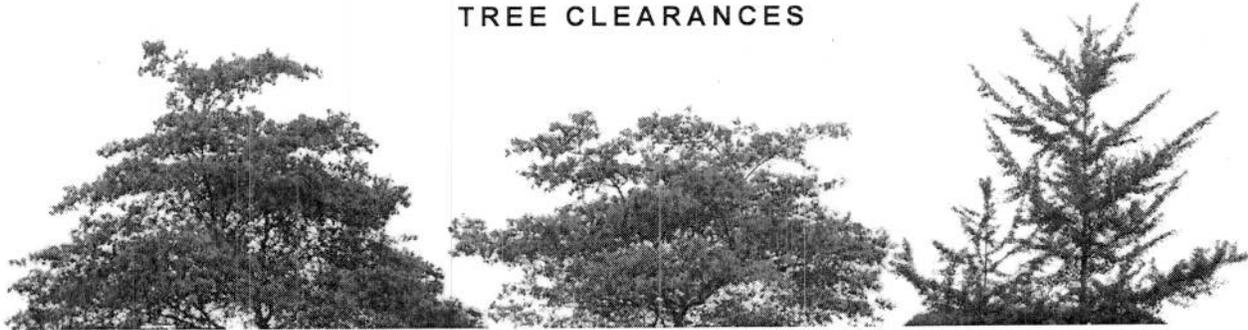


Seattle City Light

# CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINE

## TREE CLEARANCES



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### 2. Scope

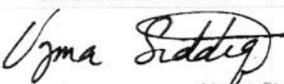
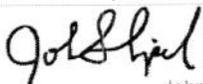
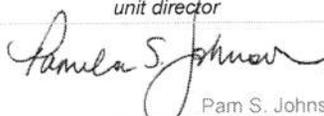
This Guideline covers tree clearances to Seattle City Light's (SCL) secondary, distribution, and transmission overhead power lines. Vegetation clearance criteria are based on WAC-296-24-960, RCW 64.12.035 and SCL best practice.

### 3. Requirements

Trees shall be trimmed according to Table 1 and Figures 5.1 through 5.7.

**Table 1**

Conductor Type	Other	Minimum Clearance, ft
primary distribution conductors, 4 kV to 26 kV	transformers, switches and electrical equipment	10
secondary conductors	system neutrals and bridle service wire	3 – conifers 5 – deciduous
sub-transmission conductors (35 to 69 kV)	-	12.4
115 kV transmission conductors	-	12.4
230 kV transmission conductors	-	16.5

standards coordinator	standards supervisor	unit director
 Uzma Siddiqi	 John Shipek	 Pam S. Johnson

# CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINE

## Tree Clearances

standard number: **D9-80**

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### 4. Notes

#### 4.1 Primary Distribution Conductors

Primary distribution conductors, 4 kV to 26 kV, and transformers, switches and electrical equipment requires minimum clearance from vegetation of 10 feet.

#### 4.2 Secondary Conductors

Secondary conductors, system neutrals, and bridle service wires require minimum clearance from vegetation of 3 to 5 feet.

#### 4.3 Pole Height

Illustrations in this Guideline are shown for a typical 47-foot utility pole. The same clearance criteria apply to poles of other heights and to all conductors (wire).

#### 4.4 Non-City Light Services

Fiber optic, cable TV and telephone cables are not trimmed out by City Light unless they are incidentally within 3 to 5 feet of the secondary zone. Streetlights are not trimmed out for illumination by SCL.

