

Installation of Pipelines and Underground Cables



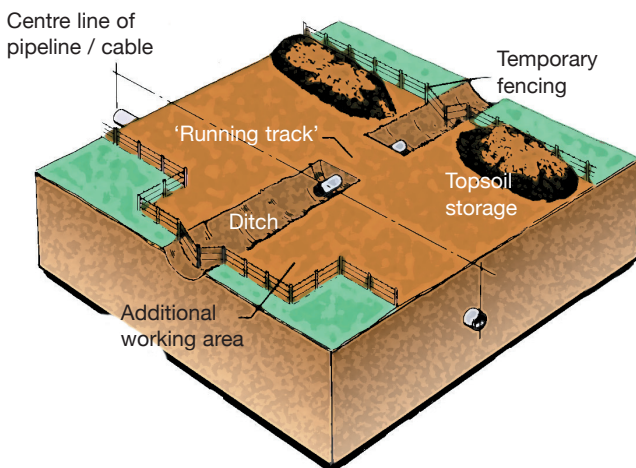
TEMPORARY WORKING STRIP

When installing a high pressure gas pipeline or high voltage electrical underground cable a temporary working strip is normally fenced off to permit the construction of the pipeline or underground cable safely and efficiently. The width of this temporary working area is invariably more than the width of the easement strip required by National Grid and may not necessarily be centred on the pipeline or underground cable. The width of the working strip is dependent upon the diameter of the pipe or the voltage of the underground cable which is being installed. It may be increased at certain points, for example road, rail, river and canal crossings, to accommodate the more complex construction processes at these locations. Temporary fencing of the working area is normally maintained in position during construction until reinstatement of the land is completed. After the works we will remove the fencing or, subject to prior agreement, it can be left for the landowner or occupier to use as they so wish at no extra cost.

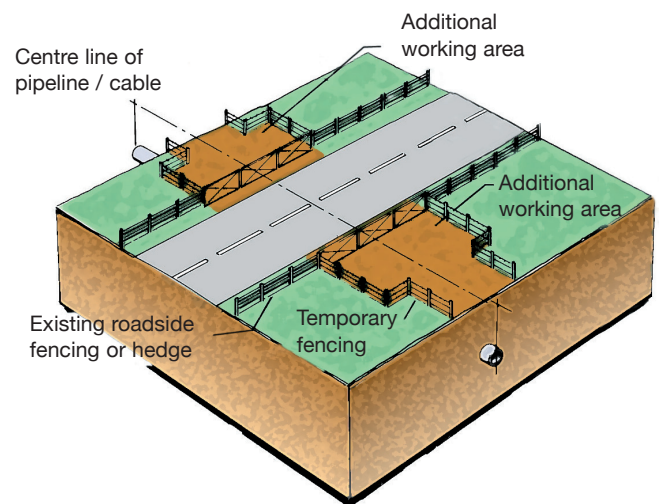
LAND DRAINAGE FOR PIPELINES AND UNDERGROUND CABLES

The effect of construction on land drainage is probably the subject of most practical concern to the majority of landowners and occupiers along a pipeline or underground cable route. We recognise that successful construction and reinstatement of equipment hinges upon the quality of drainage design and installation. Accordingly, we will fully consult affected landowners and occupiers on all aspects of land drainage restoration and will give you the opportunity to inspect the drainage works as they progress.

Where it will be of benefit, 'cut-off' drainage will be installed before construction. Cut-off drainage is designed to ensure that existing drainage systems outside the pipeline or underground cable working strip function properly during the construction period. They also reduce the flow of drainage water onto the working strip and into trenches when excavated.



Typical stream/ditch crossing



Typical road crossing

The main phase of drainage works occurs after the pipeline or underground cable has been installed and before topsoil reinstatement. The design of the drainage schemes will be agreed in detail with the landowners and occupiers and will normally include a combination of the permanent cross connection of existing drains coupled with the installation of new drains laid in parallel to the pipeline.

Accurate records of all existing and new drainage will be kept, and affected landowners and occupiers will be given copies of these records once construction is completed.

DAMAGE, REINSTATEMENT AND COMPENSATION

On completion of any works we will:

- return the land, as far as is reasonably practicable, to its original condition;
- compensate for all reasonable proven loss;
- ensure that any timber cut remains the property of the owner and is tidily stacked, and left on site unless removal is requested;
- repair, divert or modify land drains damaged as a result of construction works; and
- pay reasonable fees, based on an appropriate fee scale, for any agent retained to negotiate and settle a compensation claim on their behalf, should any landowner or occupier choose to be professionally represented.

If National Grid and the landowner or occupier are unable to reach agreement on the method of reinstatement or compensation, an independent assessor will be jointly appointed.

National Grid recognises the unique ability of any landowner or occupier to deal most effectively with their own land. We will work with you to agree a management plan following the completion of the pipeline or underground cable construction works. Using your knowledge and ability to undertake restoration works at the optimum time will allow an effective programme of restoration to be drawn up.

The restoration programme will then be assessed by all parties on an annual basis and amended as necessary.

