

Bulletin 2-29-2
OESC Exemption for railway systems
Rule 2-000

Issued May 2025
Supersedes Bulletin 2-29-1

The intent of this bulletin is to clarify the application of Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) requirements, including Plan Review submissions, filing notifications and site inspections for electrical equipment and installations associated with railway systems.

Rule 2-000 c) provides an exemption from the requirements of the OESC for certain items related to **electric** railway or **electric street** railway systems. The exemption is only for electrical equipment and installations in:

- Cars;
- Car-houses;
- Passenger stations supplied with electric current from the railway power-circuit; and
- Freight stations supplied with electric current from the railway power-circuit.

Rule 2-000 d) provides an exemption from the requirements of the OESC for certain items related to railway systems. The exemption is only for electrical equipment and installations in:

- Railway locomotives;
- Railway cars;
- Signaling systems;
- Communication systems;
- Wayside train monitoring systems;
- Track facilities; and
- Branch circuits supplying such electrical equipment or electrical installations.

For both of the above railway systems, the demarcation point for the application of OESC requirements is at the load side terminals of the final overcurrent device which supplies power to the exempted electrical equipment and installations.

For railway administrative buildings, stations and platforms, unless supplied from the railway power circuit, the OESC requirements apply to electrical installations and equipment within these areas.

Examples of electrical equipment or installations to which the OESC requirements apply may include (but not limited to):

- Service entrance equipment
- Customer-owned high voltage equipment
- Feeders
- Switchboards
- Panelboards
- Platform lighting and receptacles

See Figure B1 which demonstrates the demarcation point of OESC application for the areas and types of electrical equipment or installations associated with railway systems.

Diagram B1 – Demarcation of OESC application in Railway Systems

