

RIGHT OF WAY (R/W) ENCROACHMENTS

Permissible Encroachments

The following encroachments are generally permitted on the right-of-way (“R/W”), as long as Santee Cooper maintains adequate access to our facilities and all current or applicable National Electric Safety Code (NESC) required clearances plus operational safety and energy requirements are maintained. Any modifications to our facilities will be paid for by the requester. **The requester must obtain Santee Cooper’s written consent prior to installation of any encroachment.**

1. **Roads (including dirt roads), streets and driveways.** These encroachments should cross the R/W at an angle not to interfere with present or future structure placement. Also, these encroachments must be located at least 50 feet away from all transmission facilities (structures, guy wires and anchors, etc.). Rolled curbing or a cut-out may be required for road construction.
2. **Sewer lines, water lines, gas lines, underground and overhead distribution lines and other utilities.** These encroachments should cross the R/W at an angle not to interfere with present or future structure placement. If paralleling the R/W, the maximum encroachment that may be allowed is within the outer 5 feet of the R/W. Also, these encroachments must be located at least 50 feet away from transmission facilities (structures, guy wires and anchors, etc.) and must be buried at a minimum depth of 3 feet.
3. **Parking.** These encroachments should be kept a minimum of 50 feet away from transmission facilities (structures, guy wires and anchors, etc.). Under certain circumstances, approved barriers or islands may be required around our facilities to protect both our facilities as well as the patrons of the parking area. Installation of these barriers would be the responsibility of the requester. Access to our facilities must be maintained at all times, even if the parking lot is full. **Commercial over-night parking is not allowed.** It should be noted that additional grounding may be required in the future for the existing transmission and/or for future transmission lines. This will cause damage to the pavement of the parking lot. Any damage caused by this or other construction, maintenance or operation activities on the R/W by Santee Cooper personnel or its contractors will not be the responsibility of either Santee Cooper or its contractors.
4. **Fences.** These encroachments will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Any approved metal fences on the R/W shall be properly grounded in accordance with applicable industry standards, and in some cases, this grounding plan must be approved by Santee Cooper. Typically, requests for fences crossing the R/W in subdivisions are not allowed because this greatly inhibits Santee Cooper’s access up and down the R/W. If a fence that restricts access to facilities is approved, the requester must provide and install a 16 foot gate and interlock with a Santee Cooper lock. If the fence is to be electrified, it should be equipped with an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved fence charger with a DC output and fence filters. Fences that parallel the R/W for significant distances are not permitted and must be placed off of the R/W.

5. **Ditches.** These encroachments should not obstruct access along the R/W and should be located a minimum of 50 feet away from our facilities (structures, guy wires and anchors, etc.). If the ditch restricts access to our facilities, the requester must provide a 20 foot wide (minimum) culvert of approved size, strength and location. These requirements are to ensure a minimum access/road width of 16 feet for our vehicles to pass over the culvert. For extremely deep ditches, additional culvert length will be required. Any ditch construction should not interfere with Santee Cooper owned underground facilities or any other underground facility that may be on the R/W.
6. **Outdoor signs and light poles.** These encroachments should have a maximum height above ground not to exceed the lesser of 12 feet or a height that maintains a vertical clearance to the neutral or conductor (NESC minimum clearance + 1.5 feet of extra clearance) as determined by Santee Cooper. Signs and light poles (including the fixtures) are to be placed no closer than 15 feet from the vertical axis of the outside conductor of existing lines. If future lines are constructed on the R/W, the signs or lights may need to be relocated at the owner's expense. All signs and lighting must be a minimum of 50 feet from our structures, guy wires and anchors.
7. **Low growing vegetation.** These encroachments may be allowed within the R/W as long as the mature height is no greater than 12 feet and the vegetation does not interfere with access to or along the R/W. No planted vegetation will be allowed to grow within 10 feet of any facilities. Santee Cooper or its contractors are not responsible for damages to plantings within the R/W.
8. **Commercial sprinkler systems.** These encroachments should be sufficiently buried so that our heavy equipment will not damage these facilities. Santee Cooper is not responsible for any damage to these facilities. The water sprayed from these sprinklers should not contact our facilities in any way and should not come within 20 feet of our energized conductors, regardless of which direction the wind is blowing.

Non-Permissible Encroachments

The following encroachments are not permitted on the R/W:

1. Structures, buildings, sheds, pump houses, mobile homes, fire hydrants, trees or any vegetation with mature height exceeding 12 feet, billboards, graves, cable gates, tennis courts, recreational fields, playgrounds, swimming pools (above or below ground), dumpsters, deer stands and feeders, retaining walls, satellite systems, junk cars, storage facilities (cars, trailers, recreation vehicles, boats, building material, flammable material, fill material, debris, etc.), any other obstruction (above or below ground), or other item which in Santee Cooper's opinion constitutes a safety or fire hazard.
2. Septic tanks, drain fields, agricultural and residential irrigation systems, ditches (parallel to Santee Cooper's facilities), ponds (recreational, detention, retention, etc.), dams, dikes, manholes, water valves, water meters, backflow preventers, wells, any flooding of the Right-Of-Way, etc. or any other obstruction in Santee Cooper's opinion are not permitted.

3. Elevation changes (placement of fill, excavation, etc.) on the R/W that reduces vertical clearance above ground as well as excavation within the R/W are not permitted. Although, Santee Cooper will review these request when associated with a permissible encroachment request.
4. Any other encroachment that in Santee Cooper's opinion could endanger the transmission facilities or the public is prohibited. Other items not listed in this document will be dealt with on a case by case basis and requester must obtain Santee Cooper's written approval.

PLEASE MAIL ALL ENCROACHMENT REQUEST PACKAGES TO:

SANTEE COOPER
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PLEASE DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS TO:

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