#### 4.5 Vertical Clearance

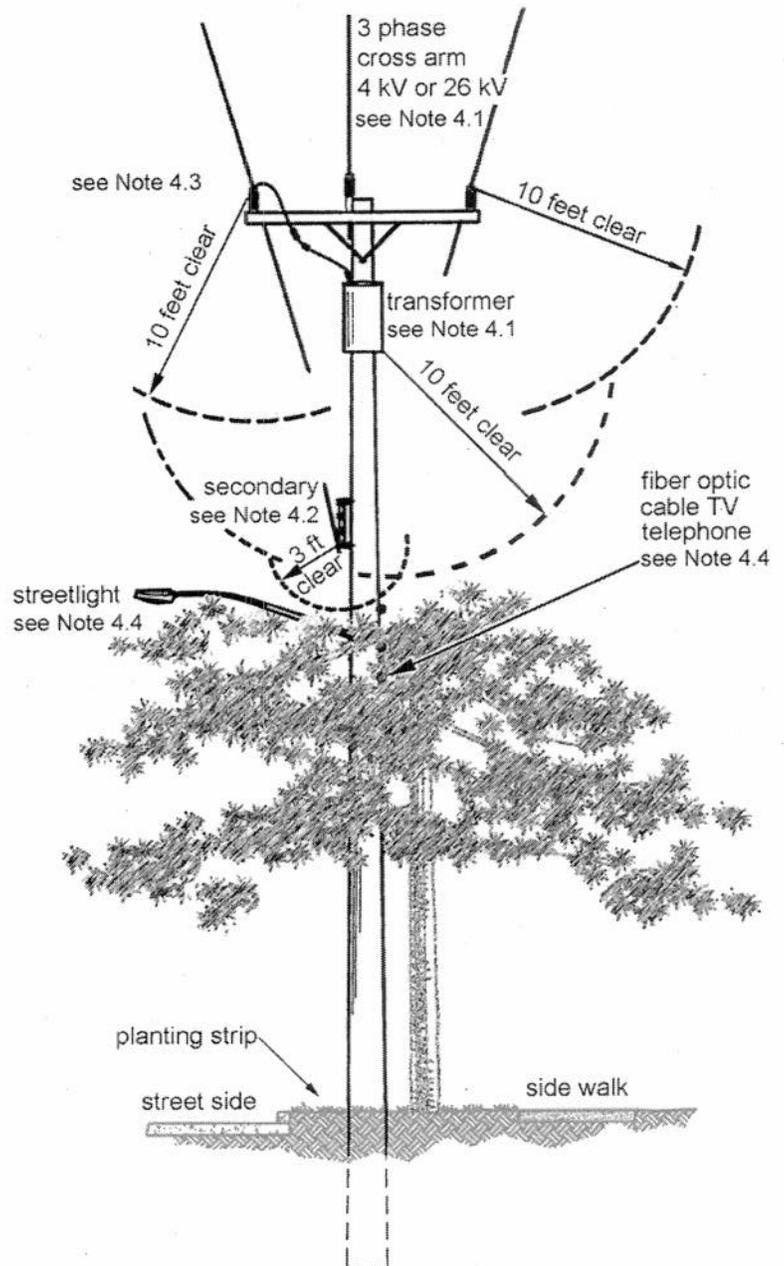
Branches overhanging primary conductors from above are removed to a minimum of 15 feet above the primary conductors. See figures 5.5 and 5.7.

#### 4.6 Transmission Conductors

**Take special note** that transmission conductor clearances are not shown in the figures. See Table 1 for clearance requirements.

