

Project:

Minnippi Parklands,
Belmont, Brisbane



OneSteel Reinforcing HANDIMESH helps to protect native animals



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We are all familiar with the sight of power line transmission towers, but something we may not realise is that such towers can present a permanent hazard for native fauna.

Animals like possums are prone to climbing the towers with fatal repercussions if they come into contact with live wires.

When John Holland Constructions secured a contract to install power line transmission towers along a 12km area stretching from Belmont to Murarrie, near Brisbane, Queensland, the company discussed the options for fauna protection with OneSteel Reinforcing Ron Hyde.

The result was the development of a new galvanized steel mesh system, specifically designed to prevent native animals from climbing power line transmission towers. Based on the use of 3m x 700mm customised sheets of what is colloquially known as 'Possum Mesh'. OneSteel Reinforcing's HANDIMESH solution not only provided a safe and economical option to prevent native wildlife from climbing the towers, it also acts as a deterrent to any unauthorised personnel from accessing the towers.

In order to give the sheets of HANDIMESH additional support, 7 x 2mm high tensile wires (4 outside and 3 inside the tower) were attached and tensioned to the underside of the mesh.

Originally the HANDIMESH was going to be attached to the power line transmission towers located within the Minnippi Parklands area of the project only. However, it was decided the benefits of OneSteel Reinforcing's HANDIMESH solution outweighed those of the barbed wire traditionally used to deter native animals and unauthorised personnel, and it has now been installed throughout the project.

Installation of HANDIMESH was quick and straightforward, with the mesh installed onto the bases of all 50 towers.

HANDIMESH is a range of general purpose welded wire mesh products manufactured by OneSteel Reinforcing. Available in a range of specifications, HANDIMESH is suitable for a wide variety of uses from simple domestic applications to commercial and industrial projects. Whatever the application, you'll find HANDIMESH offers the best combination of versatility, durability and quality.