Building a new home or business?

What you need to know about power line safety

Learn more
Visit pge.com/greenbook or pge.com/lawsandregulations for more information.
Power line safety clearances for new construction

This brochure provides customers building a new home or business with information about required vegetation safety clearances around new power lines.

**Before new power lines are built**
Vegetation must be cleared from the area before construction begins. This may require tree removal or placing new power lines underground.

**Power line safety clearances**
- Clear all vegetation within 15 feet of the pole to create the 30-foot-wide clearance area.
- Remove hazardous trees outside the 30-foot clearance area that could fall on the new power line.
- Contact us if you are unsure about the required safety clearance, as some power lines require larger distances.

**After new power lines are built**
Annual tree trimming is required to maintain safety clearances around new power lines. State regulations provide guidelines for performing this work safely while helping to ensure electric reliability.

**Staying safe around power lines**
- Only public utility employees or line clearance qualified contractors can legally place or operate tools or equipment within 6 feet of power lines.
- Unqualified tree workers must keep themselves, tools or machinery at least 10 feet away from power lines.
- Higher voltage transmission lines, which are generally mounted on towers, require greater safety clearances.

**Contact us**
Call us at 1-800-743-5000 for new construction questions.

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**Remove trees with potential to strike power lines**

**Power Line Clearance**
Clear vegetation within at least 15 feet on either side of center line where a power line is being built for a total 30 feet of clearance.

**Remove hazard trees that could fall on power lines.**