### 5. Pruning Figures

#### 5.1 Three Phase Distribution Powerline, Top Pruning, Conifer (formerly TA-2000)



# CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINE

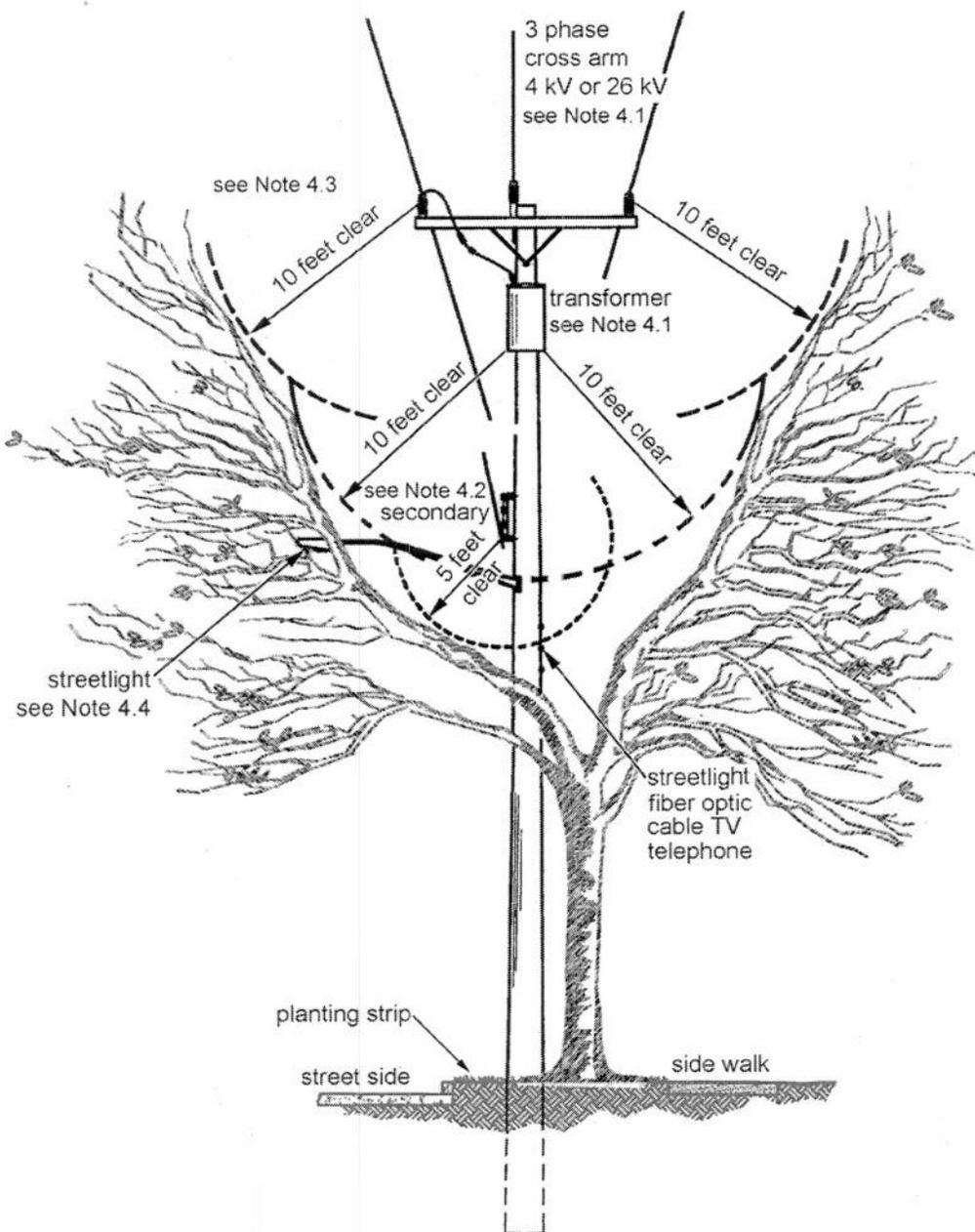
Tree Clearances

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## 5. Pruning Figures, continued

