

No. NHIII/P/20/77

Dated the 8th April, 1982

To

All State Governments & Union Territories,
(Depts. dealing with National Highways)

Subject : Accommodation of Overhead Electric Power lines on National Highway land

For laying electric power lines and/or erecting the electric poles, the standards have been brought out in the Indian Roads Congress Standard IRC: 32-1969, "Standard for vertical and horizontal clearance of overhead electric power and tele-communication lines as related to Roads". This covers the guidelines for the power lines transmitting 110 Volts. to 650 Volts. In respect of high tension power lines, the following are the instructions for guidance and adoption in the field.

2. *Lateral and vertical clearances of H.T. lines*

2.1. The overhead lines and their supporting poles/towers should ordinarily be placed at the extreme

edge of the road land boundary. In any case, these shall be atleast 10 to 12 metres away from the edge of the existing shoulders of the extreme traffic lane. Where the existing roadway is narrower than the minimum required according to standards or where the widening is proposed for any reason, the lateral clearance shall be reckoned with respect to ultimate road way. The pylons of H.T. lines along crossing the road shall be located outside the N.H. land.

- 2.2. In mountainous country the overhead lines should be erected preferably on the valley side and as far away as practicable.
- 2.3. The vertical clearance of the overhead lines crossing the road shall be reckoned from the top of the crown of the road taking into account the anticipated final top level due to future raising of road level, strengthening of pavement, etc. The actual ground clearance of high tension lines for voltage above 650 Volts varies depending upon the Voltage transmitted and these are stipulated in Indian Standard Codes is 5613-1976 Part I to IV and Indian Electricity Rules 1956 as under :

<i>Voltage</i>	<i>Vertical Clearance</i>
66 KV	6100 mm
132 KV	6100 mm
220 KV	7015 mm
400 KV	8840 mm

3. It is necessary that the Electricity Departments have proper pre-planning and prior consultation with the Highway authorities in locating the lines. This, apart from preventing disruption to the highway construction and maintenance works on hand, may avoid costly re-location/shifting of the lines in future when highway developmental works are taken up. It shall be the responsibility of the Electricity Departments to ensure the safety of the highway traffic against the hazards of the high voltage lines.
4. In this connection, the State Govt. authorities dealing with N.Hs. are requested to establish close liaison with the concerned electricity authorities, specially when the National Highway and Electricity authorities expansion and developmental programmes are under finalisation for settling the appropriate location of the lines keeping in view the likely developmental/improvements of the National Highways. This would obviate the need for shifting/relaying of utilities when the National Highway works are taken up in future. For actual laying of lines, the concerned highway engineers incharge shall ensure proper location as mentioned in para 2 of this letter.
5. The contents of this letter may be brought to the notice of all the field officers so that these instructions are strictly followed.