

C.5 POWER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

C.5.1 General Objectives and Policies

C.5.1.1 OBJECTIVES

- C.5.1.1.1 To accommodate the facilities that provide Salt Spring Island with necessary power and telecommunications services, while minimizing impacts on neighbourhoods, community health, the natural environment and resource lands.
- C.5.1.1.2 To accommodate telecommunications facilities that Industry Canada considers must be located on Salt Spring Island.
- C. 5.1.1.3 To develop land use planning policies that help reduce the public expense of utilities.

C.5.1.2 POLICIES

- C.5.1.2.1 The Local Trust Committee should ensure that land is not rezoned for higher density residential use, child care, schools, health care or public assembly in areas where electromagnetic radiation is higher than normal.
- C.5.1.2.2 The Local Trust Committee could include guidelines regarding the burial of utility wiring in its Development Permit Areas.

Others are encouraged to help achieve the objectives of this Section as follows:

- C.5.1.2.3 B.C. Transmission Corporation is asked not to increase the current flow in its transmission lines that cross Salt Spring Island, unless public exposure to electromagnetic fields would not be increased. The utility is also asked not to develop new high voltage transmission lines in areas that are designated for medium or *high density residential use*, health care, child care, schools, or public assembly *buildings*.
- C.5.1.2.4 Utility companies operating on Salt Spring Island are encouraged to continue to use the best management practices to control vegetation on utility line rights-of-way. The use of pesticides, herbicides and fungicides is particularly discouraged in catchment areas for community drinking water supplies and *environmentally sensitive areas*.
- C.5.1.2.5 Utility companies and the Integrated Land Management Bureau are encouraged to investigate the joint use of utility towers and other facilities as an alternative to the development of new or additional structures.