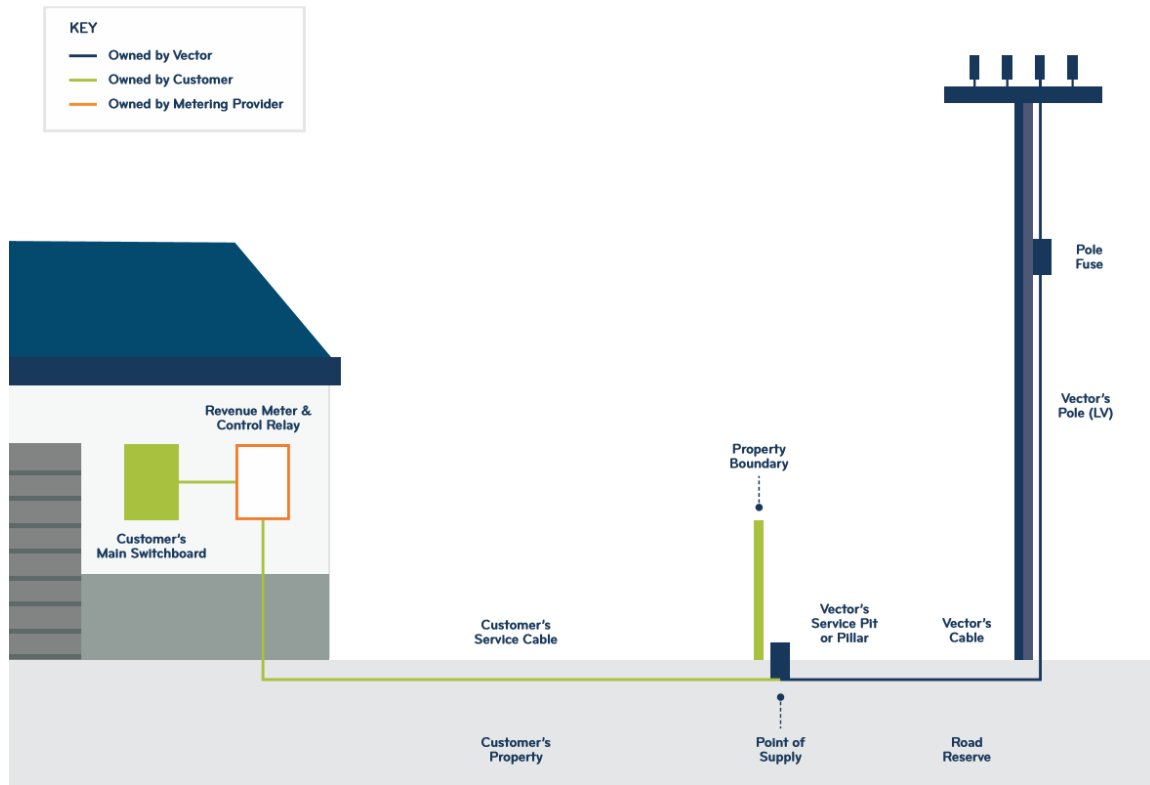
Temporary power supply may be required during construction. Applications for temporary power supply can be made by calling Vector on 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867). The following needs to be considered when applying for temporary supply:

- Application for the temporary connection must be made prior to the application for the permanent connection. It is recommended to discuss requirements for a temporary supply with an Electrical Service Provider as early as possible.
- Main switchboards of temporary power supplies must be located on the Customer's property and not fixed to Vector's electricity network equipment.
- Temporary connections are made at the discretion of Vector and subject to availability of capacity in the network.
- In some cases, temporary connections can become the permanent connection at the end of the project. The customer should discuss with its Electrical Service Provider to see if this option is possible.
- The customer is responsible for the full cost of establishing a temporary connection.
- Vector permits temporary connections for up to six months for the purposes of enabling construction works prior to the connection of a permanent supply. Should the need for the temporarily supply continue beyond the six-month period, the customer is required to make an application for the supply to an Electricity Retailer.
- Temporary connections with a capacity of over 60 Amp must be metered.
- Customers must advise Vector by calling 0508 VECTOR (0508 832867) when the temporary supply is no longer required.

3 INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS WITH EXISTING CONNECTIONS

This section details guidelines for maintaining an electrical installation to prevent fire, safety incidents, compliance breaches and power outages.

3.1 What electrical equipment do I own and am responsible for?



The diagram above shows a typical single dwelling that is connected to Vector’s electricity network. For this type of connection, the customer owns and is responsible for the electrical equipment inside their property up to the Point of Supply.

The cost to repair or modify electrical equipment is the responsibility of the party that owns the equipment. For further details refer to: www.vector.co.nz/personal/electricity/what-you-need-to-know/line-ownership/

For customers with more complex connections to Vector’s electricity network, refer to section 6 for details about the equipment they own and are responsible for.

3.2 Maintenance Activities

This section provides guidelines for the customer to establish a maintenance regime that is appropriate for their installation. For more comprehensive and up to date guidelines refer to: <https://worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/electricity/installations-and-networks/>

Note that the customer is responsible for the maintenance of their installation (equipment beyond the Point of Supply) and Vector takes no responsibility for this.

3.2.1 Mandatory routine electrical inspections for special installations

Certain special installations require mandatory routine inspections. For more information or further clarifications, refer to: worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/electricity/installations-and-networks/low-voltage-electrical-installations/inspection-and-periodic-verification/

Specific Installation	Installation details	Mandatory routine maintenance
Connectable installations	Connectable installations such as a vehicle, relocatable building, or pleasure vessels.	Connectable installations must not be hired or leased unless the connectable installation has a current warrant of electrical fitness. A warrant of electrical fitness must be issued by an authorised person. The specific requirements for a vehicle, relocatable building or a pleasure vessel can be found under the Electricity Safety Regulations sections 76 , 77 and 78 .
Electric vehicle (EV) chargers	The requirements for installing and connecting EV chargers are contained in the Guidelines for safe electric vehicle charging. Copies of these documents can be found in: https://worksafe.govt.nz/laws-and-regulations/regulations/electrical-regulations/regulatory-guidance-notes/electric-vehicle-charging-safety-guidelines/	The maintenance requirements for EV chargers are contained in the Guidelines for safe electric vehicle charging. Copies of these documents can be found in: https://worksafe.govt.nz/laws-and-regulations/regulations/electrical-regulations/regulatory-guidance-notes/electric-vehicle-charging-safety-guidelines/
High risk installations	High risk installations, as per the Electricity Safety Regulations section 75 , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carnivals and fairgrounds • Caravan parks • Boat marinas • Demolition and construction sites • Hazardous areas • Medical facilities 	High risk installations must be inspected by competent persons in accordance with the Electricity Safety Regulations section 75 and the following codes of practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caravan parks (see NZECP 1) • Boat marinas (see NZECP 29) • Hazardous areas (see NZECP 24) • Medical facilities (see NZECP 12).
High voltage installations	Any installation with equipment rated above 1000V AC or 1500 DC.	Implement routine safety checking systems as per the Electricity Safety Regulations section 40 and 62 .

3.2.2 Other routine maintenance activities

Although most installations don't have prescribed mandatory routine maintenance as detailed in section 3.2.1, customers must still meet their legal and health and safety obligations. In particular, customers can be prosecuted if they fail to meet their obligations towards the health and safety of the users or due to negligence. In addition to this, it is in the interest of the customer to have a proactive maintenance regime to mitigate the risk of fire and electric shocks. Therefore, it is suggested that the customer seeks advice to determine a maintenance regime that is appropriate for their installation by contacting:

- Electrical Service Provider– for residential customers connected to Vector's 400/230V network; or
- A HV Electrical Engineering Consultant – for industrial and commercial customers connected to Vector's electricity network above 400/230V.

Sections 3.3 – 3.5 detail some of the customers' requirements and obligations, for further details refer to <https://worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/electricity/installations-and-networks/> or discuss with your Electrical Service Provider or HV Engineering Consultant.

To ensure their installation and equipment are in good working condition to provide a safe environment for the users, customers should arrange for routine inspections to be carried out on their installations, particularly the service cables and lines, their main switchboards and HV equipment.

Note that AS/NZS 3019 is a widely used standard for routine maintenance practices of low voltage installations. AS/NZS 3076 is another widely used standard for testing of appliances, which is commonly referred to as "testing and tagging". NZECP50 details maintenance requirements for appliances. It is recommended that the customer discusses with their Electrical Service Provider whether the requirements of these standards are applicable to the customer's installation.

3.3 Managing the risk of digging into service cables

Customers must always follow safe digging practices. If digging or excavation is proposed inside a customer's property and the location of the service cables is unknown, then it is strongly recommended that the customer contacts its Electrical Service Provider for advice as to where it is safe to excavate. For further guidelines about managing this risk, refer to Worksafe's guidelines for excavation safety: <https://worksafe.govt.nz/dmsdocument/17-excavation-safety-and-https://blob-static.vector.co.nz/blob/vector/media/vector/cac-guide-review-updated180818.pdf>

3.4 Restrictions for working or building near Vector powerlines

Buildings and structures must always be outside of the minimum safe distances for electricity networks. The consequences of building structures within the minimum safe distances of live electrical conductors are severe and life threatening. Vector's powerlines carry up to 110,000 volts. Approaching these lines carries a huge risk of fire and electrocution. [ECP 34](#) defines the minimum approach distances to electrical conductors and their supporting structures (e.g., poles and towers). Breaching these limits can also result in prosecution. If there is any doubt about the minimum safe distances from live conductors, contact Vector on 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

From time to time, Vector must maintain its overhead line equipment. Carrying out such maintenance activities will often require entry to the land beneath the overhead lines. Landowners should avoid constructing structures, planting trees or stacking objects beneath the overhead lines.

3.5 Responsibilities for customers with Vector equipment on their premises

All equipment owned by Vector installed inside private property (since 1993), requires an easement. Private property includes customer owned land, land owned by Council for reserve/recreation purposes, and land owned by the Crown for school/prison purposes. An easement is registered on a record of title to the land and allows Vector's equipment to legally occupy the area defined by the easement, and for Vector to have unobstructed access at all times to its equipment in order to operate and maintain it. Easements also require that there is reasonable unobstructed space around the equipment to ensure safe operation and access to carry out any necessary maintenance and repair work. Vector has standard easement areas required for all types of equipment. For any further clarifications regarding Vector's standard easement requirements, contact 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

Vector, the customer's Electrical Service Provider and the customer are responsible for their obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

If a customer breaches the conditions of the easement (such as building over the land covered by the easement or obstructing access to the equipment) then the customer may be liable to pay for any remedial work necessary to ensure the conditions of the easement are complied with. It is important that the customer understands the conditions of the easement to avoid breaching the terms. It is also important that when a customer purchases a property with an easement in favour of Vector, that the customer make themselves fully aware of the terms of the easement and their obligations under the easement. Easement conditions and obligations remain on the record of title indefinitely and carry over from the previous owner.

