



## Information Bulletin:

### Release of ES55 E3-04: Guide for Civil Excavation near Distribution Poles

#### 1.0 Items Covered

ES55 E3-04 GUIDE FOR CIVIL EXCAVATION NEAR DISTRIBUTION POLES

#### 2.0 Overview

Excavation near BC Hydro poles has previously compromised the foundation of distribution poles, resulting in significant and dangerous pole leaning. In response, BC Hydro has developed Design Standard ES55 E3-04 Guide for Civil Excavation near Distribution Poles. This document provides guidance on the need to support distribution poles when excavation for civil work could compromise the integrity of the pole's foundation. **This document does not apply to excavations for pole replacements.**

Available on the BC Hydro Intranet, and also to the public through bchydro.com, this document provides guidance on the need to support distribution poles when excavation for civil work could compromise the integrity of the pole's foundation.

The Design Standard was developed with input from the Distribution Technical Working Group, Distribution Design, Distribution Engineering, Work Methods, Contracts Management and Civil Inspections.

#### 3.0 Action

The Design Standard is to be used as a guide by office and field staff to determine if pole support is required for excavation which could compromise the pole foundation.

Because of the site-specific nature of soil capacity, excavation extent and pole loading, this document does not provide definitive direction on the need for pole support. Local experience and site-specific considerations shall be used along with the guidance in this document to determine if pole support is required.



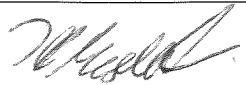


This document provides guidance only. Pole support is required where unbalanced forces exist on the pole and excavation of the pole's foundation could cause the pole to move out of balance or equilibrium.

The final decision for pole support is the responsibility of the contractor completing the excavation.

#### 4.0 Distribution Standards Contact

Name: Cosmo Picassi	email: <a href="mailto:cosmo.picassi@bchydro.com">cosmo.picassi@bchydro.com</a>
Phone #: 604-529-5781	Cell #:

#### 5.0 Approval

Recommended		Reviewed		Approved	
					
H. GIESBRECHT		C. PICASSI		F. DENNERT	
Date:	2018-02-13	Date:	2018-02-13	Date:	2018-02-13