

Guideline on removing/shifting of electrical poles/lines

1. Background

In accordance with Item 3, Schedule 1 of Sri Lanka Electricity Act No. 20 of 2009 (SLEA) and in accordance with Section 17 of the Sri Lanka Electricity (amendment) Act No. 31 of 2013 SLEA (Amendment), the Licensees, Ceylon Electricity Board and Lanka Electricity Company (Pvt.) Ltd require to obtain wayleave from any land owner to install or keep installed any electrical line¹/pole.

Further, in accordance with Item 5, Schedule 1 of the above Act, the land owners can request the Licensees to remove/shift the electrical pole/line installed in his/her land. Accordingly, any land owner can;

- a. request to remove/shift any electrical pole/line for which wayleave is granted by him/her
- b. request to remove/shift any electrical pole/line for which wayleave is not granted by him/her
- c. request to remove/shift any electrical pole/line for which wayleave granted is expired, terminated or changed in the ownership of the land

2. Request to remove/shift any electrical pole/line for which wayleave is granted

On receipt of a written request from any land owner;

- a) the licensee shall produce documentary proof of the granting of wayleave by such land owner.
- b) licensee shall provide a detailed cost estimate to such land owner within 7 working days of making such a request.
- c) licensee shall remove/shift the electrical pole/line within 10 working days from the date of payment made by such land owner.
- d) if any objection is received in executing the removal/shifting of the electrical pole/line the Licensee shall request the respective Divisional Secretary to grant authority in accordance with Section 17 of the SLEA (Amendment).
- e) licensee shall remove/shift the electrical pole/line as authorized by the respective Divisional Secretary.

3. Request to remove/shift any electrical pole/line for which wayleave is not granted/ expired/ terminated/changed in the ownership

On receipt of a written request from any land owner;

- a) licensee shall make every reasonable effort to obtain/secure wayleave from such land owner to install or keep installed an electric line/pole on his/her land;
- b) In the event that all reasonable efforts made to secure wayleave have been unsuccessful, the licensee shall make an application to the respective Divisional Secretary requiring authority to keep installed the electric line/pole. The licensee shall specify the efforts made to secure the wayleave.

¹ 33kV,33kV/LV combine lines, 11kV, 11kV/LV combine lines and LV lines

- c) Within six (6) weeks of the application, upon holding an inquiry after giving an opportunity to the owner of the land, the Divisional Secretary:
 - I. may authorize the licensee, either unconditionally or subject to terms, conditions and stipulations as Divisional Secretary considers appropriate, to keep installed the electric line;
 - II. may prohibit the licensee from keeping installed the electric line; or
 - III. may recommend the licensee to remove or shift such electrical line or pole
- d) If the Divisional Secretary authorizes the licensee to remove or shift such electrical line or pole, the licensee shall comply with such authorization. The Licensees can submit the cost of such removal/shifting of the electricity pole/line through OPEX/CAPEX program to the Commission to recover the same from electricity tariff on a reimbursement basis only up to a maximum of five hundred thousand rupees (Rs. 500,000/=) for each case.