

Standard clearances to wholesale water supply pipelines

1. If excavations for services are close to a wholesale water pipeline, the pipeline is to be located by our Pipelines team before work commences. Direct contact details are as follows:

- Michael Valentic 021 916 128
- Mark Poehls 021 486 594

2. Minimum clearances are as follows:

- Parallel to the pipeline 1,000mm in plan
- Minimum clearance over or under the pipeline 150mm

All crossings of the pipeline are to be at or near right angles.

3. High voltage electrical cables (greater than 400 volts) to be installed parallel to a water pipeline over a length greater than 100m require a low frequency induction assessment and specific approval from Wellington Water.

4. Our Pipelines team is to be advised when excavation is to begin at least two days prior to work beginning. When the pipeline is exposed in excavations, care shall be taken to ensure that the protective coating is not damaged. Excavation shall be with hand tools when working within 500mm of the pipe.

5. The pipe shall be exposed and monitored when drilling is within 1,000mm of the pipeline.

6. Backfilling material placed around the pipe shall be clean and free from organic material, large stones and soft silts and clays. Crusher run or river run, 10mm down in size or less, are suitable materials.

Hand compaction all around the pipe is necessary, taking care not to cause damage either to the pipe or the protective coating. A minimum cover of 600mm shall be placed before any large mechanical compacting equipment is used.

Staff from the Pipelines team will inspect the pipe before backfilling commences and will be present during backfilling around the pipe.

Prepared by:

Information Directorate
Wellington Water