

# INTERIM FENCING STANDARD v1.0

## Boundary Fences



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## 1 Purpose

This document specifies the requirements for the design and installation of boundary fences on or bordering TasRail Managed Property.

Boundary fences are to:

- provide a measure of security and safety by restricting unauthorised access to the rail corridor and rail infrastructure amenities and services;
- discourage stock from entering the rail corridor;
- mark the boundary to define the rail corridor and adjoining properties; and
- discourage and limit illegal access to TasRail's managed network.

Boundary fences shall be established, when required and at the discretion of TasRail, to separate land adjoining TasRail's managed network with the exception of locations where natural boundaries exist.

New fences shall be designed and constructed in accordance with this Standard.

Existing fences that do not comply with the design requirements are to be upgraded when the fence is due for renewal, or when enhancement is required as determined by a risk assessment by TasRail.

## 2 References

### 2.1 Australian Standards

AS 1725 - 2003 Chain-link fabric security fences and gates

AS 2423 - 2002 Coated steel wire fencing products for terrestrial, aquatic and general use

### 2.2 Other References

Section 6 of the *Boundary Fences Act 1908* (Rail Land is Crown and therefore TasRail is not liable to contribute towards the cost of boundary fences).

## 3 Definitions

**Rail Corridor** – the entire parcel of land with which contains a portion of track;

**TasRail Managed Network** – as described under the *Rail Infrastructure Act 2007*.

## 4 Standard Designs – (Fencing Types)

### 4.1 General

Adjoining land owners and other land users shall restrict access to the rail corridor and rail services by the provision of appropriate fencing.

There are three (3) types of fences:

- Rural Fencing
- Residential/Urban Fencing
- Cycleway/Walking Track Fencing (Separation Fencing)

There will be locations that require a site specific design and construction method. The design and construction methods used in the location shall be equivalent to or will exceed the prescribed performance levels detailed in this standard.

TasRail reserves the right to accept or reject any fencing proposals.

## 4.2 Rural Fencing

This standard is applicable to private lands or properties adjoining the rail corridor anywhere in Tasmania and shall apply only to rural areas and will not apply in suburban, built-up or within city precincts.

The full costs of fencing or any associated costs are the sole responsibility of the land owner or lease holder. TasRail is **not** responsible to contribute to any cost or associated costs with rural corridor fencing, except in circumstances referred to under the *Boundary Fences Act 1908*...

General Specification:

- The type of fencing required should be of a suitable type and standard to prevent livestock from entering the rail corridor;
- The fencing will generally be of a consistent standard;
- Typically a farm type stock fence;
- Being of a minimum 6 strand single wire with barb-wire on a 7<sup>th</sup> top strand; or,
- Alternatively use of Ring-Lock wire may be used;
- All wires to be fixed and fully supported with appropriate strainers and bridging droppers to enable adequate tensioning so not to allow any area of the fencing to collapse and render it ineffective. This will include sustainability for inclement weather conditions;

While there will be several variables that need to be considered, (i.e.: type of stock - cattle, sheep, pigs, deer, etc.) when deciding to erect or replace any of the rural fencing.

A fundamental requirement is that TasRail expect that any rural fencing is of sufficient design and quality to contain stock under any conditions.

## 4.3 Residential/Urban Fencing

This standard is applicable to private lands or properties adjoining the rail corridor anywhere in Tasmania and shall apply only to Residential/Urban areas and will not apply in rural areas.

TasRail is **NOT** responsible for any cost or associated costs with residential/urban fencing, the full cost of fencing or any associated costs are the sole responsibility of the land owner or lease holder.

General Specification:

- Standard residential/urban fence is a hardwood timber paling fence, or
- A collarbone steel fence in accordance with manufacturers specifications may also be used,
- Other fence designs may be considered, subject to TasRail assessment and approval
- Residential/Urban fences shall be a minimum of 1800mm high.

While there will be several variables that need to be considered when deciding to erect or replace any of the residential/urban fencing.

A fundamental requirement is that TasRail expect that any residential/urban fencing is of sufficient design and quality to restrict access under any conditions.

## 4.4 Cycleway/Walking Track Fencing (Separation Fencing)

This standard is applicable to Cycleway/Walking Track proposals that adjoin or form part of the Tasmanian Rail Network anywhere in Tasmania (including non-operational rail lines). All proposals will require consultation and approval from TasRail. In the first instance contact should be directed to [property@tasrail.com.au](mailto:property@tasrail.com.au)

Where the proposed cycleway/walkway is proposed to be sited on railway land, a Licence or Sub-Lease with TasRail will be required (fees may apply).

TasRail is **NOT** responsible for any cost or associated costs with separation fencing, with the full cost of fencing or any associated costs to be the sole responsibility of the proponent.

### General Specification: **Operational Network**

- 1800mm high chain mesh fence with a minimum offset from the outer most rail of 5.7m, to enable an adequate safety refuge to be maintained for railway employees; and to enable sufficient area for railway operations including maintenance and capital works to be undertaken within the corridor.
- The 1800mm high plain chain-link fence is to be in accordance with AS 1725, that offers four (4) standard configurations including;
  - Rail-less
  - Top rail only
  - Bottom rail only
  - Top and bottom rail.

For fencing without a top rail, bracing panels or bracing stays shall be used on all ends, corners and gateposts.

- Where a fence is proposed to be inside the 5.7 meter zone TasRail will require a Risk Assessment to be carried out and submitted with the design proposals. The building of a cycle way and fence at a distance less than the mandated 5.7 meters from the outer rail will potentially expose TasRail to increased risk and liability and impede normal rail operations including maintenance. Subject to the outcome of the Risk Assessment, TasRail reserves the right to not approve such proposal.

### General Specification: **Non - Operational Network**

- In certain circumstances TasRail may approve a chain mesh fence less than the prescribed 1800mm on a Non-Operational Line, but no less than 1200mm. Where this occurs, the proponent will need to formally agree that if at any time the said rail line becomes Operational, the proponent agrees to fund the additional 600mm ridged bar extension that may comprise chainmesh or agreed infill panels to increase the height of the fence to comply with the Standard.
- To be installed no closer than **5.7m** from the outer most rail;
- Where a fence is proposed to be inside the 5.7 meter zone TasRail will require a Risk Assessment to be carried out and submitted with the design proposals. The building of a cycle way and fence at a distance less than the mandated 5.7 meters from the outer rail will potentially expose TasRail to increased risk and liability and impede normal rail operations including maintenance. Subject to the outcome of the Risk Assessment, TasRail reserves the right to not approve such proposal.

See diagram 4.5 for required fencing details for a Cycleway or Separation Fence.

\*Please note this fencing standard does not automatically mean your cycleway/walking track proposal will be approved by TasRail. Separate approval/authorisation must be sought via Licence Application.

## 4.5 Cycleway/Separation Fencing Distances Diagram

