



Technical Bulletin

TB 0321 – Management of LV Covered/Insulated Services

Purpose

This Technical Bulletin sets out to update, clarify, and consolidate the rectification requirements for vegetation defects for LV covered and insulated services.

The contents of the TB do not apply to the following:

- LV mains
- Bare LV conductors (services or mains)

Background

As Endeavour Energy's defect management systems improve and its understanding of risk matures, the prioritisation and classification of defects (hardware and vegetation) also continues to be amended accordingly.

At present the changes to Endeavour Energy's defect management are focused on allowing more granular defect prioritisation to occur (e.g. removing conservatism previously needed by limitations in reporting capability that no longer exist), as well reducing the priority on managing defects that do not present a risk to customers or the network.

Actions

Vegetation Defects

Vegetation defects associated with LV covered and insulated services shall no longer be classified as *bushfire defects*. For the purposes of our vegetation management program, all LV covered and insulated services across our business will now be treated the same. (Note: the definition of *bushfire prone areas* is not being changed as the result of this TB).

Associated with this, the definition of a "Vegetation Defect" for LV covered and insulated services has changed and shall be as follows:

LV Covered & Insulated Services		
Definition	Defect Management	
	Private Land	Public Land
Vegetation Clearance <0.1m	Track & Monitor (SAP Priority 9)	
Conductor Displaced from Nominal Sag Position by Vegetation Growth	Defect and send letter to customer.	Defect and resolve as part of next routine vegetation cycle in the area.

When vegetation trimming is performed, trimming shall re-establish the LV trimming clearances defined in MMI0013.

LV covered and insulated services (or Endeavour Energy communication cables) in all areas are deemed to be a vegetation defect once the asset is no longer sitting in its designed, or nominal, sag position (via the OLI/GLI program). In addition, if the asset cannot be inspected (for the full length of the service) a vegetation defect is to be raised and either:

- when on public land - the asset cleared of vegetation as part of the next vegetation clearing cycle, after which the defect can be closed, or,
- when on private land - a notification sent to customer requesting the defect be cleared, after which the defect can be closed.

When vegetation defects on such services are raised it shall be made clear if it is due to “service physically moved by vegetation”, “being unable to inspect”, and/or “a potential public safety risk”.

This definition will continue to change and be updated as the organisations understanding and maturity of risk increases, and the internal systems are established to manage an increasing level of granularity.

Impacted standards

The contents of this technical bulletin will be included in the next update of the following standard(s):

- MMI 0013 – Vegetation Clearance Management
- MMI 0034 – Pre-Summer Bushfire Inspection
- SMI 124 – Maintenance Data Entry and Defect Prioritisation