If there is equipment owned by Vector on a customer's property which was constructed before 1 January 1993 (when the Electricity Act 1992 was enacted) then in some cases there will be no need for an easement. In these cases, Vector's right to enter the land to operate and maintain the equipment is very similar to the conditions of an easement. The Electricity Act, section [23](#), gives Vector the right to "enter upon land for the purpose of gaining access to those works and may perform any act or operation necessary for the purpose of inspecting, maintaining, or operating the works".

For any further clarifications regarding Vector's access requirements, contact 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

3.6 Vector to inform WorkSafe of electrically unsafe installations

Should Vector or its field service providers become aware that an installation is electrically unsafe, they will notify the owner of the installation and WorkSafe of the situation (refer to Reg 15 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations). WorkSafe will take any appropriate and necessary actions to ensure safety.

3.7 Planned interruptions

From time to time, Vector may need to temporarily restrict or disconnect a customer's power supply to carry out repairs, maintenance or alteration to the network. These situations are infrequent and where reasonably practical, Vector will seek to minimise disturbance to the customer. To ensure they are prewarned of planned works, customers are encouraged to register their email address and mobile phone number with Vector: www.vector.co.nz/preferences

4 INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS MODIFYING THEIR CONNECTIONS

This section details guidelines for modifying connections to Vector's electrical network.

4.1 Requirements for customers increasing their capacity

If a customer wishes to increase their load to an extent that requires their switchboard to be uprated, then they'll need to engage a registered electrician to carry out this work. A Vector field service provider will be required if this work involves working on the Vector network (for example, connecting a larger capacity service cable to a new service pit). In addition to this, the customer or their Electrical Service Provider, must also lodge a load change request to Vector by calling 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

Customers must lodge the change request before uprating an installation, as this allows Vector to confirm the new installation is compliant and whether or not Vector's network needs to be modified. This is to ensure there is sufficient network capacity and the customer's installation is safely protected. If an installation is uprated without lodging a change request with Vector, this could result in significant additional rework costs, delays and non-compliance penalties for which the customer may be liable.

4.2 Requirements for disconnecting from Vector's electricity network

If a customer wishes to disconnect from Vector's electricity network, they must lodge a disconnection request through Vector's website at <https://my.vector.co.nz/decommissionicp> or call Vector on 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

4.3 Requirements for reconnecting to Vector's electricity network

Requirements for reconnections are subject to Section 74 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations and may require retesting and inspection. It should be noted that if an installation was disconnected for more than six months, an inspection will be required before it can be reconnected to the network.

5 TECHNICAL DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

This section details technical requirements for new or modified connections to Vector's electricity network. It is important that Electrical Service Providers understand these requirements and how to implement them.

5.1 General requirements

All electrical installations must meet the requirements specified in the latest revisions of:

- New Zealand Electrical Codes of Practices
- Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010
- AS/NZS 3000:2007 (Australian / New Zealand Wiring Rules)
- Other standards referenced in this Standard

5.2 Vector's system of supply

This section contains Vector's electricity network parameters. Customers should use these as reference when designing their installations and purchasing their appliances to ensure proper and safe operation of their equipment and appliances.

5.2.1 Voltage

Vector offers single-phase and three-phase supply options.

- Most residential customers are supplied by 230V single-phase supplies. Some residential customers with larger capacity requirements may choose a 400V three-phase supply.
- Business and industrial customers may choose either a 230V single-phase or 400V three-phase supply from Vector's low voltage network.
- Larger business and industrial customers may choose to have their 400V three-phase supply from a transformer installed on their premises. The transformer is either connected to Vector's 11kV or 22kV network.
- Customers with very large capacity requirements who wish to own their transformers may request their supply to be made at 11kV or above (including 22kV and 33kV).

For customers supplied at 230V single-phase or 400V three-phase, they can expect their voltage to be maintained within +/-6% of the nominal voltage, except for momentary fluctuations. For customers supplied at 11kV or above, unless agreed otherwise, they can expect their voltage to be maintained within +/-6% of the nominal voltage, except for momentary fluctuations.

5.2.2 Earthing

Customers (except for supply to low voltage AC railway signalling equipment) connected to Vector's low voltage network or dedicated transformers are required to design and construct their installations to a multiple earth neutral system.

5.2.3 Frequency

Vector's electricity network is connected to the national grid, owned by Transpower NZ. The supply frequency is synchronised with the national grid, which is monitored and controlled by Transpower NZ (the System Operator). Except for momentary fluctuations, the customer can expect the frequency to be kept within +/-1.5% of 50Hz.

5.2.4 Prospective short circuit current

Vector is required to take reasonable steps to ensure the maximum prospective short circuit currents on the supply system are limited to reasonable levels as required by Reg 30(1)(b) of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010.

For business and industrial customers connected to dedicated transformers, the prospective short circuit current for the respective installation is predominantly determined by the size and impedance of the transformer. Typical prospective short circuit currents at the LV terminals of the different sizes of transformer used in Vector's network are published in Appendix B of this Standard. Customers should ensure that their installation is sized to operate safely with these prospective short circuit currents and protective devices are correctly configured to provide the necessary protection discrimination.

For customers connected to the low voltage network, Vector will maintain the prospective short circuit current to no more than 5kA.

5.3 Quality of supply

To preserve the quality of electricity supplied, customers must not use equipment or appliances that would unduly interfere with the satisfactory supply of electricity or impair the safety or operation of equipment and appliances of other customers. This section contains the standards customers' equipment and appliances are required to comply with.

Customer power quality must comply with all relevant NZ Electricity Regulations, NZ Electrical Codes of Practice and AS/NZS 61000 series of Standards and Technical Reports.

Where AS/NZS 61000 series references are inadequate, then customer power quality must adhere to IEC 61000 series of Standards and Technical Reports. The EEAs (Electricity Engineers Association of New Zealand) Power Quality (PQ) Guidelines may be used as a guide.

If a customer's equipment causes excessive power quality disturbances, the customer may be required to bear the remedial costs.

5.3.1 Voltage imbalance

Installation of inverter based energy sources should be carefully designed to avoid voltage imbalance. Reference should be made to AS/NZS 4777.1-2016.

5.4 Service connections

Each customer installation connected to Vector's network will be identified by a unique identifier called an Installation Control Point (ICP). After it is established, the ICP is used as the identifier for the purposes of network management, metering and billing by the Electricity Retailer. The ICP remains with the connection rather than with the customer. There are specific requirements applied to each ICP. Within the customer's premises there must be a means of; disconnecting (isolating) their installation from Vector's network, providing electrical protection for the installation and providing revenue metering¹.

Isolation is generally provided through a master switch or circuit-breaker located on the customer's main switchboard (see AS/NZS 3000). In some cases where the customer is supplied from more than one source (for example, from two transformers), more than one master switches or circuit breakers on the customer's main switchboard may be installed to provide the means of isolation. Smaller capacity supplies may be protected by fuses, while larger capacity supplies will be protected by circuit breakers.

¹ Temporary builder's supplies, small capacity supplies such as streetlights may be excluded. These are managed differently from normal connections.

For safety reasons, there will generally be only one connection (one ICP) to the network, per installation. Any deviation from this must be approved by Vector.

In urban areas, new residential service connections will be via an underground cable from a service pit or pillar located at the front boundary of the property, or where Vector's network is overhead, the service cable may be terminated onto a pit or pillar supplied from the overhead line. For larger capacity connections onto the network, the customer or their Electrical Service Provider should contact Vector on <https://www.vector.co.nz/personal/get-connected> or by calling 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867) for more detailed information.

In rural areas, service connections are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Contact <https://www.vector.co.nz/personal/get-connected> or call 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867) for more information on the connection process.

5.4.1 LV Connections

LV connections are taken from the low voltage network in the street. Connection to this network are generally via a service pit or pillar which contains a set of fuses installed by Vector to protect the service cable against electrical faults. The customer is also required to install separate protection in their main switchboard to protect the downstream installation and not rely on Vector's protection. For new connections, the customer's Electrical Service Provider will install a service cable to the service pit or pillar, with the final connection into the pit or pillar to be completed by the authorised Electricity Retailer's warranted personnel. The Electricity Retailer will also arrange to install the revenue meter upon satisfactory inspection of the installation. For safety reasons, access to the service pit or pillar by the customer or their Electrical Service Provider is not permitted.

In some cases when larger capacity supplies (in excess of 100A three phase) are installed, current transformer metering may be required. The customer's Electrical Service Provider should liaise with the Electricity Retailer regarding any metering equipment that may be required for their installation.

5.4.2 Substation Connections

For a very large load, such as that for a commercial/office complex or industrial building, a dedicated supply is often required. For loads larger than 100kVA, a substation may be required to accommodate an 11kV/LV (or 22kV/LV) transformer in order to connect to the 11kV (or 22kV) distribution network to provide the necessary capacity for the customer. The transformer converts the 11kV (or 22kV) supply to 230/400V to supply the customer. LV service cables will be installed by the customer from the LV frame of the transformer to the customer's main switchboard. The Electricity Retailer's inspector will install the revenue metering system, inspect the installation and issue a record of inspection before the Vector-authorised person terminates the cables to the transformer LV frame and liveness the supply. Note that in this situation, the Point of Supply is at the connection of the service cables to the transformer's LV frame.

Before the installation is liveness by Vector, the customer's Electrical Service Provider will have completed the electrical checks required under AS/NZS 3000, ensured the Electricity Retailer's revenue metering has been installed and provided a Certificate of Compliance to confirm the installation is safe to liveness.

Where multiple connections to a site have been approved by Vector, they must not be operated in parallel. This is to ensure the safety of personnel working on Vector's network as well as to

prevent excessive prospective short circuit current passing through the customer's installation, potentially causing equipment damage.

5.4.3 HV Connections

Some large customers may prefer to own the transformers supplying their premises. In those cases, the customers will receive supply at 11kV (or 22kV). Connection options include:

- Vector nominates one of its nearby substations and installs an HV cable to supply the customer's transformer on the customer's premises. If there is more than one transformer on site, the customer will install (and own) an HV switchboard to connect their transformers.
- Vector installs a new HV switchboard (or ring main unit (RMU)) close by the customer's premises and installs an HV cable to supply the customer's transformer on the customer's premises. If there is more than one transformer on site, the customer will install and own an HV switchboard to connect their transformers.

In both cases, the Vector-owned switchboard (or RMU) will form an integral part of the distribution network. If the Vector-owned equipment is located inside the customer's premises, an easement in Vector's favour will be required. The connection of transformers to the Vector-owned switchboard (or RMU) will be carried out by Vector's field service providers. All work downstream of the customer-owned switchboard or transformer connection point will be the responsibility of the customer. The Electricity Retailer will arrange installation of the revenue metering system upon satisfactory inspection of the installation by their own inspector. Vector's field service provider will live the transformer upon receipt of the CoC, ESC and ROI of the installation.

It is important that the customer's HV consultant coordinates the protection settings of the installation with the settings of Vector's network to ensure safe and efficient operation of the network and the customer's installation. Vector will coordinate the protection settings within its network and with Transpower's national grid.

5.4.4 Overhead LV Service Lines

In rural areas, new connections may be made via overhead service lines using existing overhead distribution network at the property boundary.

