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Private Underground Electrical Connections in the Huon Valley

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Huon Valley Council supports landowners in selecting electricity connection types that best meet their needs. Where there is no impact on current or future public infrastructure, Council has no objection to Private Underground Electrical Connections (PUECs).

It is however critical that underground electrical assets are accurately mapped and discoverable through *Before You Dig Australia* (BYDA). TasNetworks, as Tasmania's electrical authority and administrator of private electrical connections, is best placed to carry out and maintain this registration. Council will only approve proposed electrical assets in road reserves if they are to be registered and accessible through BYDA for the life of the asset.

Background

In October 2024, TasNetworks advised Tasmanian Councils that it will not register the location of PUECs. This creates a significant safety risk for anyone excavating in road reserves and conflicts with Council's commitment to community and worker safety.

Council is aware of existing PUECs within the municipality that may not be discoverable through BYDA. To ensure safety, Council recommends engaging a certified locator before any excavation when it is suspected underground electrical infrastructure is present.

Huon Valley Council's position aligns with other Tasmanian Councils. We are actively working with TasNetworks and other municipalities to advocate for comprehensive mapping of all electrical infrastructure, including existing and proposed PUECs.

In the meantime, alternative connection options are available. For further information, please contact TasNetworks.