### 5.2 Three Phase Distribution Powerline, Directional Pruning, Deciduous (formerly TA-2001)



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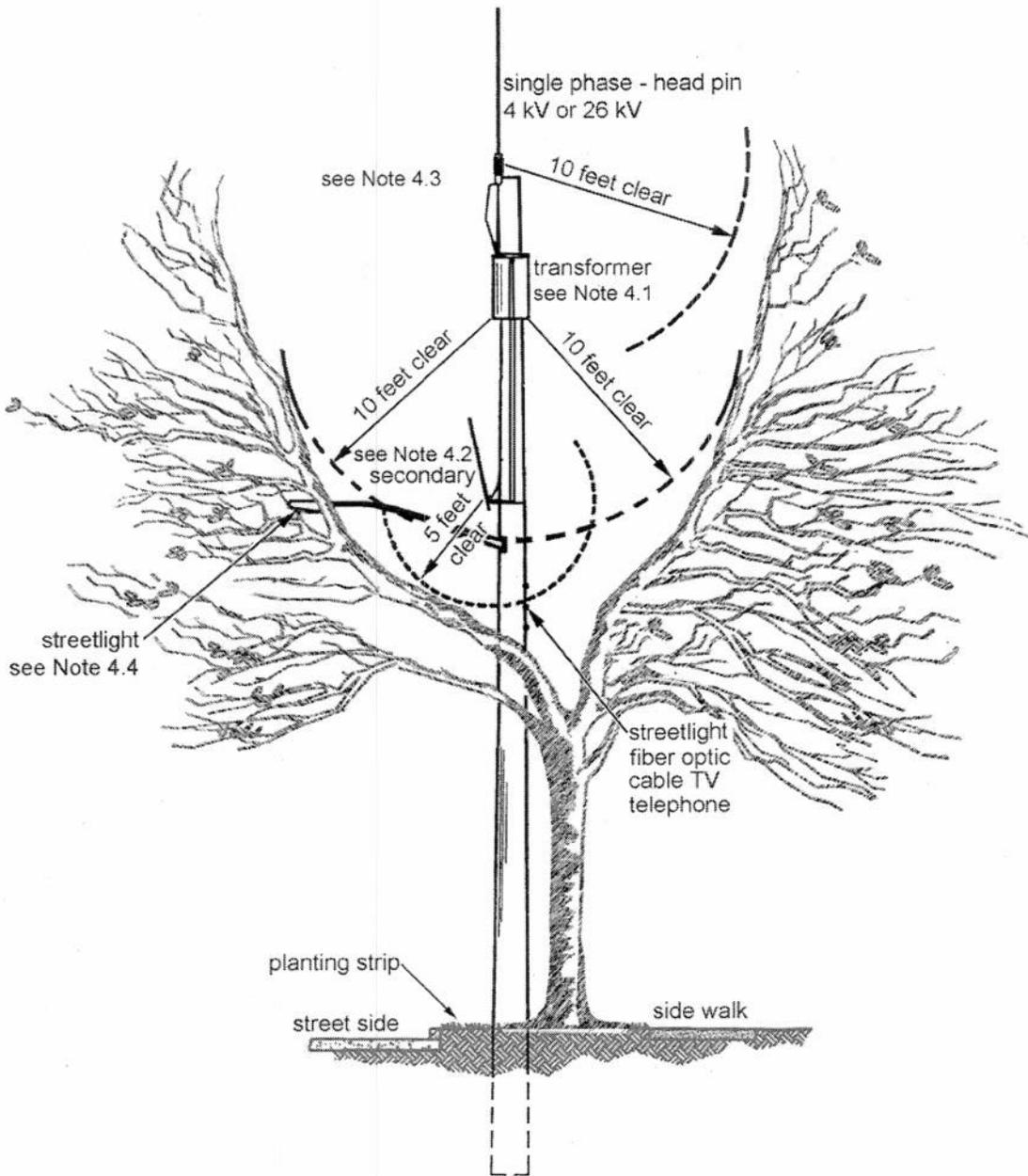
Tree Clearances

standard number: **D9-80**

superseding: new  
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## 5. Pruning Figures, continued