Unless an alternative arrangement is made with Vector (in writing), lines and poles beyond the Point of Supply on the customer's premises are the responsibility of the customer (refer to the diagrams in Section 6 below). For LV residential service lines, this includes the connection fittings onto the house.

The overhead connections to Vector's poles must not impose forces beyond what the pole can safely withstand. Guidelines for this are contained in Appendix D of AS/NZS 3000. For more detailed information parameters for connecting to Vector's overhead lines, contact 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

Vector requires that all phase conductors of LV overhead lines, including the neutral within the customer's premises, are insulated. Where appropriate, a LV neutral-screened service cable should be used for enhanced safety.

To ensure personal and public safety, and to avoid damaging the integrity of the service line, the owner must ensure that clearances between the service line and structures or vegetation are maintained in accordance with ECP 34 and AS/NZS 3000 (Table 3.8).

Earthing arrangement must be installed to meet the requirements specified in Section 5 of AS/NZS 3000.

5.4.5 Underground LV Service Cables

All new connections in residential areas are to be made by underground service cables via Vector's pits or pillars. The service cable from the Point of Supply to the customer's main switchboard is owned by the customer.

Suitably rated cable must be selected to achieve the required electrical capacity and voltage regulation of the installation. Appropriate cable type and size should be used to ensure adequate protection and to achieve the designed capacity.

Cables must be installed in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS3000, particularly the minimum installation depth, marker tape (where required), minimum conductor size and other mechanical protection requirements.

Earthing arrangement must be installed to meet the requirements specified in Section 5 of AS/NZS 3000.

5.4.6 Service pits or pillars

Service pits or pillars are junction boxes that allow the connection of customers' service cables to Vector's low voltage network.

Service pits or pillars will be installed by Vector's field service provider and connected by the Electricity Retailer's inspector. In addition, prior to connecting to Vector's network, the installation must be inspected and approved by the Electricity Retailer's inspector.

In residential areas, the service pits or pillars are generally placed on the street frontage at the junction of two adjacent properties allowing the pits or pillars to service several customers.

Where a subdivided lot is more than 10 meters from an existing service pit or pillar, a new service pit or pillar will need to be established at the property boundary.

Service pits or pillars are designed and installed by Vector.

5.5 Electrical Protection

Electrical protection in an installation provides a means of identifying and disconnecting faulty electrical equipment before damage occurs that could result in risk to personnel and/or property. To meet this requirement, the customer's installation should be designed to meet the protection requirements in AS/NZS 3000.

When an electrical fault occurs within a customer's installation, the installation will be subjected to both heavy electrical currents and large mechanical stresses. These can be limited by the correct use of protection equipment to isolate the fault, but it is also necessary to ensure the electrical equipment is appropriately rated to withstand the fault currents under these situations without damage.

The largest current likely to flow within the installation under fault conditions is called the "prospective short circuit current". The short circuit rating of all customers' electrical equipment must be greater than the prospective short circuit current of Vector's network to which it is connected. This mitigates the risk of fire, significant electrical damage and personnel safety risk when an electrical fault occurs. The prospective short circuit current of Vector's network is largely determined by the characteristics of the upstream distribution transformers and their protective fuses that supply power to the customer.

For residential premises, the fault level will be maintained below 5kA by Vector with the use of fault limiting HRC fuses. For commercial or industrial customers, the fault level may be higher

depending on the size of the transformer supplying the installation and the applied protection. This information is site specific but is available on request by calling 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867).

5.5.1 Protection

Vector provides protection on its network and at the Point of Supply to the customer against fault situations. It is the customers' responsibility to provide protection against faults or overloads that may occur on their installation.

To ensure the safety of personnel and property, the customer must have electrical protective device(s) on their switchboard that will:

- Protect the installation against overcurrent situations
- Ensure any overcurrent protective device discriminates with Vector's protection.
- Clear any electrical faults within their installation before Vector's protection devices operate.

Depending on the situation, the protection may be afforded by a fuse or a protective device integrated into a circuit-breaker. For residential situations, the protection is generally provided by a 60A high rupturing capacity (HRC) fuse.

For larger capacity installations, the protection may be built into the mains circuit-breaker.

Where the customer's primary electrical protection is contained within a circuit-breaker, then the protection controlling the circuit breaker must be configured to:

- Ensure the protection will operate to prevent the customers' equipment, including cables, from overloading
- Ensure Vector's transformer is not overloaded
- Discriminate with Vector's upstream protection
- Ensure the short-circuit rating of the customer's electrical equipment is not exceeded

Customers supplied from dedicated transformers require their protection to operate at an overcurrent limit no more than the electrical capacity of the transformer. The customer's load must not exceed the rating of the transformer. Vector may review the customer's protection schemes from time to time to ensure safe operation of Vector's equipment.

5.6 Supply capacity

All connection applications and capacity upgrade requests will be checked to confirm the requested supply capacity is available in Vector's network. Connection applications, variations to existing supplies or additional information may be submitted through Vector's website:

www.vector.co.nz/personal/get-connected

5.6.1 Supply capacity –residential

Most permanent residential connections can be adequately supplied from a 60A single-phase connection from Vector's LV distribution network via pits or pillars. For power requirements in excess of this, a 60A three-phase supply, 100A single or three-phase supply may be needed.

When assessing the supply requirements of an installation, consideration must be given to the following:

- The fault rating of the equipment that will be used on site. Vector will keep the prospective fault current at residential premises within 5kA. Any electrical equipment or protection devices must be capable of withstanding the fault currents to which it is exposed.

- The actual load that is to be supplied. While adding up the power requirements of all appliances offers an assessment of the potential total demand, not all equipment will be operating at the same time. The ratio between installed load and actual demand is called “diversity factor”. AS/NZS 3000 Appendix C outlines the methodology for assessing diversified demand of an installation. When assessing the capacity requirements for the installation, Vector is interested in the “diversified” load. Prudent headroom should be made for future load increases while taking into consideration improvement in efficiency for new appliances. Oversizing the installation will result in unnecessary costs to the customer.
- Voltage drop is normally not an issue in urban areas. There may, however, be occasions when customers situated at the end of distribution lines – e.g. down long right of ways – experience excessive voltage drop. Conductors of adequate sizes must be used to prevent excessive voltage drop.

5.6.2 Supply capacity – Rural residential

For situations where overhead service connection is allowed (as described in Section 5.4.4 of these Standards) the source of supply may be any one of the following:

- Vector’s existing LV network (if capacity is available and voltage drop is acceptable)
- extending Vector’s LV network (with associated network rearrangement if required)
- install a new transformer supplied from Vector’s HV network, or
- upgrade an existing transformer

However, the relatively long distance between rural customers may mean that the most economical supply option is the installation of a new transformer supplied from Vector’s HV network.

Where Vector’s network is installed on private property, an easement is required to ensure Vector can maintain the equipment supplying the customer. The ownership arrangement of this supply configuration is shown in Section 6.3 of these Standards.

Further information may be found on www.vector.co.nz/personal/get-connected

5.6.3 Supply capacity – Rural subdivisions

Rural lifestyle blocks generally use higher loads than the typical urban residential dwelling. A minimum of three-phase 60A supply is required for each dwelling in rural underground subdivisions.

For lifestyle blocks that are allowed to further subdivide under the Auckland Unitary Plan zoning, a higher capacity supply may be required depending on the level of allowable subdivision. The customer should discuss this with Vector (together with available information regarding zoning, size of sections, etc).

5.6.4 Supply capacity – Commercial/Industrial

Applications for commercial and industrial connections or capacity upgrades are individually assessed to ensure the capacity request is reasonable and is available from Vector’s existing network. Customers can lodge a query through www.vector.co.nz/contact-us or call 0508 VECTOR (0508 832 867). If insufficient capacity is available, a network upgrade will be required. The assessment process follows these steps:

- A review of the capacity available from Vector’s existing LV network
- Upgrading Vector’s LV network to deliver the capacity

- Consider HV options including installation of a substation to meet demand

The assessment will need to take into consideration load diversity. AS3000 (section 2) provides guidance to assess load diversity. While dependent on the assessments above, as a general guide, diversified load over 100kVA could be a candidate for a new transformer. Vector will evaluate that the options are technically acceptable. The customer should note that if the diversified demand has been over estimated resulting in larger than necessary equipment being installed, the customer will be required to bear the cost of downgrading.

Where a new transformer is required, Vector may require the customer to provide a site for the substation within their property. When a site is required on the customer’s property, an easement in favour of Vector will be required, in addition to clear and unobstructed access at all times to the substation for operations and maintenance.

5.6.5 Prospective short circuit rating – Commercial/Industrial

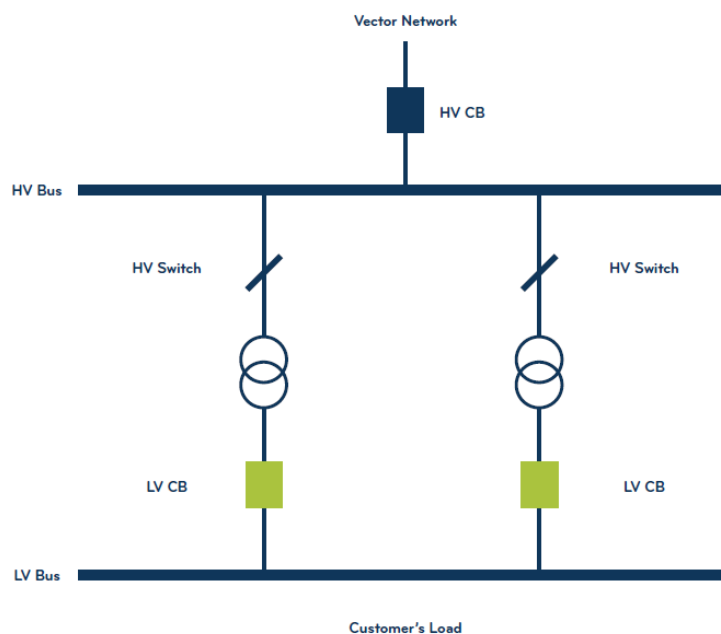
In general, the prospective short circuit current in a commercial/industrial installation depends on the number and sizes of transformers supplying it. The customer must ensure adequately rated equipment is installed to handle any prospective short circuit current that may arise.

5.6.6 Parallel operation of transformers – Commercial/Industrial

Vector does not recommend parallel operation of transformers as this will increase prospective short circuit currents in the customer’s installation and create complexity in equipment protection.

Parallel operation of a transformer does not improve the security of supply to the installation, as the probability of failure of circuits supplying the transformer far exceeds that of the transformer. The effect of having multiple transformers supplying a site is to increase the capacity of supply. The increase in supply capacity can be achieved without having to operate the transformers in parallel.

If the customer requires the Vector-owned transformers to be operated in parallel, the only configuration acceptable to Vector is for two transformers to form a group as follows:



If more than two transformers are required, more groups of two will be required.

Alternatively, the customer may choose to own their transformers and arrange their own protection schemes.

If the customer requires enhanced security, they need to discuss this with Vector as the solutions will be site specific.

5.7 Earthing

Customers' earthing systems must be designed and installed in accordance with AS/NZS 3000. Vector's earthing in its network is designed and constructed to Vector's standards ESE501 (distribution substations in buildings) and ESE506 (distribution earthing), ECP 35, and Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010.

