

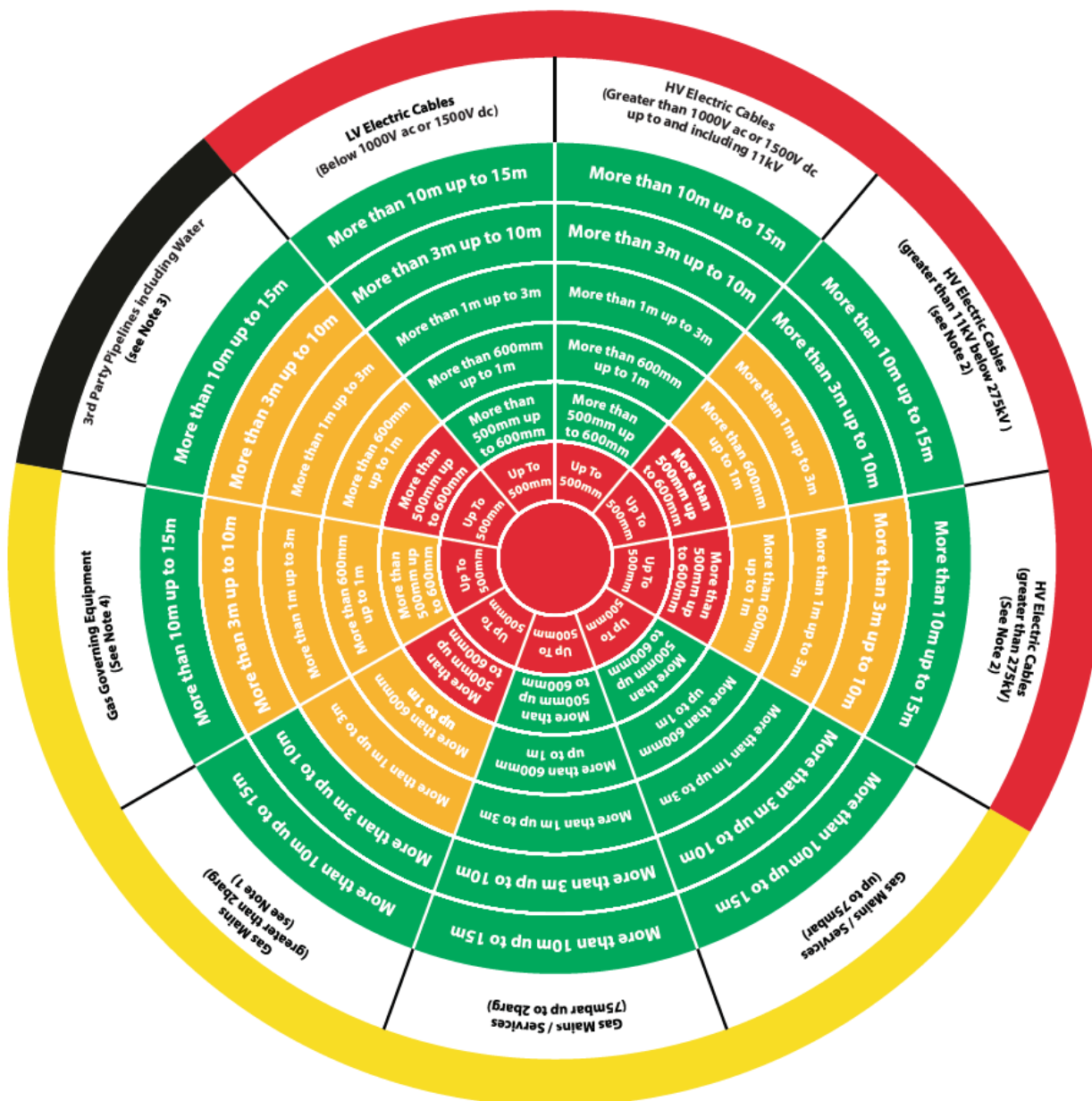


# Best Practice in Avoiding Underground Services



## MECHANICAL EXCAVATION UTILITY AVOIDANCE WHEEL

<b>Not Permitted</b> Hand dig Only	Contact Asset Owner, obtain requirements to develop a safe system of work	Proceed Using Safe Digging Practices
or consider the use of Vacuum Excavation		



- When excavating within 3m - contact shall be made with the Asset Owner/Representative responsible for the operation and maintenance of the asset in order to obtain their specific requirements to develop the Safe System of Work (SSoW), and where necessary arrange for their attendance on site.
- Where HV cables above 11 kV are present - contact shall be made with the Asset Owner/Representative in order to obtain detailed drawings and agree the SSoW to be adopted. Mechanical excavators shall not be used within 3m of HV cables above 11 kV until consultation with the Asset Owner/Representative has taken place to obtain their specific requirements to develop a SSoW and recorded on a Permit to Work (PTW).  
Distribution electrical networks: 33kV and under. Transmission electrical networks: Equal to or greater than 132Kv Where Distribution electrical networks: 33kV and under and Transmission electrical networks: Equal to or greater than 132Kv contact shall be made with the Asset owner/Representative in order to obtain their specific requirements to develop the SSoW and is to be recorded on a PTW.
- Contact shall be made with the Asset owner/Representative in order to obtain their specific requirements to develop the SSoW and is to be recorded on a PTW.
- When excavating within 10m of pressure regulating equipment or gas storage facilities contact shall be made with the Asset Owner/Representative for the operation and maintenance of governing equipment to obtain their specific requirements to develop the SSoW and where necessary arrange for attendance/representation on site and recorded on a PTW.

**Footnote:** Mechanical tools include mechanically operated, hand-tools such as compressed-air and electrical "breakers", "half-guns" etc. as well as larger plant. Wayleaves and easement distances may be greater - Contact asset owner.

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