

# G U I D E L I N E S

## For Builders Supply Poles

The 2005 version of the Victorian Service and Installation Rules (SIRs) were published and implemented on 1 September 2005, following consultation with the key stakeholders within the electrical industry.

Following many requests from electrical industry participants concerning the status of Builders Supply Poles (BSPs), Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) has produced these guidelines for Registered Electrical Contractors, Licensed Electrical Inspectors and the suppliers of the BSPs to assist in the provision of the electricity supplies to construction sites.

For the electrical supply to be connected to the BSP electrical installation, it is essential that negotiations with the individual electricity Distribution Companies (DBs) are undertaken prior to commencement of any construction or site works. These negotiations should establish the availability of electricity supply and location of the nearest appropriate connection point together with discussing the connection of the permanent supply as soon as practicable.

These requirements are outlined in the current SIRs, including whether the electricity supply is required to be installed overhead or underground.

If it is not possible for a builders electricity supply to be installed in the permanent position, the use of a BSP could be considered.

**It should be noted that BSPs cannot be installed in high bushfire risk areas.**

The DBs must be consulted for advice on the fire hazard categories of the areas.

It is also a responsibility of the REC to negotiate a suitable location for the BSP, when the supply cannot be installed and connected in the permanent position, that considers the site requirements and usage.

Where a BSP is installed, compliance with the mandatory safety requirements of AS/NZS 3000:2000, (Wiring Rules) and AS/NZS 3012:2003, (Construction and Demolition sites) is necessary.

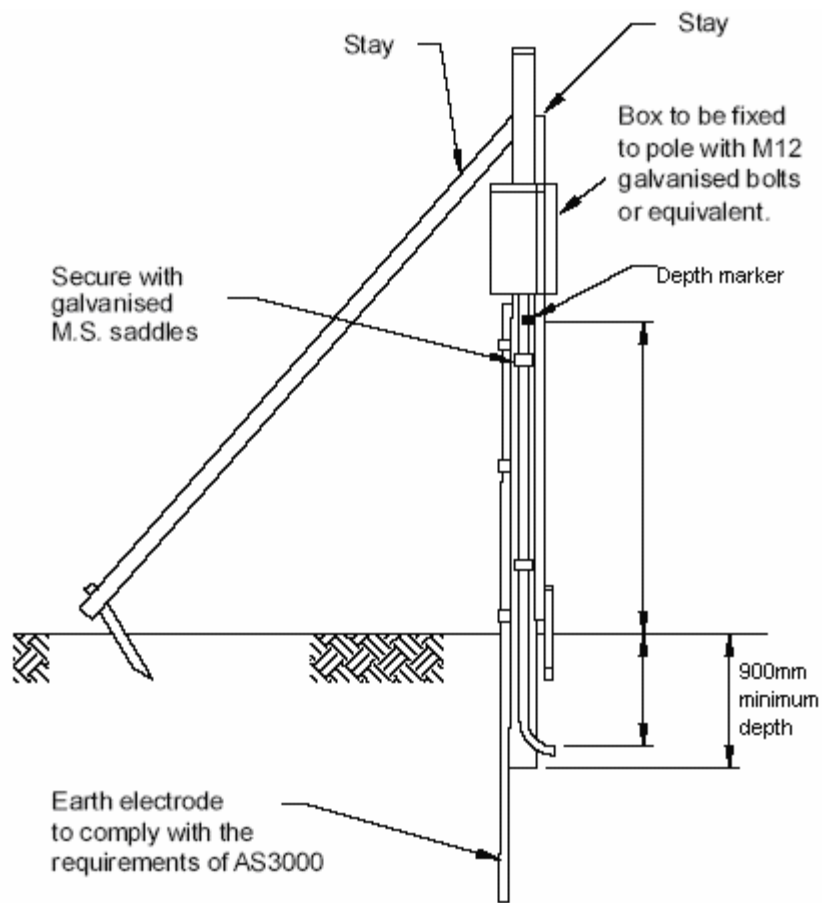
Additionally, the notes section outlines further guidance on the requirements that may not be as clear within the figures.

An **example** of a typical installation of the BSP is provided that shows the requirements for underground connection in figure 1. The pole, support and overhead connection requirements are shown in figures 2 and 3.

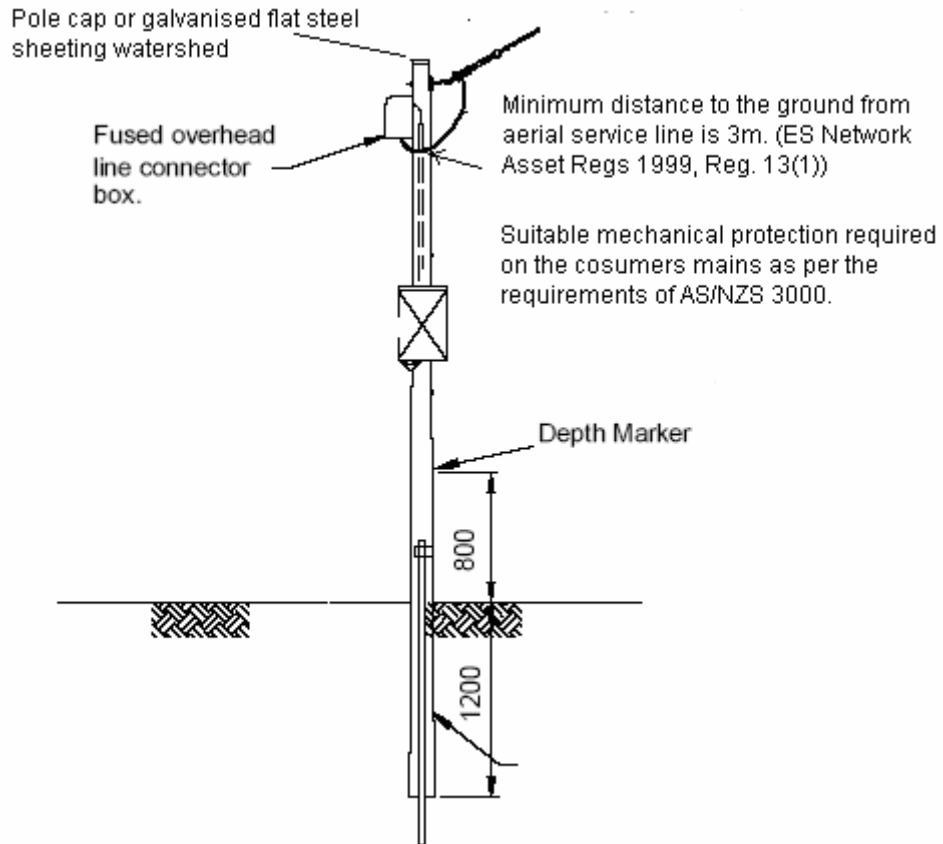
Additional notes are included with the diagrams for further guidance.