It should be noted that New Zealand adopted a Multiple Earthed Neutral system of supply. The customer is required to install their own main earthing system in accordance with the requirements as set out in section 5 of AS/NZS3000.

5.8 Metering

5.8.1 LV Metering – commercial/industrial Customer

Each ICP must be metered for revenue purposes. Metering must be arranged through the customers' chosen Electricity Retailer. Metering must be kept within the customers' installation, not on Vector's equipment.

5.8.2 HV Metering

For metering large quantities of energy, the preference is to use LV metering instead of HV metering which can be installed on the customers' main switchboard.

Where HV metering is unavoidable, the HV metering unit must be installed separate from Vector's HV switchboard. Any HV metering system must be arranged through the Customers' chosen Electricity Retailer. The customer should raise the prospect of HV metering at the earliest stage of the development with the Electricity Retailer. All costs associated with the HV metering unit, including but not limited to initial capital cost, ongoing maintenance and recalibration and end-of-life replacement are solely the customer's responsibility.

5.8.3 Unmetered supplies

The Electricity Retailer may accept unmetered supplies for some specialist installations such as street lighting and phone booths where electricity consumption is generally low. Consumption will be billed on an estimates basis. Builder's temporary supplies for less than six months may also be unmetered.

5.9 Network Disturbance

To limit the effects of voltage waveform distortion and other disturbances on Vector's network caused by certain types of customer equipment, the customers' load must comply with the following:

- voltage and current waveform distortion must comply with the limits set out in all relevant Regulations, Rules, Electrical Codes of Practice and 61000 series joint Australian / New Zealand EMC standards; and

- the voltage and current waveform distortion by any load or customer installation must comply with:
 - AS/NZS 61000.3.2:2007 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) Part 3.2 Limits – Limits for harmonic current emissions (equipment input current less than or equal to 16 A per phase);
 - AS/NZS 61000.3.4 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) Part 3.4 Limits – Limitation of emission of harmonic currents in low voltage power supply systems for equipment with rated current greater than 16 A; and
 - AS/NZS 61000.3.6 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) Part 3.6 Limits – Assessment of emission limits for distorting loads in MV and HV power systems (IEC 61000-3-6:1996, MOD)

Voltage fluctuations and flicker due to any load or equipment (e.g., motor starting, motor operation, sudden switching of large loads or equipment, operation of electrical arcing equipment such as welding machines or arc furnaces, etc) must comply with:

- AS/NZS 61000.3.3 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) Part 3.3 Limits – Limitation of voltage changes, voltage fluctuations and flicker in public low-voltage supply systems, for equipment with rated current less than or equal to 16 Amp per phase and not subject to conditional connection.
- AS/NZS 61000.3.5 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) Part 3.5 Limits – Limitation of voltage fluctuations and flicker in low-voltage supply systems, for equipment with rated current greater than 16 Amp.
- AS/NZS 61000.3.7 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) Part 3.7 Limits – Assessment of emission limits for fluctuating loads in MV and HV power systems (IEC 61000-3-7:1996, MOD).

Vector may require a customer to implement corrective measures to limit the level of distortion, at their own expense, if their equipment does not comply with the above requirements. Under exceptional circumstances, Vector may consider other limits or levels.

Under fault and circuit switching conditions, the voltage may fall or rise transiently. The fall or rise in voltage will be affected by the method of earthing of the neutral point of Vector's network - the customer will need to take this into account when selecting their equipment.

The power factor of a customer's load measured at the meter shall not be less than 0.95 (lead or lag). Vector may require a customer to provide necessary corrective measures, such as power factor correction, at their own expense, if the power factor falls outside the 0.95 lead/lag limits.

Capacitors are generally installed in customer installations to provide power factor correction. Where capacitors are installed, they must meet the following requirements:

- Customers are allowed to install unblocked capacitors with a kVAr capacity of up to 2% of the connection kVA capacity.
- Capacitors that have a kVAr capacity that exceeds 2% of the connection kVA capacity must have suitably rated blocking chokes on the network side of the capacitors or group of appliances containing capacitors.

Capacitors connected to customer premises must not interfere with the propagation of ripple load control signals transmitted over Vector's network. These frequencies are 1050Hz and 475Hz.

5.9.1 Radio interference

Customer's installation and appliances must not cause interference with radio signals as per the Radio Communications (EMC standards) Notice 2015 and New Zealand Radiocommunication Regulations (32).

5.10 Signalling

Vector's network must not be used by customers to convey signals unless prior written approval is given by Vector. Any in-home devices (such as WiFi extenders or baby monitors) used by the customer must meet the EMC requirements under the Radio Communications Act and must not cause signal spill over and interfere with the operation of Vector's network.

Where Vector has permitted signalling over its network, it does not take responsibility for the characteristics of its network to enable propagation of the customer's signal and the customer is responsible for installing suitable blocking filters to ensure the signal does not interfere with Vector's load management signals, the network or other customers' installations.

At any time, Vector may require that the signalling is removed from the network or corrective measures put in place to mitigate its impact to other systems, at the customer's cost.

5.11 Easements

If Vector's equipment is located on private property, the landowner must grant Vector an easement covering the space in which Vector's equipment is situated and access to equipment by Vector personnel to enable Vector to carry out its operation, maintenance and repair works.

Vector's equipment located on private property must have clear and unobstructed access at all times for operation, maintenance and repair purposes.

5.12 Generators

Applications for the connection of generators to Vector's network either directly (such as a standalone wind generator) or via the customer's installation (such as rooftop solar panels) can be made via Vector's website.

For generators that are designed to operate synchronised with Vector's network and have the ability to export energy, the customer must apply to Vector before connecting the generator: www.vector.co.nz/personal/solar-old/connecting-your-generation-to-our-network.

These generators include, but are not limited to solar panels, wind generators or diesel generators.

In addition to the application for connection, the customer is also required to notify their Electricity Retailer to arrange the appropriate type of revenue meter. Certification of the installation (CoC, RoI etc) as proof that the generator is safe to operate is required prior to the commissioning of the generator.

Generators that cannot be connected to and synchronised with Vector's network (such as backup generators) are not required to go through the generator connection application process.

5.13 Battery storage systems

Vector must consent to the installation of any batteries capable of exporting power onto Vector's network (even if the customer does not intend to export) prior to installation. Applications for connection of such batteries can be made via Vector's website: www.vector.co.nz/personal/solar-old/connecting-your-generation-to-our-network

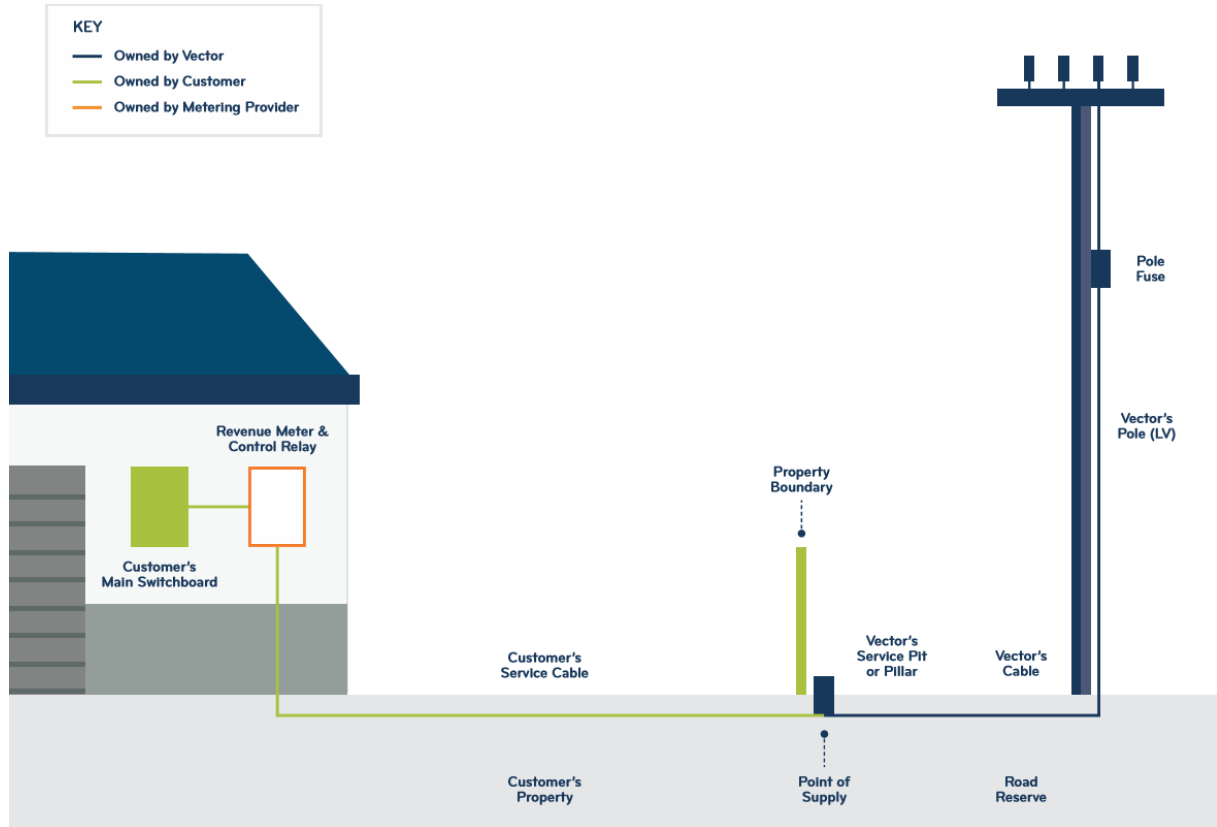
6 NETWORK CONNECTION CONFIGURATIONS

This section describes the different types of configurations new customers can connect to the Vector network.

6.1 Configuration A – Underground residential connections

6.1.1 General ownership diagram

New supply connections in residential areas must be made via an underground pit or pillar. The following diagram shows a typical new residential supply connection.



6.1.2 Customer responsibilities

- The customer is responsible for the construction and maintenance of their installation up to the Point of Supply (POS).
- Customers must be familiar with their obligations as detailed in section 3 of these Standards.

