



An Exelon Company

High Risks Caused by High Voltages

The Maryland High Voltage Act

With being home more often, recent storms, and upcoming cold temperatures many people are noticing projects that require getting closer to overhead utilities. These utility lines have High Voltages that come with High Risks when not following the [Maryland High Voltage Act](#) such as being fined, getting severely burned and injured, or in the worst-case scenario, fatality.

Before beginning any work within the vicinity of the overhead utility lines, check to see if any equipment or personnel will be within 10 feet. Contact BGE to notify them, so that they can ensure that the proper clearance has been obtained for the safety of all who will be involved. This is for both personal and professional work. If the equipment being used is a crane or derrick, a clearance of 20 feet is required to be identified by OSHA regulations.

How to Reduce the Risk

- Before ANY work begins, [Contact BGE](#), if the work, workers, or equipment are to be within 10 feet of overhead utility lines. If cranes or derricks are used, also use 1-877-427-2008 to contact BGE for assistance.
- Review the [Maryland High Voltage Act](#)
- **Contractors**
 - Place signs on all equipment that may come into contact with overhead utility lines
 - Equipment Includes:
 - Ladders, bucket trucks, cranes, derricks, power shovel, and similar tools and apparatuses
 - Signs Should Be:
 - Weather Resistant, Permanent
 - Placed on equipment in clear view of operator, and each individual outside of the equipment
 - Legible from 12 feet away
 - If you have any Questions about potential hazards at a work site or questions about regulations contact the [Maryland Office of Safety and Health](#) for free onsite consultation services

How Can BGE Help

After receiving your request, with proper notification, and proper approval BGE will ensure proper safety measures. This may include:

- De-energizing or grounding lines
- Relocating lines
- Setting up physical barriers to prevent contact with lines
- Other proactive safety measures

BGE's goal is to help ensure the safety of all who work around overhead utility lines, but BGE is not required to bear any expense for any safety measure for maintaining the Maryland High Voltage Act.