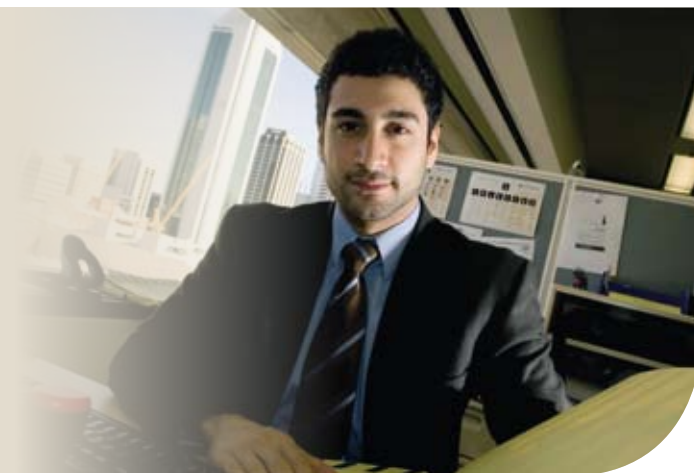


Connecting to the distribution network: estimate and design stages



Western Power operates and maintains the electricity network in the South West of Western Australia, ensuring a reliable electricity supply to the community.

The voltage of the powerlines that make up the electricity network in the South West of Western Australia varies, and according to their voltage level they are categorised as either transmission or distribution lines. Powerlines operating above 33,000 volts (33 kV) are designated transmission lines, and those at and below 33 kV are distribution lines.

New connections to the distribution network requiring more than a 63 ampere (A) single-phase or 32 A three-phase supply involve significant investigation by Western Power into the capacity of the surrounding network, and the specific connection requirements. The cost for the new connection can vary significantly, as Western Power may have to upgrade or extend the surrounding network to meet capacity requirements.

To find out how much a new connection is likely to cost, a Design and Quotation Application form (DQA) should be submitted to Western Power. It is recommended this is done in consultation with an electrical contractor. The DQA will be treated as an initial enquiry, and not as an application for connection.

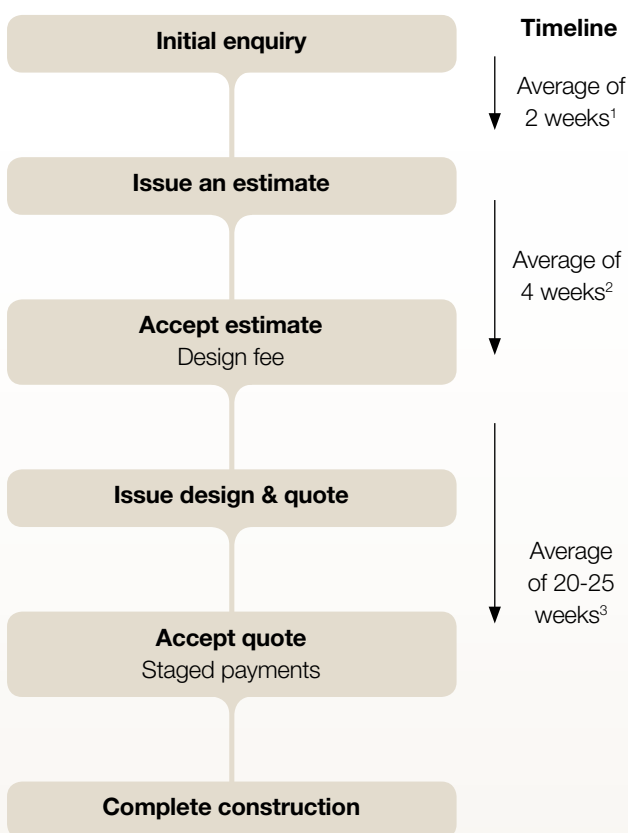
Once a DQA is received, Western Power aims to supply the applicant with a cost estimate within an average of two weeks. An estimate is an efficient way for Western Power to provide likely network upgrade / extension costs, as it takes less time to produce than a full design and quote.





To proceed, an applicant will be required to pay 10% of the estimated value. Western Power will then prepare a detailed design and quote, which will take an average of four weeks² to finalise. If the applicant accepts the quote, the 10% estimate payment will be deducted from the total cost. Construction work will be scheduled once the cost has been paid in full.

If the applicant decides not to accept the quote, Western Power will retain the 10% payment to cover the costs associated with producing the detailed quote and design.



Documentation and further information

For all enquiries please call **13 10 87**.

The DQA form is available on Western Power's website and can be submitted online for priority processing.

For more information on the estimate and design process, please visit Western Power's website at www.westernpower.com.au

The Design and Quotation Application form is also available on the Western Power website.

Related fact sheets

- Applying for an upgrade or a new connection to the distribution network
- New commercial connections
- New connections in existing residential areas
- New connections in new residential subdivisions
- Power supply upgrades for residential or commercial premises
- Converting a residential or commercial premises to underground power

¹ This estimate process does not apply to land subdivisions.

² Based on the assumption that all customer information has been provided. Timeframe will vary depending on the nature and complexity of the project.

³ Does not apply if the final quote differed to the estimate by greater than 30%.

The information provided here is to be used as a guide only.