



RAIL INDUSTRY SAFETY AND STANDARDS BOARD

# **Good Practice in Mitigating Safety Risks when Planning Works in the Rail Corridor**

## **Guideline**

This Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board (RISSB) product has been developed using input from rail experts from across the Rail Industry. RISSB wishes to acknowledge the positive contribution of all subject matter experts and DG representatives who participated in the development of this product.

The RISSB Development Group for this Guideline consisted of representatives from the following organisations:

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ARC Infrastructure	VicTrack	Dept. Transport Victoria
Lycopodium	Queensland Rail	ARTC
Aurizon	Shoal Group	

Development of this Guideline was undertaken in accordance with RISSB's accredited processes. It was approved by the Development Group, endorsed by the Standing Committee, and approved for publication by the RISSB Board.

I commend this Guideline to the Australasian rail industry as it represents industry good practice and has been developed through a rigorous process.



**Deb Spring**  
Exec. Chair / CEO  
Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board

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RISSB product can be found at: <http://www.rissb.com.au/products/>.

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## 1 Introduction

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### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this guideline is to identify safety risks that are present for works within the rail corridor that can be mitigated through good planning practices and provide guidance on how planners can manage those risks.

### 1.2 Scope

This Guideline provides guidance on consideration of safety risks when planning for works within rail corridors.

This Guideline does not include operational risks that impact the operation of the railway, such as late hand back or incomplete works.

This Guideline does not include management of risk on-site on the day of the works. This is managed by the applicable safety policies and processes of individual organisations.

### 1.3 Application and use

This guideline applies to all rail infrastructure managers (RIMs), external stakeholders and contractors who plan works within the rail corridor.

The guideline is designed to complement, not replace, any policies and procedures developed by a RIM, external stakeholder, or contractor. Through the use of this document, planners should have a better understanding of the risks associated with works within the rail corridor so they may address and mitigate those risks.

### 1.4 Defined terms and abbreviations

***laydown area***

location where materials and equipment are stored prior to and during works

***safeworking boundary***

location where the method of safeworking changes from one method to another method

***RACI chart***

chart used to define who is responsible, accountable, consulted and informed

Generic rail industry terms and definitions are provided in the RiSSB Glossary  
<https://www.rissb.com.au/products/glossary/>

The Macquarie Dictionary definition applies where terms are not defined within the RiSSB Glossary or above.