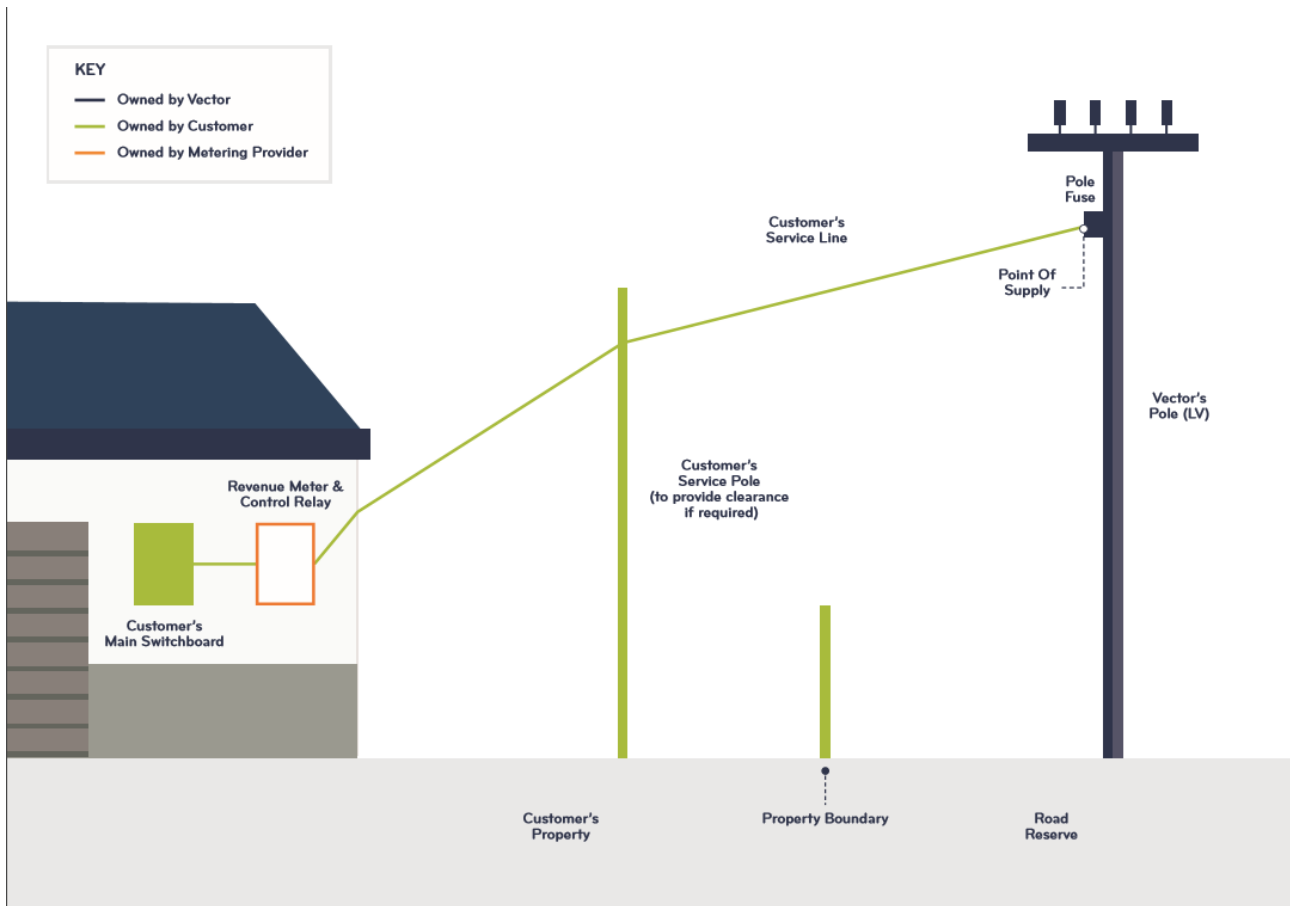
6.1.3 Important design requirements

- Electrical Service Providers must understand the technical requirements in Section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer's installation.

6.2 Configuration B – Overhead residential connections for Rural areas

6.2.1 General ownership diagram

Overhead supplies for new connections are only allowed in rural areas. The following diagram shows a typical rural new supply connection.



6.2.2 Customer responsibilities

- The customer is responsible for the construction and maintenance of their installation up to the Point of Supply (POS).
- Customers must be familiar with their obligations as detailed in section 3 of these Standards.
- It is strongly recommended to regularly inspect the condition of all external conductors and connections that the customer owns (the inspection must include any poles the customer may own). This is to ensure this equipment is in a good working condition and meets the clearance requirements of [ECP 34](#), particularly checking clearances of vegetation near the lines. The customer should discuss these requirements with their Electrical Service Provider as well as any other maintenance required on their installation.
- The customer should discuss with their Electrical Service Provider the required provisions for activities that require approaching overhead lines. Activities that risk encroaching the minimum approach distances stated in [ECP 34](#) may require Vector to de-energise the installation prior to the activities commencing.

6.2.3 Important design requirements

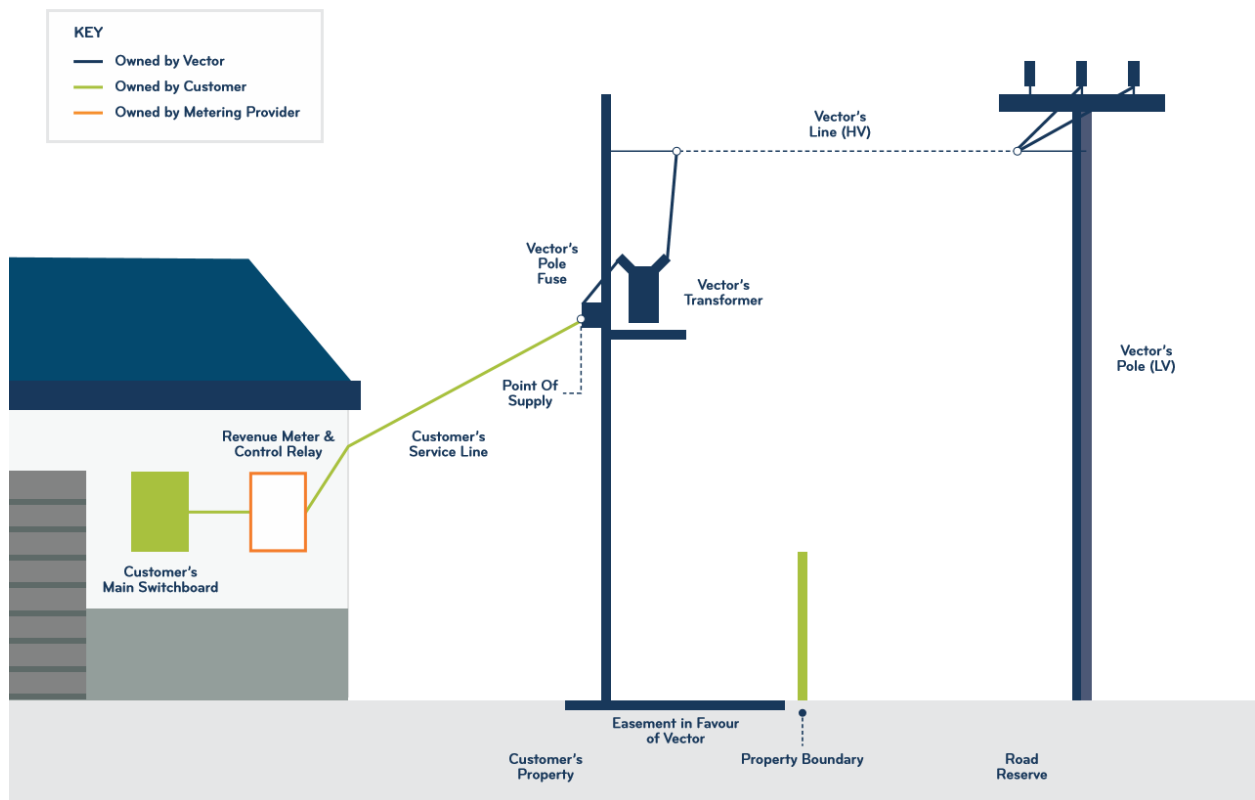
- Electrical Service Providers must understand the technical requirements in section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer's installation.
- The Auckland Council Unitary Plan requires:
 - New connections to be made via underground cables in residential areas.
 - Rural connections may be either underground cables or overhead lines.

- Poles may be required to be installed on the customer’s property to meet the safe electrical clearance requirements of [ECP 34](#). Any poles installed on the customer’s property without an easement (including property which is shared with other property owners such as a right or way) are owned by the customer. The customer is responsible for the installation, repairs and maintenance of them.
- Electrical Service Providers must ensure that overhead conductors and poles are designed in accordance with AS/NZS3000 section 3.12.
- Electrical Service Providers must ensure that the mechanical forces from the connections to Vector’s overhead line do not compromise the stability of the pole and are designed in accordance with AS/NZS3000 section 3.12.
- A transformer may be required to be installed on the customer’s property to meet the requirements of AS/NZS3000 section 3.6. For these requirements refer to configuration C.

6.3 Configuration C – Long overhead connections for rural areas

6.3.1 General ownership diagram

In some situations where electricity supply is required at a long distance from the property boundary, connection from Vector’s LV network may not be practical due to excessive voltage drop. The practical solution is to connect the new supply via an HV line and a transformer, as shown in the diagram below.



6.3.2 Customer responsibilities

- The customer is responsible for the construction, maintenance and repair of their installation up to the Point of Supply (POS).
- Customers must be familiar with their obligations as detailed in section 3 of these Standards.

- It is strongly recommended to regularly inspect the condition of all external conductors and connections that the customer owns (and poles if the customer owns any). This is to ensure this equipment is in a good working condition and meets the clearance requirements of [ECP 34](#), particularly checking clearances of vegetation near the lines. The customer should discuss these requirements with their Electrical Service Provider as well as any other maintenance required on their installation.
- The customer should discuss with their Electrical Service Provider the required provisions for activities that require approaching overhead lines. Activities that risk encroaching the minimum approach distances stated in [ECP 34](#) may require Vector to de-energise the installation prior to the activities commencing.

The customer must provide unrestricted maintenance access to Vector's equipment at all times as per the easement conditions. For connections made before 1 January 1993, Vector's access rights are provided by the Electricity Act 1992, section [23](#).