### 5.3 Single Phase Distribution Powerline, Directional Pruning, Deciduous (formerly TA-2002)



# CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINE

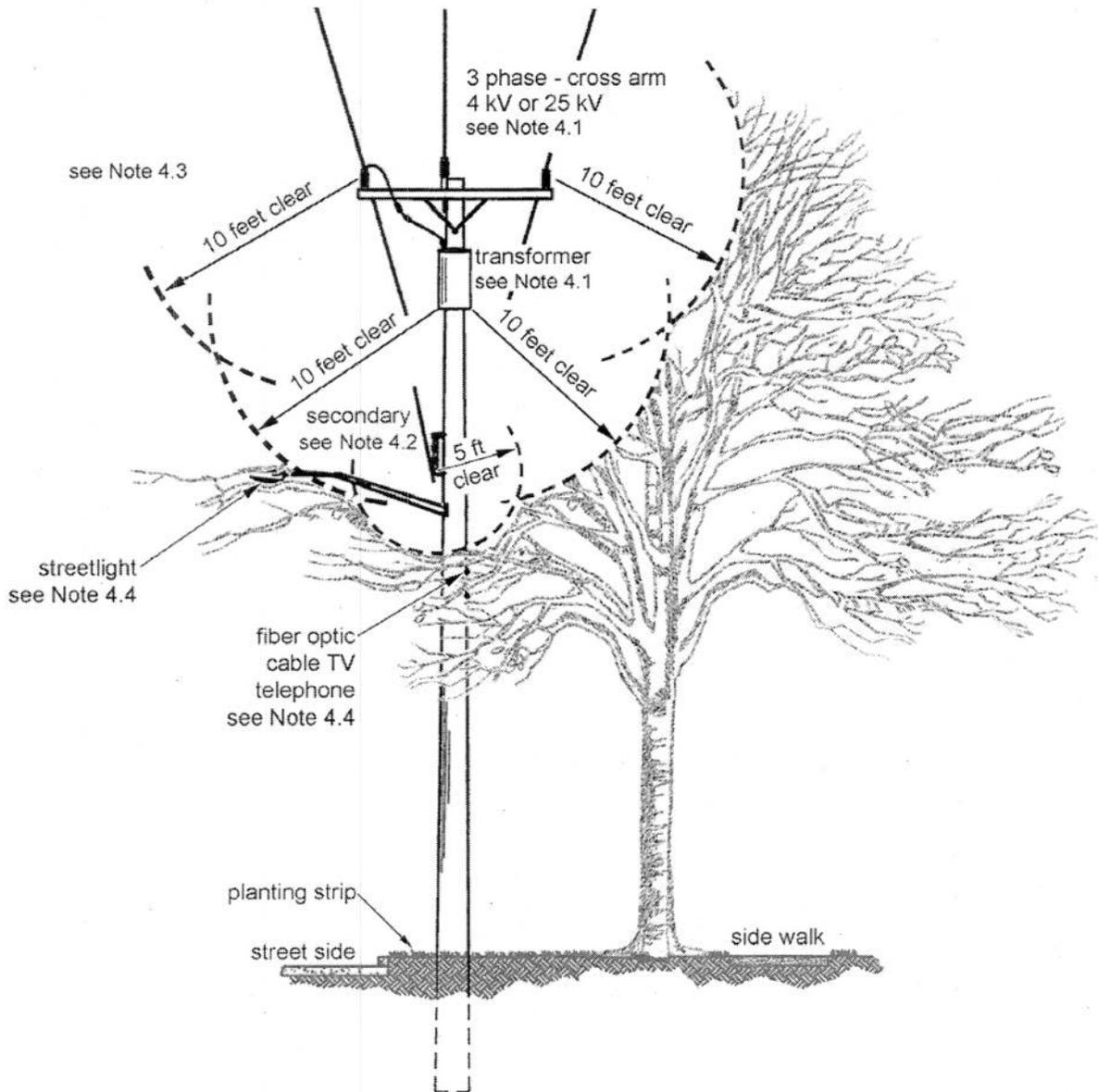
Tree Clearances

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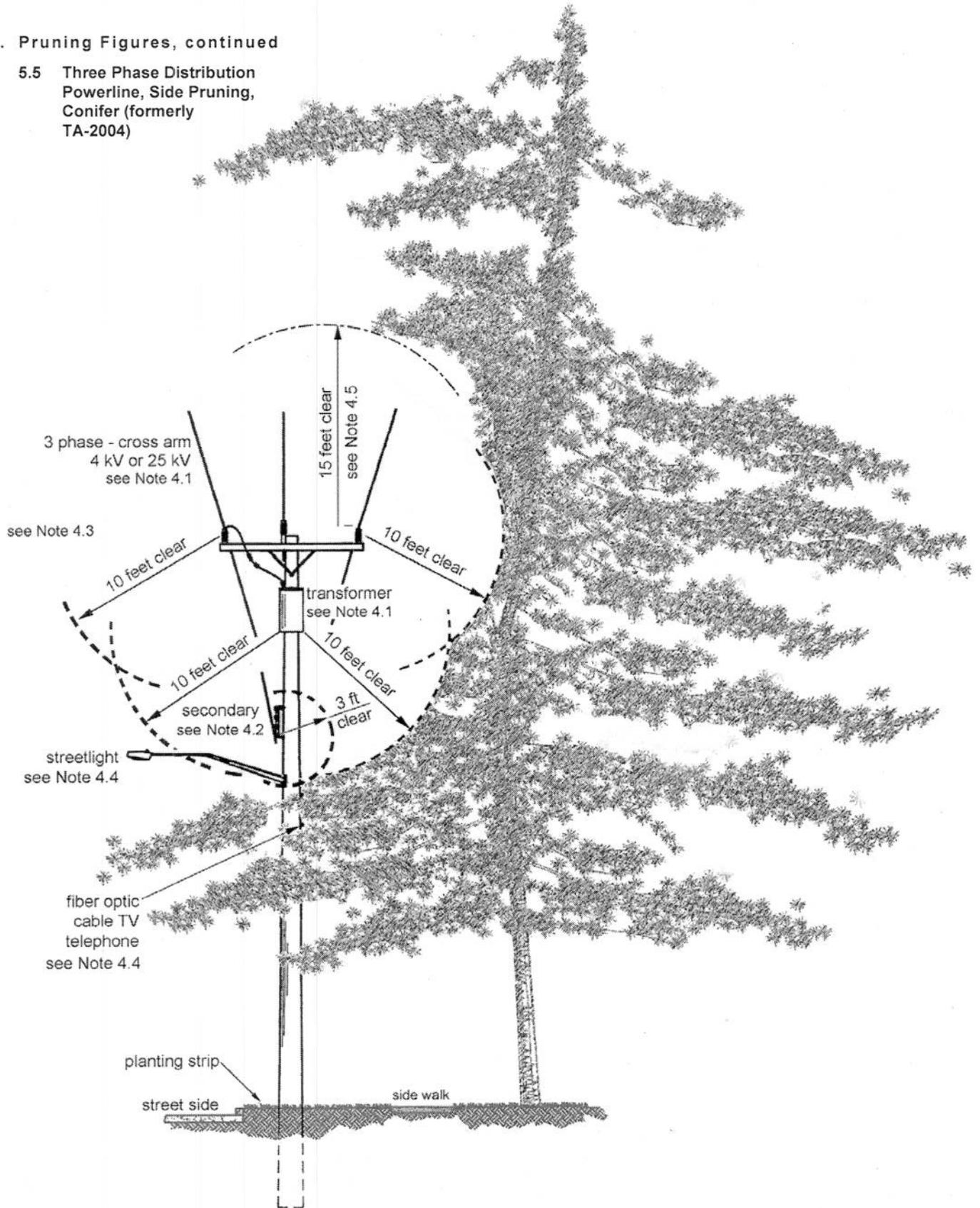
## 5. Pruning Figures, continued

