Pelican Energy TCI

SAFELY MOVING HIGH LOADS NEAR AND UNDER POWER LINES

If you're moving anything along public roads that near or exceed the height of overhead power lines, careful planning is essential. Our utility experts may need to temporarily adjust overhead powerlines or change the route for a safe move. Most incidents occur while oversized heavy machinery or equipment is being operated or transported.

Before You Move Elevated Loads

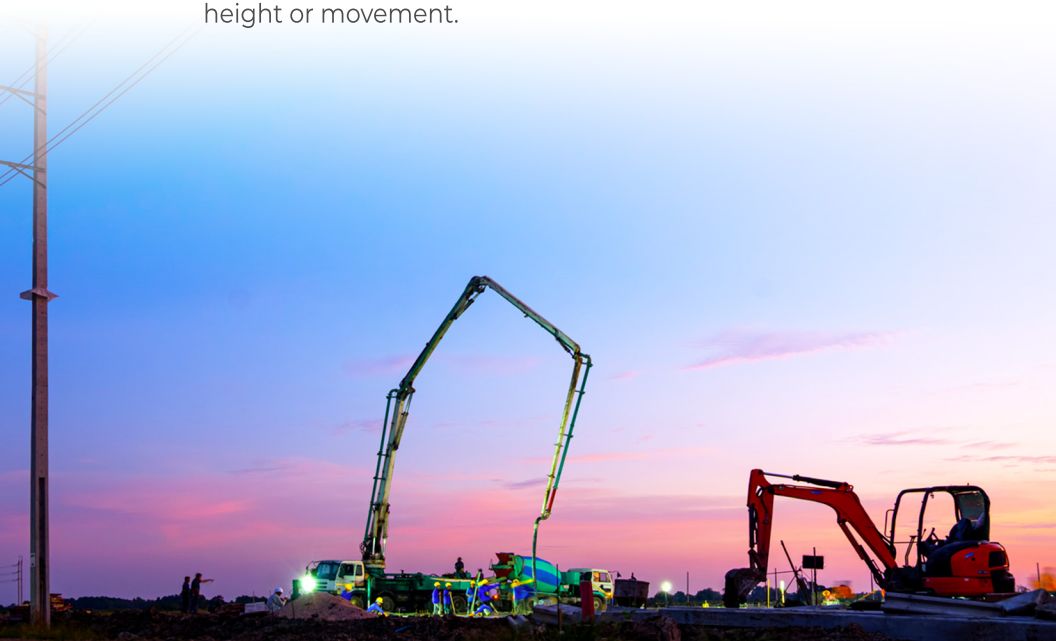
- Always assume overhead lines are live.
- Request a high load move clearance from Pelican Energy TCI before starting any project.
- Click or Call Before You Move
- Online: www.pelicanenergytci.com/SafeMoves
- Phone: 649-946-4313 (Mon–Fri, 9 AM–4 PM)

What Counts as an Elevated Load?

If you are moving or operating an elevated load within 13 feet (4 meters) of an overhead power line, you'll need clearance. If you are in doubt, contact us to verify.

An elevated load is generally defined as:

- A load that exceeds the height specified by the power system owner and outlined in utility sector regulations.
- Any equipment or cargo that, when moved, could encroach within the minimum safe clearance distance of overhead power lines. These items pose a potential hazard due to its height or movement.



The Safety Risks

Striking a buried line with heavy equipment, or hitting overhead lines with high loads can cause:

- Serious injury or death
- Major power outages
- Thousands in repair and service costs
- Delays to your project and disruptions to your community

Even without direct contact, electricity can arc—or "jump"—from a power line to nearby conductive equipment.

When equipment touches a power line, it endangers both the operator and anyone nearby. The electrical current can travel through the equipment into the ground, creating a high-voltage zone around the contact point. This voltage radiates outward in waves, energizing anything in contact with the ground.

Heavy equipment such as cement pump trucks, cranes, and boom trucks must never operate above or within reach of overhead power lines. Doing so is both a serious safety risk and a violation. Work in these cases should only proceed after the power system owner provides clearance and establishes special pre-engineered safety controls.

Coordinating with Pelican Energy TCI and securing the necessary clearances are essential steps to avoid service interruptions and uphold public safety.

If You Intend To Move A High Load

If your equipment or elevated load is expected to move along public roads, highway, or utility right-of-way, you must:

- Secure clearance from Pelican Energy TCI.
- Allow enough time for Pelican Energy TCI to assess risks, provide safety guidance, and possibly escort the move.

