



Excavation

Warning

You cannot undertake this activity in the rail corridor unless you have completed a pre work brief and work site protection plan.

Reference should also be made to the [Protocol for Entering the ARTC Rail Corridor](#) and the [Business Rules for Working in the ARTC Rail Corridor](#)
Minimum Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements must also be met in line with the [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Work Instruction](#).

Work Activity:	Excavation		WMS No: WHS-WI-012
Coverage:	ARTC employees, and contractors directly managed by ARTC		Version No: 1.0
Developed by:	Corporate Work Health and Safety Manager	Approved by:	Executive General Manager Enterprise Services Date Approved: 14 April 2016

<i>What are the tasks involved?</i>	<i>What are the hazards and risks?</i>	<i>What are the control measures?</i>	<i>Related Documents</i>
Plan the work	<p>Excavating contaminated land</p> <p>Lack of technical knowledge</p> <p>Hitting underground / overhead services (electricity, gas, water)</p> <p>Falls in to the excavation</p> <p>Excavation collapse</p>	<p>Identify contaminated land and seek advice if required.</p> <p>Seek geotechnical advice, where necessary (for example, near structures, on steep land or after heavy rain)</p> <p>Limit the size of an excavation where able to do so.</p> <p>Identify underground / overhead services. Where possible isolate and/or physically mark key locations.</p> <p>Determine a suitable exclusion zone to help prevent unauthorised access and persons or mobile plant falling in to the excavation (use fencing, witches hats or warning tape where able)</p> <p>Plan to protect the excavation side from collapse where required by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - supporting the sides of the excavation (shoring), and/or - stepping the sides of the excavation (benching), and/or - reducing the gradient along the sides of the excavation (battering) <p>Ensure mobile plant is fitted with rollover protective structures.</p>	<p>Code of Practice Excavation Work</p> <p>Underground / Overhead Services Work Method Statement</p>



<i>What are the tasks involved?</i>	<i>What are the hazards and risks?</i>	<i>What are the control measures?</i>	<i>Related Documents</i>
When working	<p>Falls in to the excavation</p> <p>Excavation collapse</p> <p>Engulfment in the excavation</p> <p>Inability to get help if needed</p>	<p>Ensure / Maintain a separation distance between the sides of the excavation and heavy loads (such as mobile plant, materials)</p> <p>Keep the number of workers in the excavation, and the length of time that they are in the excavation, to a minimum.</p> <p>Continually monitor the excavation depth and condition.</p> <p>Ensure safe access to the excavation (for example, ladders, ramps)</p> <p>Drain liquids in the excavation and divert expected stormwater flows</p> <p>Do not operate a mobile plant boom over a person located in an excavation.</p> <p>When working in the excavation, remain in regular contact with a person located outside the excavation.</p>	<p>Code of Practice Excavation Work</p>



References	
<p>Standards, Codes of Practice, Guidance:</p> <p>Commonwealth Work Health and Safety Regulation (Regulations 304, 305, 306)</p> <p>Code of Practice - Excavation Work</p>	<p>Plant / Equipment / Tools:</p> <p>Equipment to protect sides of excavation from collapse</p> <p>Exclusion zone delineation equipment, such as witches hats or warning tape</p>
<p>Training Requirements:</p> <p>Check that training in excavation work has been provided to relevant workers, which may include competency in carrying out excavations and/or use of excavators.</p> <p>Check license requirements for any plant to be used and ensure that operators meet licensing requirements and are competent to operate the machinery.</p>	<p>Inspection / Testing requirements:</p>