### 5.4 Three Phase Distribution Powerline, Side Pruning, Deciduous (formerly TA-2003)



5. Pruning Figures, continued

5.5 Three Phase Distribution  
Powerline, Side Pruning,  
Conifer (formerly  
TA-2004)



# CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINE

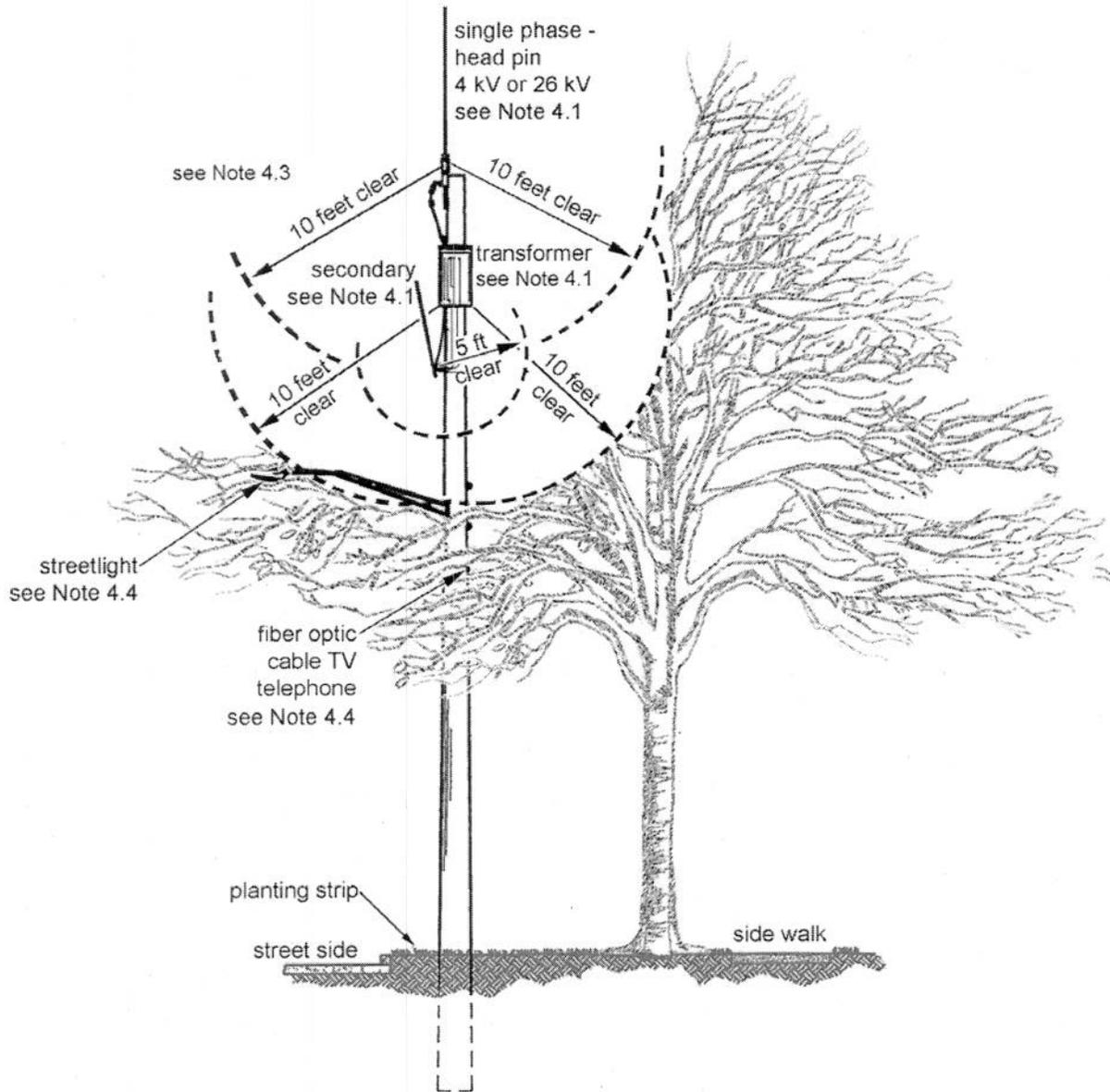
Tree Clearances

standard number: **D9-80**

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## 5. Pruning Figures, continued

