

OVERHEAD POWERLINE TECHNICIAN



Do you want to work as part of an exciting, challenging, and essential service that actively encourages women to participate and provides the following opportunities?

- develop unique skills
- every day will be different
- advance your career
- negotiate flexible hours
- take on new challenges and get out of your comfort zone
- potential to make a substantial income

OVERVIEW OF INDUSTRY

The Energy and Electrotechnology industry in Australia includes design, commissioning, installation, testing, fault-finding, servicing, maintenance, assembly and repair of electrical, electronic, computer or climate change equipment, systems, networks and components. It extends across many industry sectors such as industrial, mining, energy, renewables, domestic, commercial, construction, data, communications, fire protection, security, manufacturing, lifts, maritime, as well as power generation, transmission distribution and rail and more. New innovative technologies, automated and programmable control systems, digitisation, and information technology systems and equipment are reshaping the Energy & Electrotechnology industry, and it has become one of the most exciting cutting-edge and rewarding career choices in Australia.

WHAT DOES A POWER LINE TECHNICIAN DO

An Overhead Power Line Technician installs, repairs and maintains overhead power lines and cables transmitting and distributing electricity to domestic, commercial, industrial users and electric train and tram services. Power lines and towers are often 40 feet or higher so you could be spending most of your time working outdoors and at heights.

Technicians are required to work during break downs and in emergency situations to restore power and reduce risk to the public. This job can be physically challenging so you will need to enjoy maintaining a high level of fitness and special awareness. In addition to climbing heights a technician will be required to operate a range of machinery and equipment to assist with the installation and maintenance of power lines.

“I love working as a power line technician because it is exciting, challenging, well paid, I can work outdoors and I contribute to the safety of my community”

For further information or advise contact

www.uensw.au



OVERHEAD POWERLINE TECHNICIAN

Selection Criteria:

The following criteria needs to be demonstrated -

- *Well-developed communication and people skills
- *Effective English and maths skills
- *Ability to solve problems in a calm manner
- *Ability to work in a team or independently
- *Ability to distinguish between colours
- *Positive attitude, punctual, acceptable presentation
- *Physically fit and not afraid of heights, confined spaces, or working around machinery
- *Practical skills for installing, repairing, and maintaining equipment
- *Understanding of, or interest in regulatory requirements.

TASKS YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO DO

- *instal conductors, aerial equipment, and underground cables
- *instal and maintain equipment associated with electrical supply
- *attend to electrical breakdown and emergencies
- *maintain poles, associated hardware, continuity of electrical supply and street lighting
- *conduct low voltage switching operations, fit pole hardware and crossarms
- **prepare low and high-voltage cable joints and cable terminations
- *perform safe isolations and tests including energisation and de-energisation
- *use test instruments to find faults and ensure specifications are met
- *use heavy plant equipment e.g. elevated work platforms and portable equipment

Training Requirements and Pathways

Pre- apprenticeship/traineeship qualification: UEE22025 Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Career Start) is the entry level qualification for new entries and school- based trainees. Traineeships generally take between twelve to twenty-four months to complete.

Apprenticeship qualification: There are three qualifications relating to this occupation -

UET30521 - Certificate III in ESI - Transmission Overhead - This qualification provides the skills and knowledge to work in the electricity supply industry (ESI) as an overhead transmission line worker.

UET30621 - Certificate III in ESI - Distribution Overhead - This qualification provides the skills and knowledge to work in the electricity supply industry (ESI) as an Overhead Distribution line worker.

UET30721 - Certificate III in ESI - Rail Traction

This qualification provides the skills and knowledge to work in the electrical supply industry (ESI) as a Rail Traction Line worker. You may also need to obtain the following -

- construction induction card (white card)
- driver's license

Line workers typically require 4 years to complete the trade apprenticeship and once deemed competent by their RTO are issued a line worker's qualification. Typically, after being issued their qualification they are also authorised to be allowed to work on a network by the Network owner.

Income/opportunities/outlook

The Energy and Electrotechnology industry in Australia employs over 352,000 people with strong growth predicted for this occupation. Currently there are over 9,000 jobs for electricians advertised with a projection of 10.9% growth over the next 5 years.

Current wages:

Apprentice: \$56,000 per year

Salary range: \$80,000 - \$112,000 upwards depending on experience, location & employer

Current hourly rate 4\$26- \$50 per hour then add loading, overtime, on call and call out fees

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