

NIE Networks

ACCESS STATEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks (NIE Networks) owns the electricity transmission and distribution network and operates the electricity distribution network which transports electricity to over 860,000 customers. Our infrastructure supplies power to homes and businesses across Northern Ireland and our network consists of approximately 49,000km of overhead lines, 14,000km of underground cables and other connected equipment that can be situated both above and below ground.

From time to time the development and maintenance work of others can come close to, and often cross, this infrastructure. It is therefore important that we ensure the safety of those carrying out these works and facilitate an efficient system to give advice on working in proximity and quotations for moving our equipment if required.

This access statement contains the practical information necessary for developers and utilities whose work requires them to cross or work near NIE Networks' assets. Having consideration of your proposed work, remember there are privately owned electrical networks throughout Northern Ireland that we cannot provide you with details of or advice about. It is your responsibility to take all steps to ensure your activities are planned and completed safely.

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Depot Areas



2. WHO TO CONTACT

Who you should contact will depend on the nature of your request. For example, are you planning to carry out excavation works and need information on where our cables are located or are you potentially going to be working near to overhead lines? In all cases, you should call our Customer Helpline on 03457 643 643.

2.1 Underground cables

Before you start digging, you should apply for network maps of the area that you are about to start working in. Always refer to Health and Safety Executive guidance HS(G) 47. You can find out more information here.

www.nienetworks.co.uk/Safety-Environment/Contractors/escavation-digging

www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg47.htm

2.2 Overhead lines

If you plan to work close by to any of our overhead lines, you should contact us well before work takes place as we may need to arrange a temporary disconnection for the duration of the work. Always refer to Health and Safety Executive guidance GS 6 and Working in Proximity to Low Voltage Overhead Power Lines.

www.nienetworks.co.uk/Safety-Environment/Contractors/Tipper-mobile-plant

www.hseni.gov.uk/sites/hseni.gov.uk/files/publications/%5Bcurrent-domain%3Amachine-name%5D/Working-in-proximity-to-low-voltage-overhead-power-lines_0.pdf

www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/g6.pdf

2.3 Other equipment

If you plan to work near any of our other plant or equipment, you should apply for network maps of the area that you are about to start working in.

3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACCESSING INFORMATION

To understand whether work you propose to carry out will go near to or cross our assets, maps detailing the location of our underground cables and overhead lines please request a network map by email, markups@nienetworks.co.uk or by post:

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks
Distribution Service Centre
Request for Markup
Carn Industrial Estate
Craigavon
BT63 5QJ

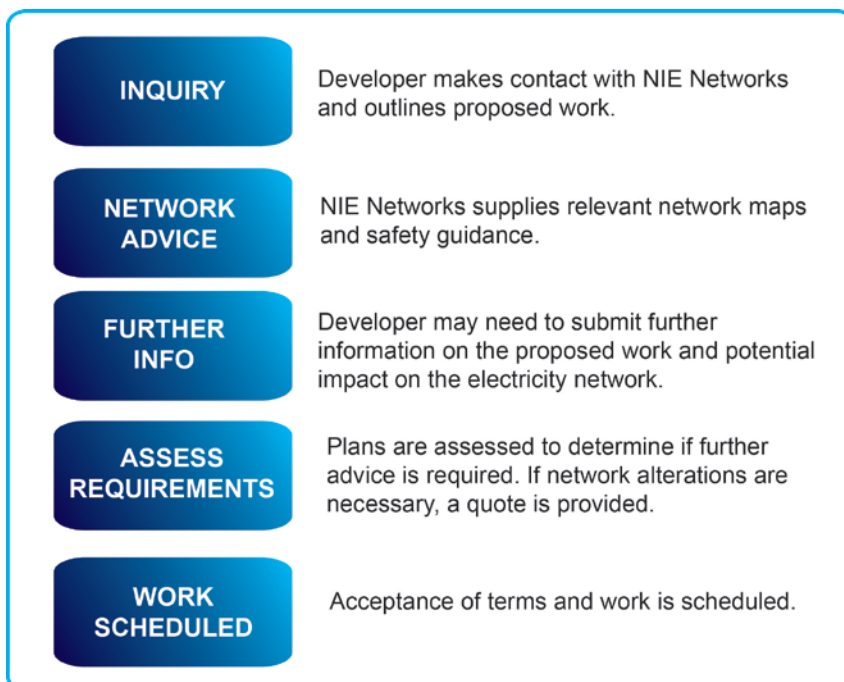
Further information is available on our website

www.nienetworks.co.uk/Safety-Environment/Network-maps

Please note that NIE Networks does not provide depths to underground cables on our mark up drawings so if a survey or any enabling works are required to establish such depths then this will need to be carried out at the customer's expense.

If you require information in accordance with a Street Works Licence Application please send this request for information included with a copy of the SWL2 form to markups@nienetworks.co.uk.

4. PROCESS



Further details on NIE Networks' timescales and process for alterations and new connections can be found on the Connections section of our website.

www.nienetworks.co.uk/Connections/Guide-price-timescales

NIE Networks current Statement of Charges can be accessed on our website from the link below.

www.nienetworks.co.uk/Statement-of-Charges

5. KEEPING INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDERS INFORMED

We will keep you informed during the design and construction process by the single point of contact that has been assigned to your job, and where practicable, advised of changes to agreed timescales if they arise. NIE Networks gives a minimum notice period for changing our plans before work commences. Once work has started on site, we will not change our programme unless requested to do so by the customer.

6. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

NIE Networks follow the National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) guidelines on Co-ordination, Co-operation & Communication, which is a document detailing cross-industry agreed best practice on working with other utilities. This should minimise the number of disputes. These guidelines can be accessed from the link below.

njug.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Volume-6-NJUG-Co-ordination-Co-operation-and-Communication-Issue-1.pdf

For further information on making a complaint to NIE Networks please refer to the link below.

www.nienetworks.co.uk/documents/Customer-leaflets/NIE_-_making-a-complaint-update