

**Department of Justice**  
WORKPLACE STANDARDS TASMANIA

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Dear Sir or Madam

**OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING ACT 2005**  
- Licensing Arrangements for Cable Jointers and Lineworkers

The *Occupational Licensing Act 2005* ("the Act") and the *Occupational Licensing (Electrical Work) Regulations 2008* ("the Regulations") will commence on 19 January 2008. A brochure is enclosed for your reference.

With the commencement of this legislation, there will be a requirement for cable jointers and lineworkers to be licensed to perform their work. Workplace Standards Tasmania (WST) is contacting all known employers of cable jointers and lineworkers, asking them to speak with cable jointers and lineworkers who work for them, and inform them of their obligation to apply for a transitional licence.

**Transitional Licences for Cable Jointers and Lineworkers**

Initially, WST will issue transitional licences to cable jointers and lineworkers who are currently undertaking this work, on the same conditions under which they currently work. After 19 January 2009, persons who do not hold qualifications to undertake cable jointing work, or linework, will have to meet the full eligibility requirements of the new legislation to be licensed and perform this work. The Occupational Licensing (Electrical Work) Determination 2008 sets down the eligibility requirements to obtain a cable jointer or lineworker licence under the Regulations. A copy can be downloaded from the WST website [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au).

Existing cable jointers and lineworkers have until 19 March 2009 to apply for a transitional licence. Application forms will be able to be downloaded from the WST website. Once the application is received, considered and processed, WST will issue a transitional licence that will be valid to a specified date up to a maximum of 12 months. No fee will be required for this transitional licence.

After 19 April 2009, those who have not been issued with a transitional licence and continue to work will be doing so illegally. Employers and contractors who use the services of cable jointers and lineworkers who are not licensed will also be in breach of the legislation.

**Cable Jointer and Lineworker Licences after Transitional Licences have Expired**

Before the transitional licence expires, WST will write to holders of transitional licences, inviting them to finalise their application for a licence by providing further information to support their original application, if necessary, and by paying the application and licence fees. Payment details are outlined in the brochure. Transitional licence holders who wish to continue to undertake this work must ensure they finalise their application before the expiry date of their transitional licence.

For administrative purposes, licences will need to be spread over a three-year licence renewal period, so licences will be issued sequentially for either a one, two or three year term. Licence fees will be proportional to the term. All licence renewals following the issue of the initial full licences will then be for a full three year term.

**FURTHER INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS OF CABLE JOINTERS AND LINEWORKERS**

If you contract to undertake cable jointing work, or linework, you too must now apply for a contractor's licence under the Act and Regulations. You will need to name a nominated manager, be fit and proper, and have the required insurance cover. Application forms will be available from the WST website [www.wst.tas.gov.au/industries/licensing](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/industries/licensing). Payment options are outlined in the brochure.

Under section 98 of the Act, you will also need to maintain a register of the workers who perform cable jointing work and linework on your behalf.

Amongst other matters, the Regulations contain provisions in relation to the recording, notification, certification and inspection of electrical work, which cable jointer and lineworker contractors and practitioners will need to address. Completed copies of certificates of compliance must be given to customers. WST is currently developing new recording/notification/certification forms to meet these new requirements, which are set out in Part 5 of the Regulations. Contractors will be advised when these forms are available. In the meantime, please use the Electrical Installation Notice (EIN) forms, available from the Aurora Electrical Compliance Group, by contacting by phone -

South	6208 7027
North	6324 7671
North-West	6425 6030

Until the new forms are available, to ensure compliance with the Act, please provide a photocopy of all completed EIN forms issued by you, to your customers.

Persons who inspect, erect and stake poles and associated structures, and persons who undertake work that involves the inspection and erection of towers, will not be required to be licensed to undertake this work. However, as this work is still subject to the requirements of the Act and Regulations, contractors who control the contract for this work will be required to hold an electrical contractor's licence, name a nominated manager, be fit and proper, and have the required insurance cover.

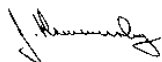
In future, it is proposed to develop skills maintenance and continuing professional development requirements for practitioners to hold, and continue to hold, a licence under the Act, and to develop the processes for issuing infringement notices and demerit points.

Draft copies of the electrical regulatory documents are still on the WST internet [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au). Final copies of these documents will be published on the WST website as from 19 January 2009, or sooner if they become available. Please check these documents to see how they apply to you.

WST plans to hold information meetings in the south, north and north-west of the State, in March 2009, to explain the new legislation. You will be advised when firm dates have been set.

If you require further information, please contact the WST Helpline on 1300 366 322 (within Tasmania), or (03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania). You may also email [wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



John Hammersley  
**Manager – Occupational Licensing**

Encl. Brochure