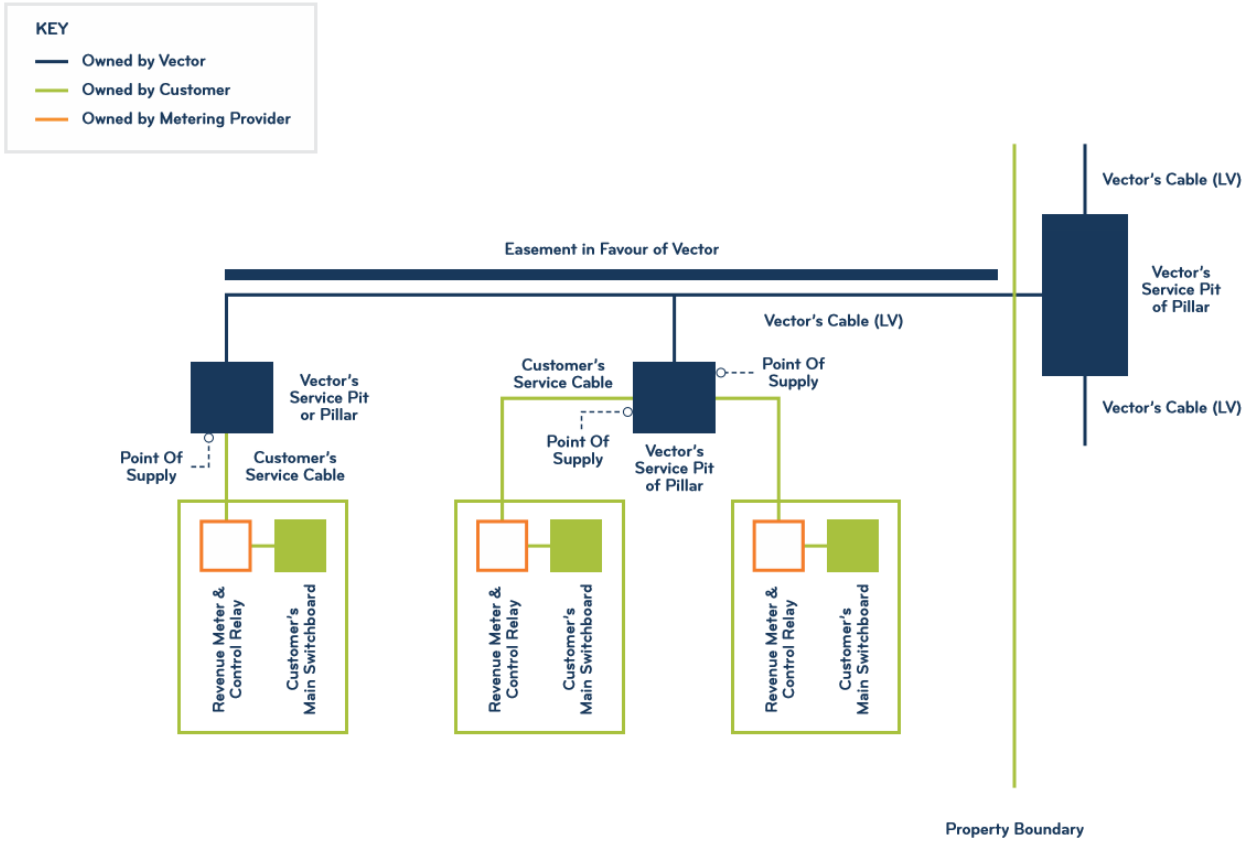
6.3.3 Important design requirements

- Electrical Service Providers must understand the technical requirements in section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer's installation.
- Poles may be required to be installed on the customer's property to meet the safe electrical clearance requirements of [ECP 34](#).
- The Electrical Service Provider must calculate the volt drop from the customer's installation to Vector's lines to determine if a transformer (as shown in the diagram above) is required to be installed to meet the requirements of AS/NZS3000 section 3.6.
- Electrical Service Provider must ensure that overhead conductors and poles owned by the customer are designed in accordance with AS/NZS3000 section 3.12.
- Depending on the rated capacity of the transformer, access issues and proximity of neighbours, this may be able to be shared across neighbouring properties. Vector, however, must approve this.

6.4 Configuration D – Multi-dwelling connections

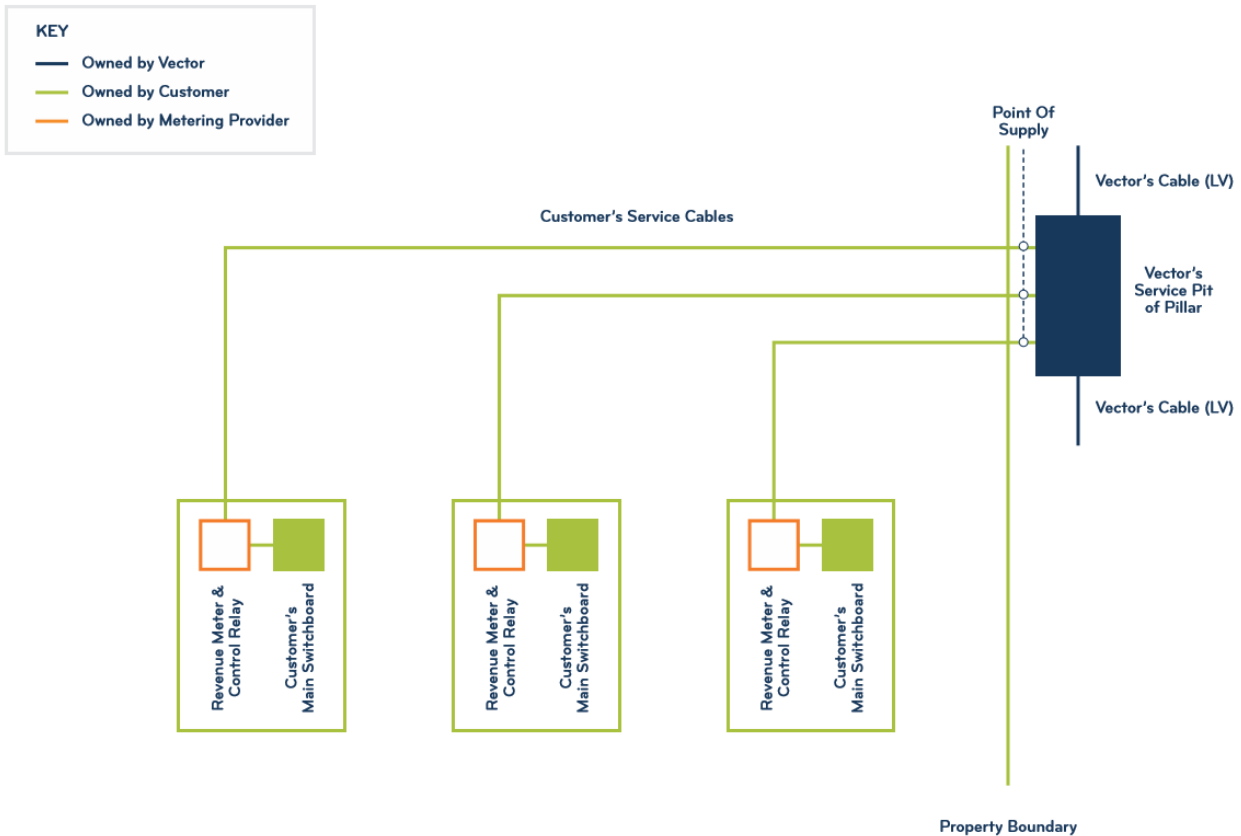
6.4.1 General ownership diagram

Option 1: Vector owns the LV cables inside the customer's property (for example on right of ways):



Note: Vector accepts reticulating inside right of ways provided that the customer agrees to grant an easement in favour of Vector to protect the equipment and allow Vector to operate and maintain the equipment. Vector will keep / maintain records of this equipment and the easement protecting it.

Option 2: The customers own the LV cables inside their property:



6.4.2 Customer responsibilities

- The customer is responsible for the construction, maintenance and repair of their installation up to the Point of Supply (POS). Under Option 1, the Points of Supply for the three dwellings are at Vector's service pits or pillars where the customers' service cables are connected. Vector will install the LV cables and service pits or pillars within the easement area created in the customers' development and will require an easement to protect its cables and service pits or pillars inside the customers' property.
- Under Option 2, the Points of Supply for the three houses are at Vector's service pits and pillars at the property boundary. The customers will install their service cables from their houses to Vector's service pit or pillar at the property boundary. No easement is needed.
- Customers must be familiar with their obligations as detailed in section 3 of these Standards.
- If the customer wishes to construct the cables and service pits themselves and hand over ownership to Vector for ongoing maintenance and operation, they will need to design and construct the equipment to Vector's standards. Vector will not accept ownership without clear evidence that the equipment is installed to Vector's standards. Additionally, an easement in favour of Vector to allow operation and maintenance of the equipment is required prior to Vector accepting ownership.
- Vector is responsible for the ongoing repair and maintenance of equipment it owns. Customers are responsible for the ongoing repair and maintenance of equipment they own.

6.4.3 Important design requirements

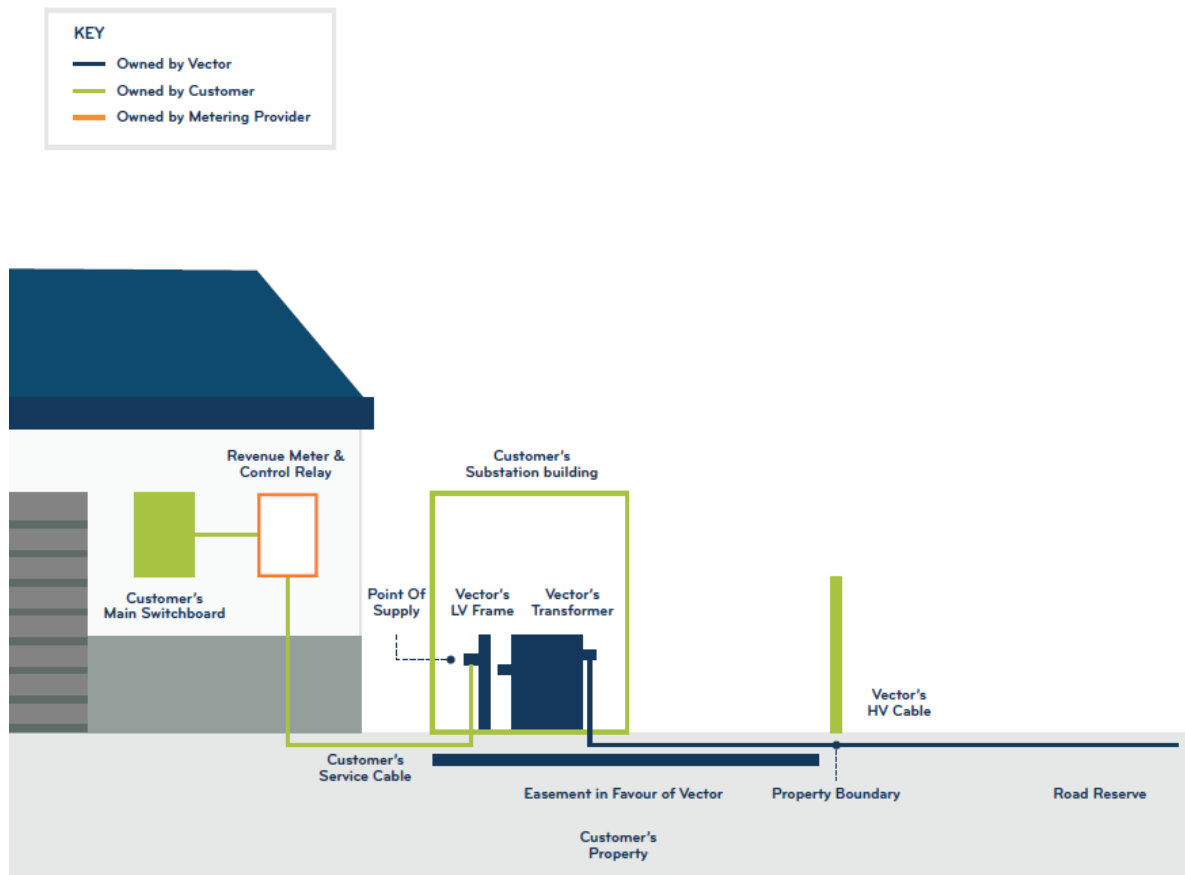
- The Electrical Service Provider must understand the technical requirements in section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer’s installation.
- Multi-dwellings with more than five ICPs must have a single point of isolation (e.g. a switch or a fuse) for all the customers.
- The customer must provide unrestricted maintenance access to Vector’s equipment at all times as per the easement conditions.

