

Utility Clearance Requirements

This refers to the minimum required horizontal and vertical clearance [edge to edge (E/E) & center to center (C/C)] that must be maintained between any newly proposed permanent facility or utility line and existing infrastructure. These clearances are critical for ensuring safety, minimizing the risk of interference, and preventing damage to existing systems. Proper separation also reduces the likelihood of accidental punctures or ruptures during excavation or construction activities.

If the minimum clearance requirements cannot be maintained, the proposed clearance must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate point of contact and/or a Deputy City Engineer (DCE), as outlined below:

Facility Type	CIP Project	Permit Project
Street Tree	Transportation Department – City Arborist	Transportation Department – City Arborist
Water & Sewer Pipelines and Facilities	DCE in ECP overseeing Design and/or Construction	Designated PUD Senior in DSD
Storm Water Pipelines and Facilities	DCE in ECP overseeing Design and/or Construction	DCE in Storm Water Department

Horizontal Separation to:	Min	Reference
Street Tree (edge of trench to edge of tree) For Underground	5 Ft	SDMC §142.0409, Table 142-04E
Street Tree (edge of trench to edge of tree) For Aboveground	10 Ft	SDMC §142.0409, Table 142-04E
Sewer Main & Manhole (E/E)	7 Ft (Dry Utility) 10 Ft (Water Main)	- Sewer Design Guide Section 1.4.1.2 & 1.4.1.1 - See General Notes No. 3
Sewer Lateral	3 Ft E/E (Dry Utility) 5 Ft C/C (Water Meter)	Sewer Design Guide Section 2.5.1
Reclaimed Water Mains	10 Ft E/E (Water/Sewer) 5 Ft E/E (Dry Utility)	Water Facility Design Guidelines, Section 3.3.1.2
Water Main, Facilities (e.g., Water Valve, etc.) and Fire Hydrant	5 Ft	- Water Facility Design Guidelines, Section 3.3.1.2 - See General Notes No. 3
Water Service	3 Ft	The clearance requirement will be incorporated into Water Facility Design Guidelines, once finalized.
Stormwater Pipelines & Structures (i.e., curb inlets and cleanouts)	5 Ft E/E	- Drainage Design Manual Section 4.1.3 Alignment & Curvature - See Reference 03
SDG&E ø16" (or larger) HP Gas Transmission Pipelines	5 Ft	SDGE Requirement_ See General Note No. 4

SDG&E High Voltage Electric Transmission Lines	5 Ft	• <i>SDGE Requirement_ See General Note No. 4</i>
All other utility conduits (e.g., electrical distribution line, telecom lines, fiber optic lines, etc.), pipes (e.g., gas distribution lines, gas services, gas valves, etc.), above-ground structures, substructures	1 Ft	• <u>WB 402-7.2,</u> • <u>CPUC G.O. 128 Rules 31.4,</u> • <u>CPUC G.O. 128 Rule 33.4,</u> • <u>CPUC G.O. 128 Rule 41.4,</u> • <u>CPUC G.O. 128 Rule 43.3</u>

Vertical Separation to:	Min	Reference
Wet Utilities (Water, Sewer, Stormwater)	12 in	• <u>Whitebook Section 402-7.2.1(a).iv</u>
Dry Utilities	6 in	• <u>Whitebook Section 402-7.2.1(a).iv</u>
SDG&E High Voltage Electric Transmission Lines	12 in	• <i>SDGE Requirement-See General Note No. 4</i>
SDG&E ø16" or larger HP Gas Transmission Pipelines	18 in	• <i>SDGE Requirement-See General Note No. 4</i>

General Notes:

1. All utility lines and facilities—both above and below ground—must be installed with sufficient clearance from one another to ensure proper maintenance access and to prevent potential damage resulting from proximity to other infrastructure.
2. All referenced separations are measured from the edge of the proposed utility/facility to the edge of the existing utility/facility, except for street trees, where the measurement is taken from the edge of the outer edge of the tree trunk.
3. Written approval must be obtained from the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW), when the required 10-foot separation between Water and Sewer or Reclaimed Water cannot be maintained.
4. SDG&E has established additional separation requirements for its transmission lines in accordance with Title 49 CFR Part 192, Section 192.605.

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49 CFR, Part 192, § 192.605 *Procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies:*

- a. *General. Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline a manual of written procedures for conducting operations and maintenance activities and for emergency response.*