

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

TB-0174

Criteria for pole reinstatements

Purpose

The purpose of this technical bulletin is to inform staff and/or contractors of the requirements relating to reinstating wood poles and to emphasise that poles shall be properly assessed for suitability of reinstatement before condemning a pole.

Background

Pole reinstatement is a process that is currently employed by Endeavour Energy to extend the serviceability of a wood pole other than UGOH, HV operational, and substation poles. The process involves driving a galvanised steel nail beside the pole and attaching it to the pole. A pole can be suitable for reinstatement if it has sufficient strength above ground, but does not necessarily require solid wood below ground.

Refer to MMI0001 (clause 5.9.3 - *assessment of serviceability flowchart*) for further details on the current process for assessing the serviceability of poles, including the criteria for determining if a pole is suitable for reinstatement.

Actions

All wood poles (eligible for nailing) once inspected and found to be defective below ground shall be firstly considered for pole nailing before replacement. This applies to all defect priority categories including 48 hours, 2 months and 6 months as well as poles that may have been condemned by other means than pole interior assessment.

If the wall thickness of a defective pole at 300mm and 1200mm above ground is greater than 60mm, the pole shall be nailed, provided there are no termites, open knot holes, fungal spores, cracking or splitting.

Any pole that is selected for replacement shall also have its wall thickness measured at 300mm and 1200mm above ground. These measurements must be entered into the Toughbook / ELLIPSE. All reasons for not nailing the pole shall also be given in the comments field.

Streetlight poles shall also be considered for reinstatement as specified above.

Private wood poles cannot be reinstated and shall only be replaced.

The revised *Assessment of Serviceability Flowchart* can be found in **Annexure 1**.

It is emphasised that wood poles must be properly assessed for reinstatement, in accordance with the updated serviceability flowchart, before deciding to condemn and replace the pole.

This technical bulletin is applicable to both regional staff and OLI/GLI.

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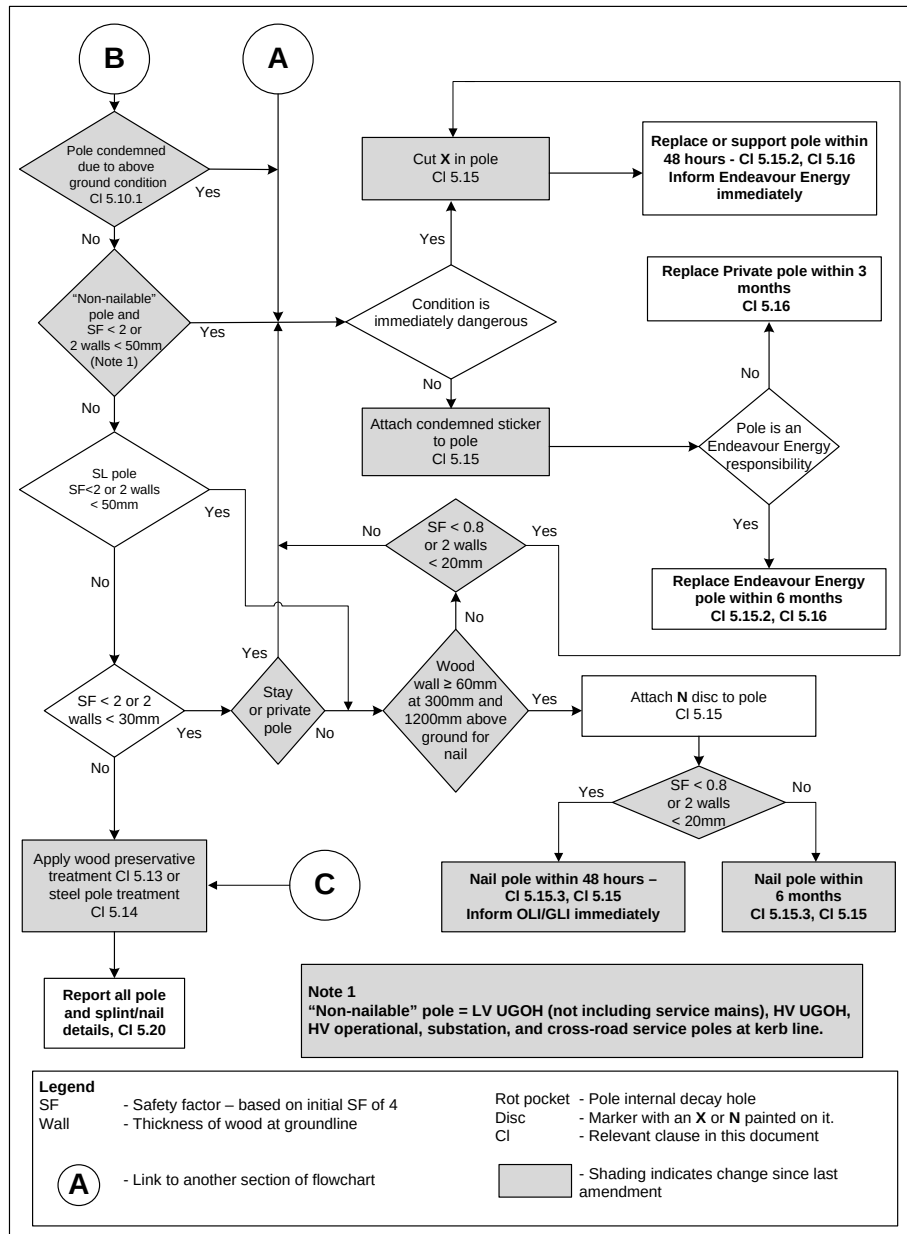


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Annexure 1 – Assessment of Serviceability Flowchart (Figure #2)



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