



Australian Government

UETTDRVC26 Cut vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the UET Transmission, Distribution and Rail Sector Training Package.

Application

This unit involves the skills and knowledge required to cut vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus in the electricity supply industry (ESI).

It includes cutting and/or pruning vegetation at ground level, removing vegetation obstructions up to the live work zone as defined for both instructed and authorised persons in accordance with legislation or industry guidelines associated with live electrical apparatus.

It includes using the established cutting plan relevant to the vegetation type and the safe use of appropriate/specialised tools and equipment in accordance with requirements and workplace procedures. It also includes safely accessing trees to install restraints/slings, removing small trees in a safe manner and clearing debris from the felling site to eliminate the occurrence of electrical incidents. It DOES NOT include entry of persons, mobile plant, equipment, and/or specialised tools into to the safe approach distance (SAD) as defined.

It also includes preparing risk assessment control measures that encompass job safety assessment, complying with relevant State or Territory regulatory agencies/bodies, local government legislation, industry bi-partite body guidelines/codes of practice or other related requirements for safe work and access near live electrical and mechanical apparatus.

This competency standards unit shall apply to transmission, distribution, rail traction, telecommunications and vegetation management control industry sectors.

The application of the skills and knowledge described in this unit may require a licence to operate specific pieces of equipment such as elevated work platforms.

Other conditions may apply under State and Territory legislative and regulatory licensing requirement which must be confirmed prior to commencing this unit.

Pre-requisite Unit

Common Unit Group

UEENEEE101A Apply Occupational Health and Safety regulations, codes and practices in the workplace

UETTDREL13 Comply with sustainability, environmental and incidental response policies and procedures

UETTDREL14 Working safely near live electrical apparatus as a non-electrical worker

UETTDRC23 Plan the removal of vegetation up to vegetation exclusion zone near live electrical apparatus

UETTDRC27 Monitor safety compliance of vegetation control work in an ESI environment

Competency Field

Vegetation

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

1 Prepare to cut/prune vegetation at ground level up to vegetation exclusion zone near live electrical apparatus

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- 1.1** Relevant work instructions and cutting plans are received and confirmed
- 1.2** Job requirements are discussed with relevant personnel and performed in accordance with workplace procedures
- 1.3** Work health and safety (WHS)/occupational health and safety (OHS) and environmental workplace procedures are received and confirmed
- 1.4** Suggestions to assist and/or improve meeting the cutting of vegetation at ground level outside of the live work zone near electrical apparatus outcomes are made to others involved in the work
- 1.5** Hazards are identified, WHS/OHS risks are assessed and control measures identified in accordance with workplace procedures
- 1.6** Relevant work permits are received and scope of responsibility determined in accordance with workplace procedures
- 1.7** Resources, including vehicles, equipment, tools and

personal protective equipment (PPE), required for the job are obtained and confirmed in working order in accordance with workplace procedures

- 1.8** Relevant responsibility associated with first aid and/or other related work safety procedures at the worksite are confirmed in accordance with requirements and workplace procedures to ensure safety measures are followed in the instance of an incident
- 1.9** Client issues are referred to appropriate personnel in accordance with workplace procedures
- 1.10** Worksite is prepared to minimise risk, damage to property, commerce and individuals in accordance with workplace procedures
- 1.11** Traffic management is checked as implemented in accordance with workplace procedures
- 1.12** Pre-operational checks are undertaken to confirm safe and correct operation of tools and equipment for safe use near live electrical apparatus in accordance with requirements and workplace procedures
- 1.13** Work permits/access authorisations are confirmed and received, where applicable, for commencement of the work in accordance with requirements and workplace procedures with relevant personnel

2 Carry out the cutting/pruning of vegetation at ground level up to vegetation exclusion zone near live electrical apparatus

- 2.1** WHS/OHS, sustainable energy and environmental principles and practices are monitored and followed to reduce incidents of accidents in accordance with workplace procedures
- 2.2** Requirements for lifting, climbing, working at heights and the use of power tools/equipment are followed in accordance with workplace procedures
- 2.3** Cutting vegetation at ground level outside of the live work exclusion zone near electrical apparatus is confirmed to ensure completion in agreed timeframes, to quality standards and with minimum waste in accordance with workplace procedures
- 2.4** Cutting of vegetation at ground level outside of the live work zone near electrical apparatus is performed in