### 5.6 Single Phase Distribution Powerline, Side Pruning, Deciduous (formerly TA-2005)



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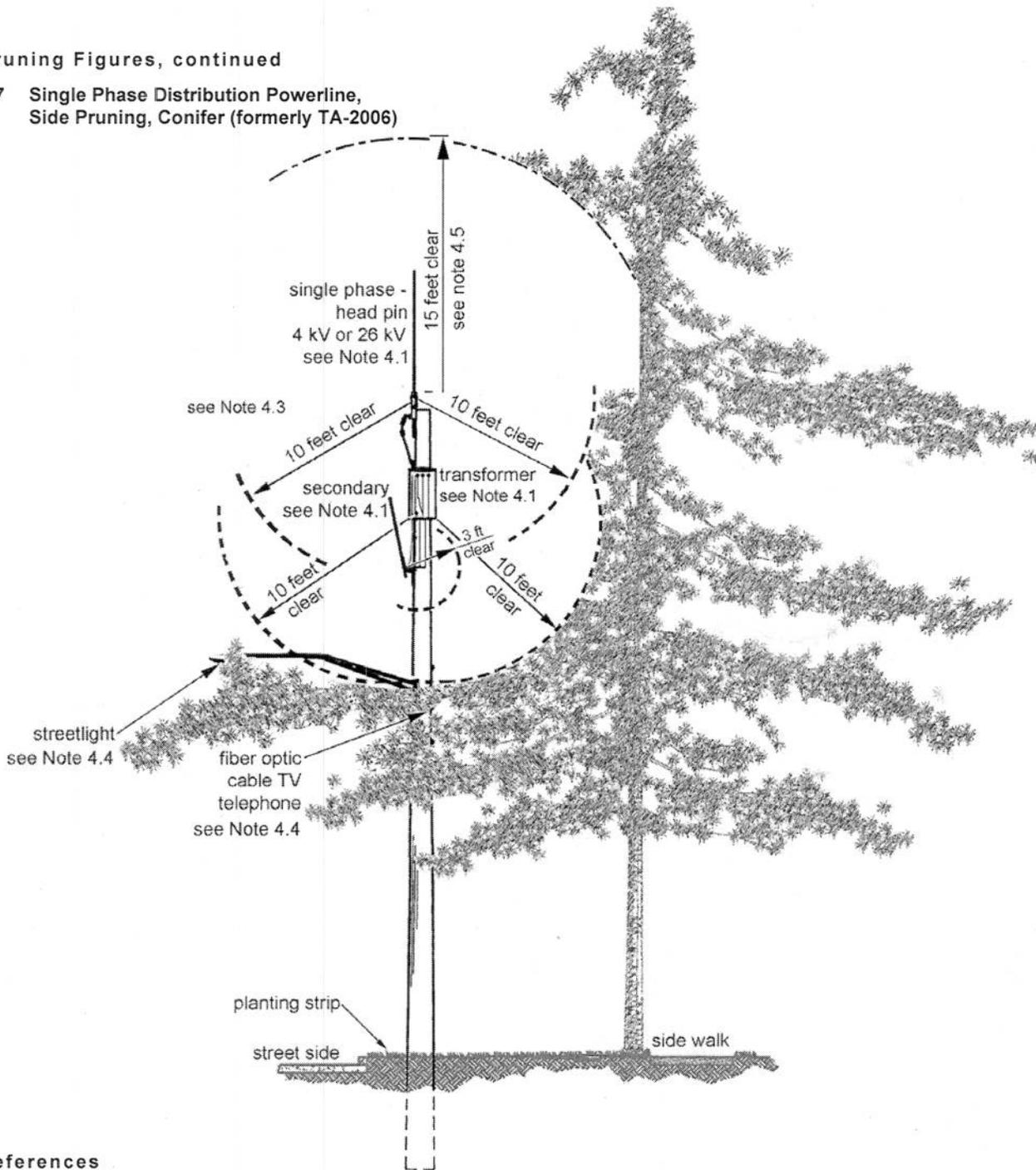
Tree Clearances

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## 5. Pruning Figures, continued

### 5.7 Single Phase Distribution Powerline, Side Pruning, Conifer (formerly TA-2006)



## 6. References

Ingham, Dave; SCL Powerline Clearance Coordinator, subject matter expert  
RCW 64.12.035, Revised Code of Washington, Cutting or Removing Vegetation - Electric Utility - Liability - Definitions.  
Siddiqi, Uzma; SCL Standards Engineer, subject matter expert and originator of D9-80 (uzma.siddiqi@seattle.gov)  
TA-2000 to TA-2006; series of drawings on tree clearances; SCL; 5/10/2006  
WAC-296-24-960, Washington Administrative Code - Training