



ASHFIELD PROJECT

Information Newsletter



January 2012

The Underground Power Program in Ashfield is a partnership between the Government of Western Australia (through the Office of Energy), Western Power and the Town of Bassendean, to improve residential amenity and security of power supply.

The works to underground the power supply to the areas of Ashfield shown on the attached map will commence in February 2012. As shown on the map, the work will proceed continuously through the project area to minimise the impact on occupiers and enable the re-instatement of verges and property as quickly as possible. The anticipated timetable for each stage of the work is shown in the table below.

Information about the Project

There will be a series of **Advices** delivered to each property as the various stages of the work commence. Each **Advice** will have information about the work and the contractor's phone number so queries can be dealt with quickly. In addition to this **Newsletter**, there will be updates in the Bassendean Briefings and a **Changeover Newsletter** delivered to all Property Owners and Occupiers shortly before Changeovers take place with details of changeover, street light installation and demolition of the existing overhead system. It is important that you read the information provided to understand how the work will be done and who to contact if you have any queries about the work.

Property Service Installation

A new underground cable will be installed from the front boundary to the meter box of each property that presently has an overhead connection. A **Property Service Installation Advice** will be delivered to the property a few days beforehand and the work should only take a day or two. The cable is installed using underground drilling technology to minimise the impact on front gardens. It usually runs from where the Connection Pillar is to be installed, to the nearest point of the building, up in the cavity or externally to the roof space, across the ceiling, then down to the rear of the meter panel. Both ends of the cable remain unconnected until Changeover takes place.

Street Services Installation

Power cables will be installed under the verge in each street using directional drilling to minimise any impact. A number of holes are necessary for the drilling process, cable jointing and the connection of Pillars to the system. Ground mounted Transformers and Switchgear units are generally located in park areas or side verges and consultation with affected property owners on the locations has occurred. Most Street Services work, including verge re-instatements, should be completed within 14 days, however work may take longer near equipment cabinets or on street corners. Occupiers will be advised of any restrictions on access to their properties or any necessary street closures. A **Street Services Installation Advice** will be delivered to the property a few days before this work commences.

Connection Pillars

These will be either a green mini pillar or a slightly larger universal pillar and they are installed as part of the Street Services work. Each Connection Pillar must be located just inside the front boundary of private property, usually in a front corner, and in every second property wherever possible so it can serve two properties. The locations of all the Connection Pillars are the most appropriate in terms of the existing infrastructure and ease of installation of the Property Service.

Around 10% of the Connection Pillars are universal pillars and these are larger because they contain circuit control equipment. The system designers have determined their locations as they are essential for the management of the circuitry in the area.

Completion of Cable Installation Work

After the cable installation work has been completed, a **Completion Advice (Cable Installation)** will be delivered to each property. It will confirm that the work is complete in and around the property and, as the contractor may not always be aware that damage has occurred, will ask occupiers to check their reticulation systems and the area around the work and advise the relevant contractor of any repairs needed.

Re-instatements and Repairs

These works are a major civil project and even with the non-invasive methods used, some verge and front garden disruption will occur. To assist the process, all verges and work areas will be videoed before work commences.

Property Owners/Occupiers should direct any requests to the relevant contractor, as they are responsible for all re-instatements and repairs and have all the appropriate resources. The various **Advices** delivered during the project will contain the contractor's contact details. Property Owners/Occupiers can always contact Western Power or the Town of Bassendean on the numbers listed below if they are not satisfied with the contractor's response.

Property Owners/Occupiers will not be reimbursed for work done by any other party to reinstate or repair damage caused by the contractor during the work without the contractor's prior authorisation. Property Owners/Occupiers are encouraged to carry out minor re-instatements or repairs if they wish, provided no reimbursement is sought. The contractors reserve the right to charge for time taken to investigate complaints that are subsequently shown to be clearly unrelated to the underground power work.

Streetlights

The new lights are generally located one metre from the edge of the roadway, are more closely spaced and where possible, are placed on the extensions of side boundaries and alternated to both sides of the road. Their locations are often very different to the old lights as the layout is designed to conform as closely as possible to the relevant Australian Standard. Queries relating to streetlight positions should be directed to the Town of Bassendean. Most of the new lights will be erected and switched on in stages as the new circuits are energised, however some lights which may conflict with the old overhead system will not be erected and switched on until it is demolished.

Changeovers

Once the Property and Street Services installations in each area have been completed and energised, Changeover from the existing overhead to the new underground system will take place. Changeovers should start in April 2012 and occupiers will receive a **Changeover Advice** a few days beforehand that details the process.

Overhead Demolition

This will take place after all properties served by an overhead circuit have been changed over.

There are no transmission lines in the Ashfield project area. All overhead wires and poles will be removed.

Anticipated Timetable

The work will commence in the area of Ashfield Reserve and proceed through the Project area in the direction shown on the map.

WORK STAGE	TIMING
Location of Existing Services	<i>February 2012 to August 2012</i>
Property Service Installation	<i>February 2012 to July 2012</i>
Street Services Installation	<i>February 2012 to September 2012</i>
Street Light Installation	<i>April 2012 to January 2013</i>
Testing and Commissioning	<i>April 2012 to December 2012</i>
Changeover to Underground	<i>April 2012 to January 2013</i>
Remove Overhead & Finish Lights	<i>June 2012 to January 2013</i>
Final Inspection for Completion	<i>January 2013</i>

The above dates are indicative only and intended as a guide to when the various work stages will occur. Technical constraints may require changes to some dates as the project proceeds and you will be advised of these if necessary.

Contact Details

Should you have any queries about the Ashfield Underground Power project please call

Western Power – Tony Moore or Stephen Phelan-Hollatz 9219 2004

Email - underground.power.program@westernpower.com.au

Web westernpower.com.au , go to Network Projects, Underground Power

Town of Bassendean – Nicole Baxter - 9377 9025

Conclusion

This project will greatly improve the overall amenity of the area and bring significant benefits in terms of safety, security and continuity of supply. We assure you of our commitment to carry out the work with as little impact on property and occupiers as possible, and ask for your cooperation and tolerance.

PLEASE RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER UNTIL THE WORKS ARE COMPLETE