- accordance with cutting plans, work schedules and workplace procedures
- 2.5** Hazard warnings and safety signs are recognised and hazards and assessed WHS/OHS risks are reported/referred to immediate authorised personnel for directions in accordance with workplace procedures
- 2.6** Unplanned events are referred to relevant authorised personnel for directions in accordance with workplace procedures
- 2.7** Problems associated with cutting vegetation at ground level outside of the vegetation exclusion zone near electrical apparatus are attended to using acquired known solutions and skills related to routine procedures to ensure work instructions and workplace procedures are met
- 2.8** Quality checks of work are undertaken in accordance with industry standards and workplace procedures
- 3 Complete the cutting/pruning of vegetation at ground level up to vegetation exclusion zone near live electrical apparatus**
- 3.1** Completed work is checked against work schedule, cutting plans and drawings for compliance and anomalies are reported in accordance with workplace procedures
- 3.2** WHS/OHS and environmental incidents are reported in accordance with workplace procedures, as required
- 3.3** Worksite is cleaned and confirmed safe in accordance with workplace procedures
- 3.4** Tools, equipment and surplus resources and materials are, where appropriate, cleaned, checked and returned to storage in accordance with workplace procedures
- 3.5** Relevant personnel are notified of work completion in accordance with workplace procedures
- 3.6** Post-operational checks, minor maintenance and/or relevant documentation of equipment and tools are conducted in accordance with requirements
- 3.7** Relevant work permits are signed off in accordance with workplace procedures

- 3.8** Work records, reports and/or documentation are completed in accordance with workplace procedures

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to UETTDRCVC26A Cut vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus.

Links

UET Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found in VETNet - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=229bace1-b7bc-4653-9300-dffb13ecfad7>

Assessment Requirements for UETTDRVC26 Cut vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the UET Transmission, Distribution and Rail Sector Training Package.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least two separate occasions and include:

- applying relevant work health and safety (WHS)/occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements, including the use of risk control measures
- applying sustainable energy principles and practices
- confirming operational knowledge associated with the cutting of vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus in all the following:
 - principles of electricity, the three-phase power system
 - power system
 - recognition of aerial voltage systems
 - identification of low voltage (LV) aerial circuits
 - identification of high voltage (HV) aerial circuits
 - safe working zone and ordinary person zone so defined by relevant authorities
 - use of technical standards, acts, regulations, codes /guidelines and established/enterprise/asset owner's procedures
 - system control - information required and function
 - vicinity permit - information required and function
 - sensitive earth fault (SEF) System
 - confirm environmental principals and procedures
- confirming safe practices associated with the cutting of vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus in all the following:
 - WHS/OHS safety practices and procedures
 - electric shock and resuscitation
 - release and rescue
 - role of the safety observer
 - events constituting an incident
 - procedures in the event of or responding to incidents
 - methods of identifying hazards
 - risk assessment procedures for both worksite and pre-job checklist

- selection of the best position for monitoring and controlling work (cutting)
- selection of correct line of site to the cutter
- correct observation of the work from ground level
- constant analysis and decision making relevant to the safety of the work, considering prevailing site conditions (lay of the land) and on-going weather conditions
- confirming vegetation control associated with the cutting of vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus in all the following:
 - identifying tree types
 - confirming vegetation species and types
 - confirming vegetation cutting techniques for different vegetation
 - confirming appropriate vegetation machinery and equipment to be used
 - using = feeder route plans
- confirming the safe cutting of vegetation at ground level near live electrical apparatus in all the following:
 - using cutting plans relevant to the vegetation type
 - safely using of all relevant personnel protective equipment (PPE)
 - safely using tools and equipment, such as hand saws, chainsaws, specialised tools and equipment and/or power pruners at ground level
 - safely using chemical control and application at ground level
 - safely using cutting, pruning and tree trimming techniques at ground near electrical apparatus
 - safe stump removal
 - conducting pre- and post-operational checks, inspections and minor maintenance on tools and equipment
 - safely deploying equipment and tools in varying ground conditions and weather
 - safely removing debris
- dealing with unplanned events on at least one (1) occasion.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- enterprise-specific vegetation control equipment, including:
 - types and application of vegetation cutting tools – chainsaws, brush cutters, hydraulic pruning saws, tool line and specialised pruning tools (cocky beaks and pruning saws)
 - types and application of vegetation mulching tools
 - types and application of herbicide application equipment
 - purpose and use of cutting plans relevant to the vegetation type
 - cutting techniques of vegetation control tools and equipment
 - techniques in undertaking different branch cuts - scarf under-cut, top cut technique, top scarf-bottom-back cut technique, and side scarf opposite back-cut technique

- pre-operational checks on vegetation control tools and equipment
- techniques in safely using vegetation control equipment - visual inspection of vegetation control equipment, methods of using equipment at heights and in confined spaces, precautions to note during use of equipment (proximity of other personnel, proximity of powerlines and obstacles, length of power lead and possible fire danger due to sparks)
- types of PPE used in conjunction with vegetation control equipment - head protection, eye protection, hearing protection, hand protection, foot protection, body protection and general protection
- basic maintenance of vegetation control equipment - cleaning, proper storage, basic repair and replacement, and testing for compliance to manufacturer and WHS/OHS requirements.

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must hold credentials specified within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must satisfy the Principles of Assessment and Rules of Evidence and all regulatory requirements included within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations where it is appropriate to do so; where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in simulated conditions involving realistic and authentic activities that replicate operational workplace conditions.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or other simulations
- relevant and appropriate materials, tools, equipment and PPE currently used in industry
- applicable documentation, including workplace procedures, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

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