6.5 Configuration E – Transformer connection (for connections over 100 A / 3 phase)

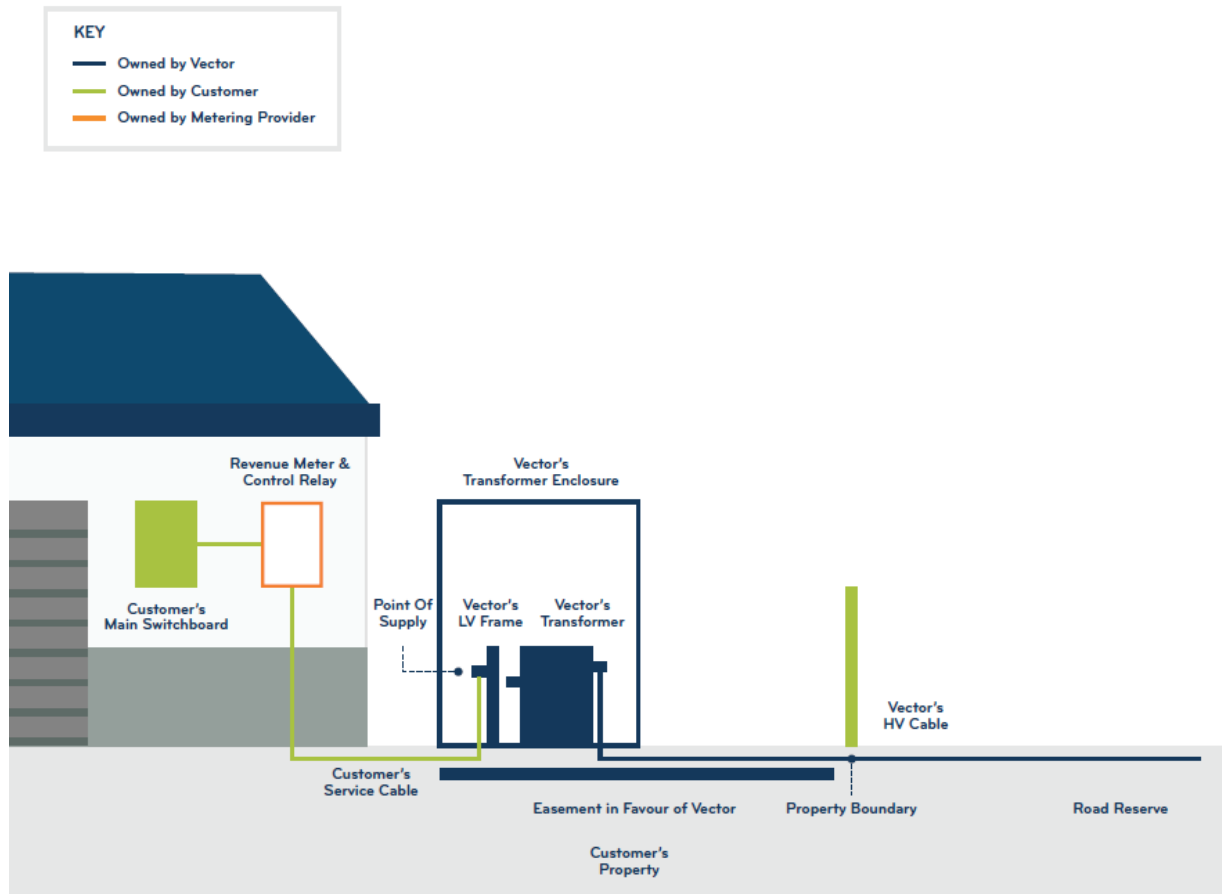
6.5.1 General ownership diagram

There are different ownership options:

Option 1: Vector installs its transformer and LV frame in a substation building provided by the customer. The substation may be a standalone structure or part of the customer’s building.



Option 2: Vector installs its own substation (transformer and LV frame in an outdoor enclosure) inside the customer’s property.



6.5.2 Customer responsibilities

- The customer is responsible for the construction, maintenance and repair of their installation up to the Point of Supply (POS).
- Customers must be familiar with their obligations as detailed in section 3 of these Standards.
- The customer will need to grant an easement in favour of Vector covering the area occupied by Vector's cables and substation.
- The customer must provide unrestricted maintenance access to Vector's equipment at all times as per the easement conditions. For connections made before 1 January 1993, Vector's access rights are covered by the Electricity Act section [23](#).
- As this configuration has complex customer responsibilities, the customer must discuss these with their Electrical Service Provider.

6.5.3 Design requirements

- The Electrical Service Provider must understand the technical requirements in section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer's installation.
- Protection systems will be reviewed and agreed between Vector and the customer to ensure the settings are coordinated so that the customer's protection operates before Vector's network protection.
- The easement in this configuration is to allow Vector to access its equipment for maintenance or fault restoration.

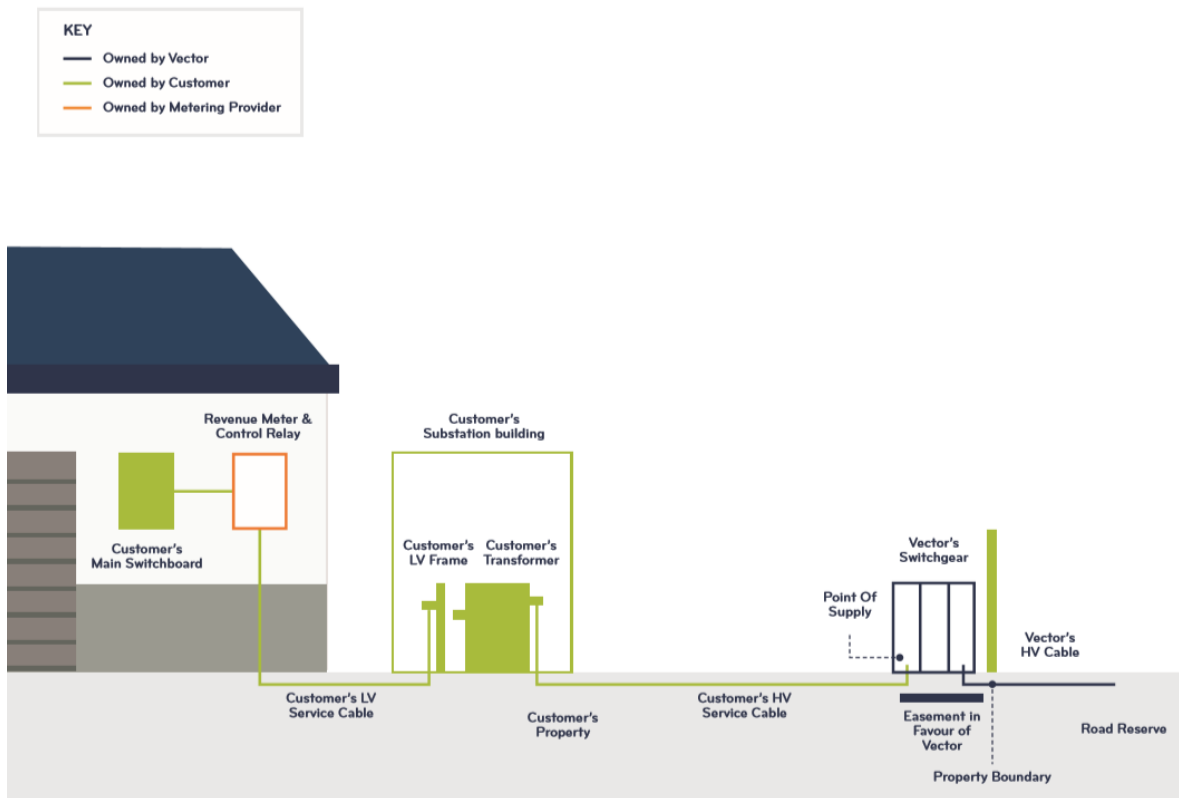
- Vector will supply and design the transformer and substation in collaboration with the customer to ensure it meets their requirements.

6.6 Configuration F – HV Customer connections

6.6.1 General ownership diagram

Vector provides an HV source of supply for customers to connect their transformers. The HV source is usually at an HV switch. If the HV switch is installed inside the customer’s property, an easement in favour of Vector is required to allow operation and maintenance of the equipment.

The following diagram shows that the metering is on the LV side. In some cases, when the customer’s demand is very large, the Electricity Retailer or metering owner may require the metering to be carried out at HV. Any HV metering equipment will be arranged between the customer and the Electricity Retailer. Vector does not allow HV metering equipment to be installed in its switchboards.



6.6.2 Important considerations before committing to this installation configuration

This installation configuration is usually only cost effective for installations 1MVA or over. In addition to this, the installation has many regulations for the customer to comply with to maintain and operate their HV equipment. It is highly recommended that the customer discusses these requirements with an HV Engineering Consultant to understand these requirements before committing to this type of connection.

In the above diagram, Vector’s switchgear is installed inside the customer’s premise. An easement in Vector’s favour covering the switchgear and associated cables will be required. The

alternative is for Vector to install its switchgear outside the customer's premises, if it is practical to do so. Typically, customers who opt for this design own more than one transformer on site. In this case, they may either request Vector to install multiple switch panels, or they will install their own switchgear for the connection of their transformers.

6.6.3 Customer responsibilities

- The customer must implement routine safety checking systems as per the Electricity Safety Regulations section [40](#).
- The customer must develop maintenance and operational procedures for their HV equipment based on best practises and to meet New Zealand legislation.
- The customer must employ competent Electrical Service Providers to maintain their equipment as detailed in section 2.3.1.
- The customer is responsible for the maintenance of their installation up to the Point of Supply.
- Customers must be familiar with their obligations as detailed in section 3 of these Standards.
- The customer must provide unrestricted maintenance access to Vector's equipment at all times as per the easement conditions. For connections made before 1 January 1993, Vector's access rights are covered by the Electricity Act section [23](#).
- As this configuration has complex customer responsibilities, it is highly recommended that the customer discusses these with an HV Engineering Consultant.

