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WORKING NEAR GAS MAINS IN NEW ESTATES

Dear Developer,

To ensure a safe work site Jemena reminds all contractors are to report to the Principle Contractor regarding site safety and worksite's status inclusive of utilities infrastructure.

Additionally, Jemena reminds all Contractors that:

- All gas mains in New Estates must be treated as live gas mains;
- All contractors working within new estates must have Before You Dig Australia (BYDA) information prior to any work commencing;
- Jemena expects all contractors working in and around its Assets to carry out a risk assessment before work commences;
- Jemena expects all contractors to have SWMS to ensure safe work practices are in place when working near its Assets.

If any contractors are in doubt of their requirements or have any issues, they should contact Jemena on 131 909 for assistance. This number can also be used to request a temporary isolation of a gas main to provide a safe work site.

Jemena would like to enforce that there are risks associated with working near gas mains and contractors have a responsibility to ensure that they adequately address these risks through their risk assessments and safe work method statements.

Kind regards,

New Estates

WHAT IS A SHARED TRENCH?

A single service trench to accommodate two or more underground services.

WHERE CAN SHARED TRENCHING TAKE PLACE?

Any public or private lands, i.e. primarily new estate developments and redevelopment areas.

WHO ARE THE PARTICIPANTS?

The Developer (Builder) – The person, party or corporation requiring services throughout a subdivision or development.
The Contractor – The person, party or corporation employed by the Developer to carry out all works for the provision of the Shared Trench.
The Utilities – Jemena Gas Networks (NSW) Ltd.
The Electrical Network Provider – The Telecommunication Provider.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEVELOPER?

Specify within relevant contract documentation the provision of a Shared Trench for use by the Utilities. Co-ordinate and ensure uniform agreement on:

- Scope of works;
- Staging of the Shared Trench;
- Availability of Utility resource
- Relevant responsibilities of all parties;
- Contact Officers and numbers;
- Construction documentation.

Confirm requirements of the Utilities to enable total servicing of the estate, including trenching of both shared and exclusive format, commissioning and associated work.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTRACTOR?

Program and co-ordinate the activities of all parties involved in the Shared Trench to ensure efficient use of time and resources.

Monitor progress of works to ensure manageable portions of trench are scheduled for use by the Utilities. Provide

all necessary survey works to allow correct set out of plant and equipment. Monitor quality to enable Utilities standards and specifications to be met. Excavate all trenches to a depth, width and on alignment as specified by the Utilities. Provide all specified bedding and backfill materials with suitable compaction and trench consolidation to meet relevant Authority and Utility specifications.

Provide excavation and backfilling operations to allow for the successful commissioning of the Utilities respective services.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UTILITIES?

Where a Utility retains design function, provide detailed design and relevant documentation to enable correct set out of plant. Where a Utility retains construction function, commit adequate resources and perform within agreed time frames.

Monitor quality relating to Shared Trench specifications. Where applicable supply all materials, install and commission their respective plant.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Reduction of land servicing costs;
- Better utilisation of verges;
- Minimisation of environmental damage;
- Reduced damage to services plant during installation;
- Rationalised construction processes;
- Services more easily located for future access;
- Fully services estates at land servicing stage.