



*This Bulletin is issued by the Victorian Electricity Distribution Networks (VEDN) to disseminate the latest information regarding VEDN processes for contractors undertaking civil works.*

## About the VEDN

The Victorian Electrical Distribution Networks (VEDN) is a committee of the Victorian Electricity Supply Industry (VESI) which is responsible for accrediting, auditors, trainers, and contractors who are involved in the installation of underground electrical infrastructure.

## Accreditation Applications

Accreditation applications are made through VEDN section of the VESI website. Information can be found by selecting “apply to become VEDN approved”. Use the contractor or auditor tab to commence the application process. You will be required to upload documents specified on the application form. To commence this, click the more Info button then select the “apply for accreditation now”

## VEDN Accreditation Requirements

### Prequalification

Prequalification approval is valid for 12 months and requires the civil contractors to have their management system audited by an approved management system auditor using the check lists provided on the VEDN website. Within 12 months it is expected that civil contractors will have progressed to full Accreditation status.

To obtain full Accreditation the civil contractor must have their management system audited in the office and the field by a VEDN recognised management system auditor & provide a copy of a recent completed open trench audit report.

### Accreditation

Accreditation is valid for three years provided that an annual field audit of your management system (VEDN NW Special Requirements) and coinciding Worksite Auditor's Open Trench (Civil) audit are provided by the annual review date.

## Re Accreditation

After three years you will need to apply for re accreditation. This will require a copy of your annual review documentation along with a new application form.

This process will enable the VEDN to check and update the accredited contractors' details.

## VESI URD Design and Construction Standard

This standard has been developed jointly by CitiPower/Powercor Australia LTD, United Energy, Jemena Electricity Networks & AusNet Services together with representation from the civil, electrical constructors and land development industry representatives.

A harmonisation document has been completed to consolidate and standardise URD design and construction standards. The purpose of this standard is to provide a common set of engineering design and construction principles for Urban Residential Development (URD) installation across all Victorian Electricity Supply Industries (VESI) that meet the relevant legislative and Australian Standards requirements.

This common approach ensures installations are of a high standard of safety, quality, reliability, and operational performance, ultimately to the benefit of the Victorian community.

For industrial commercial subdivision requirements refer to the distribution business standards.

These standards can be downloaded from the VESI website. From the VESI website go to the VEDN section and select “Construction Standard and Guideline”. The document can be downloaded using “Urban Residential Development (URD) Design and Construction Standard”.  
<http://www.vesi.com.au/index.php/vedn-civil-works>

## VEDN Civil Training

All personal involved in the installation of underground electrical infrastructure must have completed the “VEDN Installation of Underground Electrical Infrastructure” formally or historically known as module 1 training. The above is required for all installers and this includes but is not limited to the plant operator.

This training is required by all personal that undertake:

- Trenching or back filling
- Installation of conduits cover slabs & marker tape
- Installation of service pits
- Preparation of kiosk sites
- Installation of earth systems

## VEDN Training

The VEDN civil training “Installation of Underground Electrical Infrastructure” is currently under review by the VEDN committee.

The training package will be updated to reflect the requirements detailed in the new harmonised VESI URD design and Construction Standards as well as the latest safety requirements.

This new training package has been rolled out as of 18/01/22.

**The new changes include but are not limited to URD Harmonisation and No-Go Zone. The VEDN committee will be seeking a future refresher training to be undertaken to maintain Civil Accreditation.**

## VEDN Committee Members

The VEDN committee is made up of representatives from each distribution business. The contact details can be located on the VEDN website.

John Vasilopoulos (Jemena)  
Brian Morrison (AusNet)  
Rod Berry (AusNet)  
Peter Gillham (CitiPower/Powercor)  
Adm Beel (United Energy)