

We light the nation

In LEC's eyes: encroachment is undertaking any activity that compromises the safety clearance of the power line. For example construction of any structure (e.g. building and "mophato"), sand piling under the line and quarrying, etc.

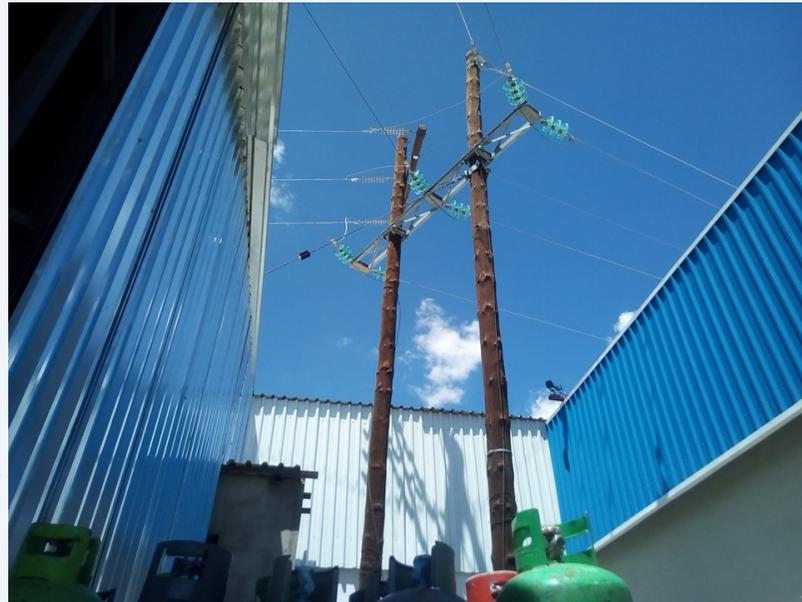
How will I know that I have encroached?

When acquiring a site, it has always been a norm to assess proximity to the road, potable water sources, and the terrain of the site amongst other factors. Assessing whether the site is under a power line, has not been a priority. Therefore, when acquiring a site amongst other factors, look up and check whether the site is under a power line.

What should I do then?

If there is power line over the preferred site, before any construction, visit the nearest LEC Office for guidance. It must be emphasized that only LEC officials can provide guidance on the safety

ENCROACHMENT



Why is it an issue?

Well, safety of the general public, animals and assets is of utmost importance to LEC. Due to the impact of climate change, we experience abnormal winds, storms, snow incidents and hurricanes that threatens the stability of our power lines to an extent that they may collapse. With buildings under the power lines, one cannot imagine the consequence of a collapsed line over a building which might be residential.

Secondly, there is a need for 24 hours access to the power lines by LEC officials for maintenance purposes without hindrance. As Basotho we rear dogs, we fence our yards in a manner that we feel safe in our own homes. However, that poses a challenge to the maintenance of power lines because once access is hindered due to the aforementioned amongst others, then LEC fails to meet its set regulatory standards to provide reliable electricity supply.

Ok! So?

As Basotho, let us take action and start protecting these assets which are in our communities across Lesotho,

- Let us not fence electricity poles in;
- Let us always inform LEC of an abnormality observed on the power lines;
- Let us always look up when acquiring sites;

LEC is always amenable to provide guidance on safety standards. For further engagement please contact LEC on +266 2231 2236 or visit our offices.