Under regulation, contractors, or anyone planning to move an elevated, is required to obtain an assurance in writing from the power system owner.

Pelican Energy TCI will ensure that all contractors and external parties submitting such requests understand the hazards of working near energized overhead power lines.

For lines below 750 volts:
Pelican Energy TCI still requires a high load request, and a written clearance will be provided as a record of safety information shared with you.

- This applies to everyone—contractors, heavy machinery operators and external utility crews.
- Planning safe moves should be part of your job preparation.

Minimum Overhead Clearance Distances

Voltage Range	Minimum Clearance
Less than 750 Volts	3 ft (~1 metre)
Aerial Powerline < 25,000 Volts	6 ft (~2 metres)
751 Volts to 75,000 Volts	10 ft (~3 metres)
75,000 Volts – 150,000 Volts	15 ft (~4.5 metres)

How to Submit A High Move Request

Submit a request with your load, route and other important project details online via **www.pelicanenergy tci.com/SafeMoves** or call **649-946-4313.** Submit your request a minimum of five business days in advance of a planned move.

Pelican Energy TCI receives and processes routine phone-based locate requests between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Only emergency move requests are processed after hours and on public holidays.

Within five business days of your request, Pelican Energy TCI will:

- Confirm if it's safe to move the elevated load, or
- Together, we will review the route plans, assess overhead line height along the proposed route, identify low-clearance zones or high-risk crossings and determine if temporary line lift or escort is required
- Issue transport clearance with conditions, including time-of-day restrictions if necessary

What to Expect in a Clearance Response

Once it's been confirmed that a clearance can be issued, the clearance will clearly show all the important details to ensure everyone involved understands the work and safety requirements. This includes:

- The voltage level of the power line
- The exact location where the work will take place
- A brief description of the work
- The start and end dates for the clearance
- The minimum clearance distance required based on the voltage
- Sketches or diagrams to help visualize the setup
- Any other relevant information that helps clarify the scope and safety measures

Both the external party requesting the clearance and the authorized Pelican Energy TCI representative must review and sign off on the completed clearance.

Your Responsibilities

When transporting an elevated load under or near overhead power lines, the utility company will support by issuing clearances, providing safety protocols, and (if needed) adjusting or lifting lines temporarily. However, contractors remain responsible for several key areas to ensure the move is safe and compliant:

Public & Community Notifications

- Inform affected residents, businesses, and local stakeholders about the planned move.
- Provide sufficient notice of timing, routes, and any expected disruptions.

Traffic & Road Safety

- Arrange for police escort or traffic control officers where required.
- Set up appropriate road signage, barriers, and cones to alert drivers and pedestrians.
- Ensure the transport route is cleared of any obstacles.

On-Site Safety Measures

- Provide trained spotters and ground crew to guide the load safely.
- Ensure proper communication tools (e.g., radios) are used between drivers and crew.
- Conduct a pre-move safety briefing with everyone involved.

Risk Management

- Develop and follow a route-specific risk management plan.
- Prepare contingency plans in case of delays, emergencies, or unexpected obstacles.

The utility company manages power line safety and adjustments, but the contractor is responsible for everything around the move itself. These include public notices, clearances, escorts, traffic management, signage, on-site coordination, and overall risk management.

Operating Heavy Machinery Safely Near Power Lines

If your operating heavy machinery near power lines, plan your job safely and follow these essential steps:

1. Know Your Height: Some newer equipment models can reach up to 20 feet. Always check the height of your equipment when operating, or before moving, especially when your equipment is on a trailer.

2. Know Your Gear: Before transporting, ensure augers, dump truck beds, and other attachments are fully lowered.

3. Watch The Extensions: Extensions on your equipment can soar high. Use caution when raising or lowering them.

4. Keep Your Distance: Always maintain a safe distance between the highest point of your equipment and any overhead power lines.

5. Plan Your Route: Even when moving between locations, stay mindful of your equipment's height. If you're ever in doubt, contact Pelican Energy TCI for guidance on a safe move.

Working Together for Safe Moves

Everyone involved in moving high loads has a role to play in preventing damage to overhead utilities.

By following these guidelines, we help protect:

- Worker and public safety
- The environment
- The integrity of overhead infrastructure

These guidelines reflect current best practices. As safety standards improve, updates may be made and your feedback is welcome. For queries, email customerservice@pelicanenergytci.com.