6.6.4 Important design requirements

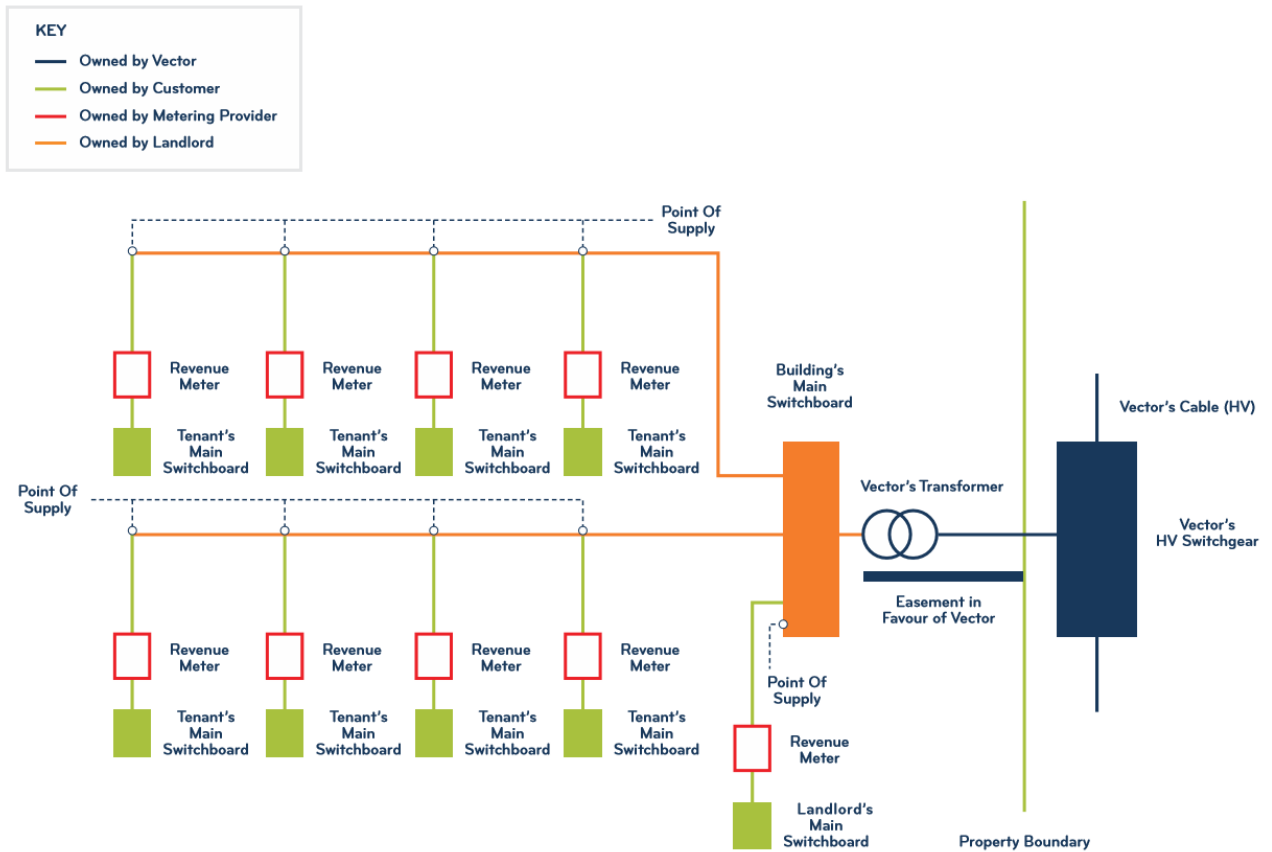
- The Electrical Service Provider must understand the technical requirements in section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer's installation.
- Protection systems shall be reviewed and agreed between Vector and the customer.
- Vector will design and install their switchgear in collaboration with the customer to ensure it meets all technical and health and safety requirements.
- The easement in this configuration is to allow Vector to access their equipment for maintenance or fault restoration. The design must adhere to all conditions of the easement.

6.7 Configuration G – Transformer connections to commercial / industrial developments with multiple tenants

6.7.1 General ownership diagram

The following diagram shows a typical supply to a commercial / industrial development with multiple tenants. The development may be a high-rise office building (vertical development) or industrial park (horizontal development). Vector's supply from the LV terminals of the transformer is connected to the building's main switchboard from which the landlord and tenants are connected.

It should be noted that the developer may choose to own their transformer and become an HV connection. In this case, the developer needs to refer to the requirements of section 6.6 of these Standards.



6.7.2 Customer responsibilities

- In this configuration, the developer of the site may (or may not) continue to own the building. For the purpose of this section, the roles of the developer and the customer are separated. The developer is responsible for constructing the installation within the building. Once completed, the building will be handed over to the landlord who will become responsible for the ongoing maintenance and operation of the building / installation. Vector will not be involved in the ongoing maintenance and operation of the wiring installation inside the development.
- The landlord will apply to Vector for a supply connection and be assigned an ICP number, thus becoming a customer of Vector.
- The landlord may choose to rent the building space to tenants and request Vector to assign ICP numbers to these tenants who would become Vector customers.
- The customer (landlord) will need to grant an easement in favour of Vector covering the area occupied by Vector's cables and transformer.
- The customer (landlord) must provide unrestricted maintenance access to Vector's equipment at all times as per the easement conditions. For connections made before 1 January 1993, Vector's access rights are covered by the Electricity Act section [23](#).

6.7.3 Important design requirements

- The Electrical Service Provider must understand the technical requirements in section 5 of these Standards and how this applies to the customer's installation.

- Protection systems shall be reviewed and agreed between Vector and the customer to ensure the gradings are coordinated.
- The easement in this configuration is to allow Vector to access its equipment for maintenance or fault restoration.
- Vector will supply and design the transformer and substation in collaboration with the customer to ensure it meets their requirements.

6.8 Customer sites supplied by multiple Points of Supply

Due to technical issues (such as load sharing between the different incoming circuits, increased prospective short circuit current, protection setting and back feeding from other Points of Supply) and potential safety hazards, customers are not allowed to interconnect the multiple Points of Supply supplying the site without prior written approval from Vector. In providing the approval, Vector will require site-specific information from the customer in order to make the assessment. Vector may impose conditions on any approval granted.

The following scenarios are possible configurations for parallel operation of different Points of Supply:

1. *The site is supplied by more than one HV feeder from the same zone substation:* Except where two or more HV feeders are specifically designed to run in parallel (supplied from the same zone substation, installed along the same route in the same trench and with protection schemes designed to run the feeders in parallel), no parallel operation of the feeders is allowed.
2. *The site is supplied by more than one HV feeder from different zone substations which may be connected to different national grid exit points:* No parallel operation of the feeders is allowed.
3. *The site has multiple transformers owned by Vector to supply the customer's LV main switchboard:* Where Vector owns the transformers, it has an obligation to protect the equipment and operating personnel. Parallel operation of the transformers may result in certain faults (such as a fault at the HV tails connecting the transformer) not being detected. The only configuration for which parallel operation of transformers is allowed is for two transformers to form a group and for the group to be controlled by a single circuit breaker. Although this is allowed, it is not preferred.
4. *The site has multiple transformers owned by the customer to supply the customer's LV main switchboard:* The customer is responsible for the design and installation of the transformers, LV switchboard and protection schemes. Vector's responsibility is to ensure it provides the customer a means of protection and isolation. However, Vector does not recommend that the customer operate the transformers in parallel.

APPENDIX A: RELATED DOCUMENTS







Vector Document
Vector's website - Main page Vector.co.nz
Application for a new connection to the network vector.co.nz/personal/get-connected
Application for connection of generators to the network vector.co.nz/personal/solar-old/connecting-your-generation-to-our-network
Application for connection of batteries to the network vector.co.nz/personal/batteries/connecting-your-battery-to-our-network
Application for disconnecting a connection vector.co.nz/decommissionicp
Vector's electricity pricing schedule vector.co.nz/personal/electricity/about-our-network/pricing
Customers ownership responsibility vector.co.nz/personal/electricity/what-you-need-to-know/line-ownership
Vector's residential service standards https://vectorwebstoreprd.blob.core.windows.net/blob/vector/media/vector/15-08-16-vector_service_standard_doc_res.pdf
Safety guidelines vector.co.nz/personal/help-safety

External document	Document title & description
Act	Electricity Act
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 34 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 35 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Power Systems Earthing
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 36 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Harmonic Levels
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 46 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for High Voltage Live Line Work
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 50 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Repair and Maintenance of Domestic Electrical Appliances by the Owner of the Appliance
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 51 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Homeowner/Occupier's Electrical Wiring Work in Domestic Installations
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 54 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for the Installation of Recessed Luminaires and Auxiliary Equipment
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 55 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Managing Electrical Risks Associated with Electrically Conductive Thermal Insulation
Electrical Code of Practice	ECP 60 - New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Inspection, Testing and Certification of Low Voltage A.C. Railway Signalling Control Circuits
Electrical guide	EEA guide for livening of service connections to premises
Notice	Radio communications (EMC standards) Notice 2015
Regulations	Electricity (safety) regulations
Regulations	Radiocommunication regulations
Report	The NZ Electrical Supply Authority Engineers Institute Committee Report on Motor Starting Currents for A.C. motors published in February 1982.
Standard	AS/NZS 3000 - Wiring rules
Standard	AS/NZS 3760 - In-service safety inspection and testing of electrical equipment
Standard	AS/NZS 3019 - Electrical Installations – periodic verification
Standard	AS/NZS 61000 part 3 - Electromagnetic capability (EMC)
Standard	IEC 61000 part 3 - Electromagnetic capability (EMC) - limits
Website	Electrical Workers Registration Board - work competencies https://www.e wrb.govt.nz/working-safely-and-in-compliance/limits-of-work/

External document	Document title & description
Website	Electrical Workers Registration Board - Electrical standards https://www.ewrb.govt.nz/working-safely-and-in-compliance/new-zealand-standards/
Website	Requirements for LV Installations https://worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/electricity/installations-and-networks
Worksafe guidelines	Good practice guidelines – Excavation safety https://worksafe.govt.nz/dmsdocument/17-excavation-safety

APPENDIX A: DRAWINGS

These drawings show Vector’s design standards and have been included here for the convenience of the reader. As these drawings are being reviewed when new information becomes available, please contact Vector for the latest version of these drawings:

Drawing Name:	Drawing:
EDE5007 Distribution Package Substation BFLR Rated Installation Drawings	 EDE5007 Distribution Package Substation B
EDE5011 Service Pit Arrangement	 EDE5011 Service Pit Arrangement.pdf
EDE5001 Substation Room General	 EDE5001 Substation room General.pdf
EDE5002 Substation Room Equipment Layout	 EDE5002 Substation Room Equipment layc
EDE5008 Distribution Transformer Installation Drawings	 EDE5008 Distribution Transformer Installati
EDE5012 Service Pillar Arrangement	 EDE5012 Service Pillar Arrangements.p

APPENDIX B: FAULT LEVEL

11kV network

The following table shows the prospective short circuit currents at the LV terminals of the 11kV/LV distribution transformers supplied by Vector. These prospective short circuit currents are calculated using the following assumptions:

- Fault level at the 11kV terminals 13.1kA
- Transformer impedances based on supplier's data
- Earthing resistance (at substation and customer's premises) 1ohm

These figures may be used by customers for reference.

11kV / LV Transformer capacity	Three Phase Prospective Short Circuit Currents at the LV terminal (IEC Method)
100kVA	3.6kA
200kVA	6.3kA
300kVA	9.4kA
500kVA	14.6kA
750kVA	20.4kA
1000kVA	26.6kA

22kV network

The following table shows the prospective short circuit currents at the LV terminals of the 22kV/LV distribution transformers supplied by Vector. These prospective short circuit currents are calculated using the following assumptions:

- Fault level at the 22kV terminals 20.1kA
- Transformer impedances based on supplier's data
- Earthing resistance (at substation and customer's premises) 1ohm

These figures may be used by customers for reference.

22kV / LV Transformer capacity	Three Phase Prospective Short Circuit Currents at the LV terminal (IEC Method)
300kVA	8.6kA
500kVA	15.8kA
750kVA	21.3kA
1000kVA	22.0kA