

Policy Reference Number:	1.38
Classification:	General
Last Reviewed:	February 2023 (187/2023)
Next Review Date:	February 2027
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
Approved By:	Council Resolution
Applicable Legislation:	
Relevant Policies, Procedures and Standards:	

### 1. OBJECTIVE

To provide guidelines for the assessment of requests for the undergrounding of power lines in accordance with the Power Lines Environment Committee guidelines.

### 2. BACKGROUND

The State Government has established a Power Lines Environment Committee (PLEC) which considers applications for undergrounding power line projects. This committee has adopted a set of guidelines and the PLEC guidelines are specific in setting out what projects will and will not get PLEC support.

Section 8 General Principles for Setting Priorities. Pages 22 and 23.

*In assessing whether or not an application should receive funding, PLEC will take into consideration the following in its assessment of the project;*

- *The size and characteristics of the community likely to benefit from the project,*
- *The significance of the area, or route, such as tourism, heritage or its symbolic value (e.g. gateway),*
- *Other significant factors such as recognition of a greater safety priority, the proximity to previous PLEC projects or if it is part of a staged development.*

*Implementation of Councils street scaping proposals on previously funded projects will also be a factor in determining priority and consideration of funding applications for PLEC.*

*The following illustrates the types of projects that will be considered for funding;*

- *Routes of high traffic volumes (major arterial roads),*
- *Areas of high tourism, heritage or amenity value,*
- *Routes of high symbolic value (e.g. gateway routes)*
- *Areas of concentrations of people (e.g. shopping centres, recreation areas, foreshore and coastal recreation areas)*
- *Major through routes in towns.*

*PLEC funding for normal residential street will not be considered, however some residential areas may be an unavoidable component of a scheme.*

### **3. POLICY PROVISIONS**

Council will assess requests for the undergrounding of power lines that meet the PLEC guidelines.

Page 33 of the PLEC Guidelines details how the PLEC projects will be financed with Council being responsible for;

- 1/3 of the undergrounding costs
- 1/3 of the registration of easement costs
- 1/3 of the customer service alterations (connections to the service)
- All of the street scaping costs
- All costs associated with consulting the community.
- If council are unable to fund its third of the cost the community may contribute to the councils cost

If Council were to consider a non PLEC undergrounding power line project it is Councils policy that all costs of the project will be met by the property owners who benefit from the project.

Council will consult with those involved regarding street scaping plans.

Council can opt out of the proposed project at any time.

### **4. FURTHER INFORMATION**

This policy will be available for inspection at the Council offices listed below during ordinary business hours and available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's internet site: [www.robe.sa.gov.au](http://www.robe.sa.gov.au)

Royal Circus, Robe SA 5276

Copies will be provided to interested parties upon request. Email [council@robe.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@robe.sa.gov.au)

Any grievances in relation to this policy or its application should be forwarded in writing addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of Council.

### **5. POLICY REVIEW**

This policy may be amended at any time and must be reviewed at least every four years since its adoption (or latest amendment).