

POL 0071: Property Owners Contribution to Underground Power

Purpose

To define any contribution that would be required from property owners in the event of the Shire being successful with a State Underground Power Program application.

Scope

Document defines how the Shire will determine the amounts required to be contributed by adjacent property owners in the event of a successful State underground power program application. Policy affects property owners adjacent to sections of overhead power supply lines which are intended to be replaced with underground power supply infrastructure under the program.

Definitions

State Underground Power Program: The State Underground Power Program is an initiative that replaces overhead power lines in established areas with underground power infrastructure. This program is due to conclude in 2024 and be replaced with the Targeted Underground Power Program (TUPP)

Practice

That the Shire use the following method when requiring adjacent property owners to contribute towards Underground Power -

1. All property owners pay a pro rata amount based on road frontage, with connections costs being the owner's responsibility.
2. The proportion of the Shire owned land (road intersection, right of way, etc) be included in the calculation of frontage.
3. Property owners are to contribute 50% of the total project cost, excluding the streetlight component that is the Shire's responsibility.
4. Project financing costs are to be accounted for in the total costs. This will be calculated by working out how much the Shire's borrowing costs will be over the period, and adding this to the amount to be collected from property owners.
5. Property owners with switchgear or transformers located on their property (with the exception of the Shire will receive a 20% discount on their contribution.
6. The Shire is to consider at the time of raising the service charge, whether property owners should be charged in instalments over a number of years. The average charge is to be utilised in considering whether a service charge should be over more than one year.
7. Pensioners to be given a 50% rebate, if funding can be recovered by the Shire from the Office of State Revenue (or other Government Instrumentality).
8. Undertake the collection of funds from ratepayers by way of a service charge levied under Section 6.38(1) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

9. Establish a Reserve fund under Section 6.11 of the *Local Government Act 1995* as required by Section 6.38(2), if funds received by way of service charges exceed the current year's projected expenditure.

.....End.....

Document Information

Responsible Position	Manager Asset Development
Risk Rating	Low

Referencing Documents

- *Local Government Act 1995*

Revision History

Date	Version	CM Reference	Reason for Change	Resolution #	Next Review
Sept 2007	1	D12/61	New policy	O0907-1117	Sept 2009
Feb 2016	2	D16/28965	Change 'Council' to 'the Shire'.	O0216-042	Feb 2018
Aug 2018	3	D16/28965[v2]	No change.	O0818-091	Aug 2020
Dec 2019	4	D16/28965[v3]	No change to wording.	O1219-268	Dec 2021
Mar 2022	5	D16/28965[v4]	No change	O0322-062	Mar 2024
Mar 2024	6	D16/28965[v5]	Added scope and definition	O0324-023	Mar 2026