

# ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOR BOATERS AND YACHTIES

STAY SAFE ON AND AROUND THE WATER

Call 131 003 and put safety first.  
[www.endeavourenergy.com.au](http://www.endeavourenergy.com.au)



**Endeavour  
Energy**

# STAY SAFE ON THE WATER

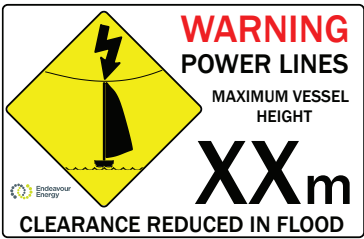
It is easy to overlook the risks posed by electricity around waterways. Power lines and submarine cables cross many NSW waterways, posing a potential threat to boaters and yachties. You don't even need to touch overhead power lines to compromise safety. Electricity can jump (arc) from power lines to other objects in an instant. Power lines and cables carry considerable electrical current which can cause serious injury or even death if touched by any part of your vessel or if you get too close.

In accordance with the Crossings of NSW Navigable Waters: Electricity Industry Code 2010 and to help you proactively manage the risk, all NSW electricity network distribution companies are progressively replacing all waterway signs with those illustrated in this brochure.

## Know the height of your vessel

To ensure your safety on the water it is critical for the owner and skipper to know the height of their vessel. Electricity can arc from power lines to objects such as boat masts, crane jibs, aerials and other tall structures and equipment. This has the potential to cause serious injury to those in the vicinity of the incident.

The skipper must also be mindful of overhead power lines when launching and retrieving boats from the water. Power lines are often placed around boat ramps and marinas to power lights and recreational facilities such as barbeque areas and parks. Power lines should be sighted before entering and leaving the water.



Your vessel's clearance height should be recorded on the NSW Maritime "Look up and Live" sticker and affixed where the skipper can readily refer to it. By knowing the height of your vessel you can ensure you will not breach the minimum approach distances indicated by warning signs. Stickers are available from NSW Maritime, major boat sheds and sailing clubs. It is important to be mindful that clearance distance will reduce during king tides, floods or when hot weather causes power lines to sag.

# LOOK UP AND LIVE

**YOUR VESSEL CLEARANCE IS**  
○○○m  
**ABOVE THE WATERLINE**  
**NSW MARITIME**  
Infoline on 13 12 56

**CAUTION**

Aluminium masts, wire rigging and awnings conduct electricity. Coming near to or in contact with a 'hot' electrical power cable can cause severe injury or death. Even 'sagging' cables can cause damage and lead to injury. Always check the warning on warning signs no matter how often you have previously used this section of the waterway.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

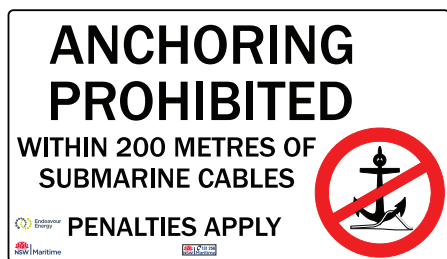
Instructions

1. Measure the height of the uppermost part of the vessel/mast above the waterline of the vessel.
2. Peel off the numbers which represent the height of your vessel from the bottom of the sticker and stick them in the circles provided.
3. Peel off the main part of the sticker and attach it at the normal steering position so that it is clearly visible to the person steering the vessel.
4. Look out for signs on the shore near overhead structures/cables to determine the maximum vessel height.
5. Take extreme care in floods and/or extremely high tides.
6. Remember, also check for low cables when rigging, launching and trailing.
7. Contact the NSW Maritime Info Line on 13 12 56 or your nearest NSW Maritime office for further information or to report any damage to cables.

**NSW MARITIME**

### Be aware of submarine cable crossings

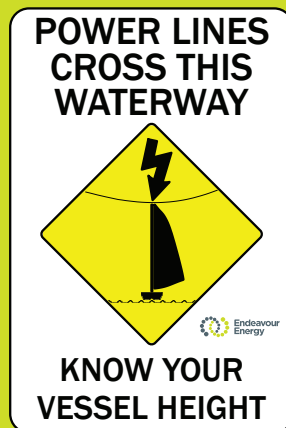
Submarine cables cross along the bottom of waterways and are indicated by large signs located along the banks at the point of entry and exit. Anchoring is prohibited within 200 metres of submarine cables as anchors may become caught or entangled with the submarine cables during an unintentional drift.



In the event of an anchor becoming snagged near one of these signs, the anchor line should be cut and not retrieved.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 01 Know the height of your vessel and obey the overhead crossing warning signs.
- 02 Be mindful of overhead power lines when transporting, launching and retrieving boats.
- 03 Clearance heights may vary according to water levels. Be aware of king tides and floods.
- 04 Power lines have the potential to sag during hot weather, reducing clearance below the power lines.
- 05 Do not drop anchor within 200 metres of submarine cables.
- 06 Monitor the weather. Yachts and boats may be blown off course into overhead power lines and within 200m of submarine cables.



## SAFETY EXCELLENCE

### IN AN EMERGENCY CONTACT 000 OR YOUR ELECTRICITY NETWORK PROVIDER

Endeavour Energy: **131 003**

NSW Maritime: **131 256**

If you have any questions about what you should do to stay safe around power lines and other electrical infrastructure please call 131 081 or visit us at [www.endeavourenergy.com.au](http://www.endeavourenergy.com.au)

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