

ELECTRICAL SAFETY PLAN FOR QUEENSLAND 2023–2027

 **VISION** ➔ Prevention of death, injury and destruction of property caused by electricity.

PURPOSE

Lead and enable all aspects of electrical safety in Queensland, as technology, workforce, skills and community expectations change.

ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Policy and legislative advice
- ▶ Safety leadership
- ▶ Stakeholder engagement
- ▶ Community expectations
- ▶ Promotion and awareness of electrical safety

VALUES

- ▶ Trusted leaders in the electrical industry
- ▶ Strong electrical collaborators
- ▶ Innovative, change and transition facilitators
- ▶ Proactive and responsive



STRATEGIC LEVERS



SAFETY LEADERSHIP & PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ Drive safety leadership practices and improve the safety culture at all levels of industry and workplaces
- ▶ Collaboration of stakeholders to understand issues and risks



EMERGING & EXISTING TECHNOLOGY

- ▶ Research and understand emerging and existing technologies and potential impacts on electrical safety
- ▶ Monitor and review the Global Supply chain of electrical equipment to ensure safety and compliance



WORKFORCE COMPETENCE

- ▶ Improve workforce skills and competencies to respond to existing and emerging risks



COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER EDUCATION

- ▶ Inform and educate the community of electrical risks.



EFFECTIVE REGULATION

- ▶ Align regulatory framework with community and industry change

5-YEAR KEY OUTCOMES



- ▶ Electrical industry committed to safety leadership at all levels
- ▶ Matching technical focus with a safety focus
- ▶ An industry leader on electrical safety impacts of emerging technologies
- ▶ New skills aligning with emerging technologies
- ▶ Raise industry competencies and continuous professional development
- ▶ Effective national Electrical Equipment Safety System
- ▶ Improvement in design and standards to advance supply of safe equipment
- ▶ Empower and educate the community and industry stakeholders on the awareness of electrical risks
- ▶ Future proof legislative framework to eliminate electrical safety risks.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

REDUCTION OF WORKPLACE:

- ▶ Fatalities
- ▶ Serious electrical incidents and dangerous electrical events
- ▶ Electricity related hospital admissions

REDUCTION OF COMMUNITY:

- ▶ Fires
- ▶ Fatalities
- ▶ Serious electrical incidents and dangerous electrical events
- ▶ Electricity related hospital admissions

INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT AND SAFETY LEADERSHIP

- ▶ Positive electrical safety workplace culture
- ▶ Voluntary reporting/engagement
- ▶ Electrical safety leadership engagement
- ▶ New skill development in response to emerging technologies

COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Enhanced awareness of electrical safety risks within the community
- ▶ Increase engagement with industry and community stakeholders
- ▶ An increase in electrical safety switches installed on all circuits within existing dwellings
- ▶ Increase in subscribers to Electrical eSAFE

STRATEGIC RISKS

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

- ▶ Unknown impact of new technologies on electrical safety
- ▶ Ensuring legislation keeps pace with community and industry change

ECONOMIC

- ▶ Economic impact on business and community
- ▶ Cost pressures on safety practices

ENGAGEMENT

- ▶ Ineffective engagement with industry and the community

CAPABILITY

- ▶ Limited Electrical Safety Board and committee resources
- ▶ Lack of access to data or information to accurately access and trend industry safety issues
- ▶ Industry not meeting competency requirements
- ▶ Training delivery not meeting demands



Safety leadership & partnerships

Goals – where we want to be

- ▶ Cultural change driven through visible safety leadership and sector networking
- ▶ Empower Industry leaders, workers and community to take the lead in driving change
- ▶ Electrical safety integrated in all parts of any business
- ▶ Electrical safety risks eliminated by innovation, design and higher order controls
- ▶ Research, data and insights are utilized to guide the board, regulator and industry in shaping future directions

Strategies – what we will focus on

- ▶ Forums for industry collaboration and partnership
- ▶ Worker/community education and awareness programs (for empowerment and cultural change)
- ▶ Electrical Safety Week expansion and active participation from industry and community stakeholders
- ▶ Analysing data to provide insight and guidance on priorities in the continually evolving landscape of electrical safety

Key deliverables – driving our success*

- ▶ Strengthen and develop local industry networks / relationships across regional Queensland
- ▶ Partner with industry and the broader community to promote electrical safety
- ▶ Collaborate with other agencies and industry bodies to obtain and understand specific data
- ▶ Lead round table discussions to build and strengthen relationships with Industry and community stakeholders



Emerging & existing technology

- ▶ Embracing new and emerging technology with a clear understanding of associated risks
- ▶ Safe generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity including the integration of renewables
- ▶ People living and working safely around electricity
- ▶ Industry and the regulator to gain a deeper understanding of emerging technologies and their potential impacts on electrical safety
- ▶ Increased community management of electrical safety risks
- ▶ Safe electrical equipment supplied to market, through both traditional and non-traditional channels
- ▶ Improved standards for equipment safety, emerging technologies product assurance and procurement
- ▶ Electrical safety outcomes driven by commercial relationships within supply chains

