



## OPERATIONAL SERVICES

28 September 2007

**SAFETY CIRCULAR No: 16 / 2007**

**File 00924**

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Each officer in charge is to read this circular to all station personnel and discuss. Then sign the appropriate box above to confirm that this has been completed.

### POWER POLE SUPPORT WIRES

Some electrical distribution systems require the use of support structures to ensure the stability of the power poles. Typically this involves the use of an anchored wire rope (guy wire) to provide tension to the power pole itself.

It has been noted that in some locations this support structure is established over the property boundary where firebreaks are located.

These guy wires have the potential to impede vehicles, appliances and machinery engaged in bush fire fighting. The structures may also prove difficult to be seen by drivers in dusty, smoky or night time conditions. The guy wires may also be obscured by trees and scrub.

Emergency Services personnel are required to be alert to the potential of such support structures, particularly when power lines are adjacent to fencelines, property boundaries or firebreaks. Please refer to the photos included in this notice.

If such structures are observed at an incident, demarcation tape or some other form of high visibility indicator should be used to indicate the hazard.

FESA will be negotiating with relevant agencies to assess what long term solutions can be sought to mitigate such hazards.



If the faxed image is unclear contact your regional office.



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**CRAIG HYNES**  
**CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER**

<b>A</b>	All brigades/units/roles
<b>AR</b>	All Regions
<b>LG</b>	Local Governments
While this document is specifically targeted at the above areas, all Brigades and Units should be aware of the information contained within.	