**Notes:**

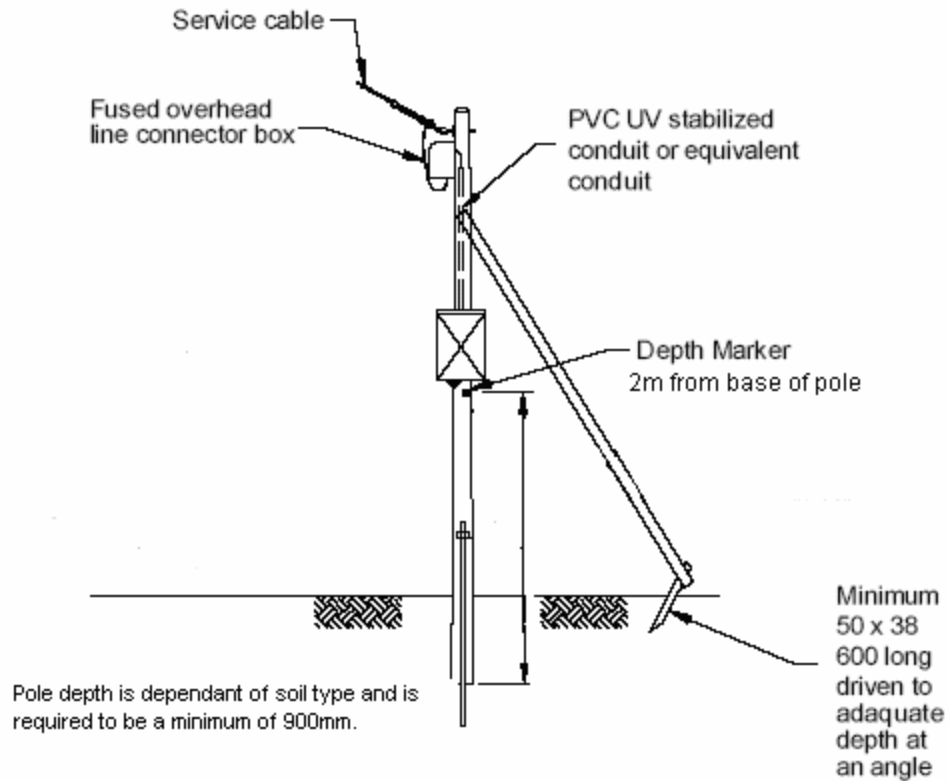
1. Minimum pole size in accordance with AS/NZS 3000, but shall not be less than 150mm for full length preservative treated poles and not be less than 125mm for hardwood poles, with durability of class 1 and strength grade of S3 or better.
2. A minimum of two (2) stays to be a minimum of 75mm x 38mm, 3000mm long and secured to the pole and pegs using a minimum of 2 galvanized coach screws of adequate size at each fixing point.
3. A depth marker consisting of a saw cut (minimum length of 100mm), filled by a row of at least three galvanized nails shall be made on the pole at a distance of 2000mm from the base of the pole.
4. Excavated soil **MUST** be compacted around pole in 100mm layers and thoroughly tamped.
5. Main Switch to be no higher than 2metres.
6. If poles are longer than the figures shown, then additional depth will be required proportional to the additional length above the ground.
7. Pole caps required on all poles.
8. The size of the Consumers mains to be accordance with the Acts, Regulations, Wiring Rules and the prospective fault current as nominated by the Distribution Company.



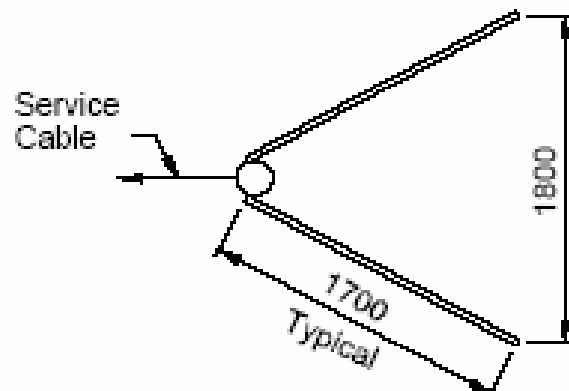
**Figure 1 – Typical underground supply to BSP**



**Figure 2 – Typical overhead supply for a 5 metre pole**



**Figure 3 – Typical overhead supply with stays for a 5 metre pole**



**Figure 4 – Typical pole support plan. Stays are to be installed in tension, which is the opposite side of the pole to the pull of the service.**