- ▶ Renewable/smart technologies
- ▶ Safe outcomes from existing technologies
- ▶ Consumer-level education for personal accountability of electrical risks
- ▶ Electrical safety of vulnerable people in the home
- ▶ Industry-level education through continuing professional development, including EESS
- ▶ Ageing technology interface with new technology
- ▶ Designer/installer education of supply chain risks and legislative framework

- ▶ Provide industry data on potential impacts of renewable/smart technologies to identify risks and hazards
- ▶ Contribute to awareness and engagement strategies around vulnerable people, that are personalised and tailored to local community needs
- ▶ Collaborate with stakeholders in the renewable/energy market to continually ensure the infrastructure is electrical safe



Workforce competence

- ▶ A culture of continual learning and development is instilled across the electrical industry
- ▶ Electrical contractors, PCBU's and workers perform electrical work safely and competently
- ▶ Electrical safety risks are effectively controlled in all workplaces
- ▶ Support industry to manage electrical risks of current and emerging technologies with training packages and relevant programs
- ▶ Advice and information to support compliance
- ▶ A robust electrical licensing framework that reflects, competency, safety, compliance, and community expectations

- ▶ Working safely near overhead and underground powerlines
- ▶ Working safely near energised equipment
- ▶ Education to support compliance with electrical work
- ▶ Continuous Professional Development (CPD) program
- ▶ Supporting industry in the verification of competence in the workplace
- ▶ Protecting the integrity of electrical trade (Unlicensed work)
- ▶ Develop industry guidance materials on new and emerging technologies and consult with relevant industry bodies
- ▶ Electrical worker licence holder - licensing renewal assessments
- ▶ Develop a targeted program for PCBU and workers to ensure isolating upstream prior to working on or near energise equipment

- ▶ Review and provide input into an Electrical licensing renewal assessment including the delivery method for electrical licensing
- ▶ Provide industry input into the design and delivery of the CPD program
- ▶ Ensure that skills, knowledge, and training for licence holders meets community and industry expectation
- ▶ Industry understands the importance of competence and what is required
- ▶ Identifying gaps in units of competency and skill sets required by the electrical industry to provide valuable input into future development of workforce competence, to better respond to existing and emerging risks
- ▶ Embedded training and skills to ensure effective isolation and energisation of electrical equipment



Community & stakeholder education

- ▶ Increased community awareness of electrical safety risks
- ▶ Education and support available to electrical stakeholders on electrical safety issues
- ▶ Empowered industry stakeholders and community to embrace a strong safety culture
- ▶ Community educators aware of electrical risks in homes, work and their community
- ▶ Staying abreast of evolving strategies for education and information sharing

- ▶ Production of videos for Industry and the community to access
- ▶ Implementation of round tables and forums of key Industry and community stakeholders
- ▶ Electrical Safety Week expansion and active participation from the Industry and community stakeholders
- ▶ Community awareness of electrical work is licensed work (DDIY)
- ▶ Education and awareness of the changes to electrical legislation
- ▶ Being visible across industry and the community
- ▶ Ensure the community and Industry understand the importance of installing and testing safety switches
- ▶ Community awareness of electrical appliance safety and the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM)
- ▶ Safety education near overhead and underground powerlines
- ▶ Collaboration of electrical safety issues with stakeholders
- ▶ Public awareness campaigns promoting electrical safety
- ▶ Implementation of an Electrical Safety Ambassador/s (champion)

- ▶ Engage with industry and stakeholders on ways to educate and engage with Community and Industry
- ▶ Collaboration with the Electrical Safety Ambassador on current issues and campaigns
- ▶ Co-design a range of suggested resources/forums to educate the community and industry on electrical safety issues
- ▶ Enhanced collaboration with Councils to promote electrical safety in their communities
- ▶ Increase visibility of the Board and Committees within Industry and the community
- ▶ Connect and engage with First Nations communities around electrical safety, electrical apprenticeships, and communication
- ▶ Engage with diverse communities around electrical safety, electrical apprenticeships, and communication



Effective regulation

- ▶ Legislative framework fit for purpose and contemporary in the face of technology and environmental change
- ▶ Strong community confidence in the electrical safety regulatory system
- ▶ Robust data to better understand key issues in electrical safety
- ▶ Evidence-based regulatory interventions, proportionate to risk and minimised regulatory burden

- ▶ Review of electrical safety legislation
- ▶ Education and awareness of the changes to electrical legislation across the state.
- ▶ Data sharing
- ▶ Industry co-regulation
- ▶ Stakeholders actively engaged in the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs and interventions

- ▶ Monitor and review electrical safety legislation and the relevant Code of Practice/s and provide advice of changes and amendments when required
- ▶ Industry stakeholders are aware of changes to electrical safety legislation
- ▶ Review the plan annually to ensure the deliverables are being met and the plan's strategies are still relevant

* to be reviewed annually