
BULLETIN 2007-003-EL

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REQUIREMENTS OF THE SUPPLY AUTHORITY (BC HYDRO) IN REGULATED WORK

The electrical characteristic of the supply service, overhead service point of attachment and pole location, and types of underground service raceways must be confirmed with and accepted by the BC Hydro. This bulletin clarifies the subject matter and explains the significance of the foregoing statement.

Although the requirements for regulated work undertaken by a permit holder must be in conformance with the BC Electrical Safety Regulation [in accordance with the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I (CE Code)], these requirements do not include electrical work done by the supply authority. Also the supply authority has no jurisdiction in respect to such regulated work. The Code defines “supply authority” and types of “services”; and provides references to the supply authority regarding installation of these services.

The CE Code defines two types of “services” and “supply authority” as follows:

- A. Service, consumer’s - all that portion of the consumer’s installation from the service box or its equivalent up to and including the point at which the supply authority makes connection.
- B. Service, supply - any one set of conductors run by a supply authority from its mains to a consumer’s service.
- C. Supply authority - any person, firm, corporation, company, commission, or other organization responsible for an electrical power distribution network that connects to a consumer’s service (see Appendix B). Note: BC Hydro is the supply authority in the City of Vancouver.

The CE Code contains the following requirements:

- 1. Rule 6-206(1)(a) requires that service boxes or other consumer’s service equipment shall be installed in a location that complies with the requirements of the supply authority.
- 2. Rule 6-408(1)(f) requires that meters and metering equipment shall be in compliance with the requirements of the supply authority.
- 3. Rule 36-000(2) requires that the supply authority and the inspection department must be consulted before proceeding with any high-voltage installations.
- 4. Rule 36-200 requires that the service equipment shall be installed in a location that complies with the requirements of the supply authority and, in the case of a building, shall be at the point of service entrance.

These definitions and requirements of the CE Code clearly indicate to a permit holder that the supply authority (BC Hydro) must be consulted on the following:

- a) electrical characteristics of a supply service provided by the BC Hydro (i.e. on a single or three phase supply and on the voltage of the supply service);
- b) location of overhead point of attachment;

- c) location of a consumer's service and metering equipment; and
- d) types of underground consumer's service raceways when such raceways are intended for the installation of supply service conductors (conductors installed by the BC Hydro).

Such confirmation with the supply authority will facilitate power connection by the BC Hydro provided that all other electrical safety requirements of the CE Code are met by the permit holder; the installation has been accepted by the City's Electrical Inspection; and the current-permit authorizing the service connection has been obtained from the Electrical Inspection.

REQUIREMENTS

- Provisions of the CE Code do not apply to the supply service conductors run within the consumer owned service raceways by the supply authority to a consumer's service. The installation of consumer's service raceways is regulated work (i.e. it is done by an electrical contractor under permit in accordance with applicable requirements of the CE Code), provisions of the CE Code apply to the consumer owned service raceways intended for installation of the BC Hydro run conductors.
- Where the raceways are intended for the installation of high-voltage conductors or cables run indoor by BC Hydro, these raceways shall be installed in conformance with CE Code Rule 36-100(2). The requirement of Rule 36-100(1)(a) is not permitted to be amended by the provisions of Rule 6-208(1). It is important to note that metal raceways embedded in areas subject to vehicular traffic such as parkade slabs and parking lot slabs must comply with the requirements of CEC Rule 2-116(1) for corrosion protection.

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