

## **Occupancy Letter changed to Statement of Electrical Installation Status**

A Statement of Electrical Installation Status notification (formerly known as an Occupancy Letter) is normally requested by an Electrical Contractor, the Owner of a property, or a General Contractor. This is usually done because another Authority, such as a municipality, requested an inspection as part of their requirements to allow the facility to either be occupied or made operational (for example, opening up a store for stock) prior to electrical work being completed.

The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) does not have jurisdiction to grant occupancy based on a facility's electrical condition. As such, in June 2023, the ESA updated its processes and messaging for both external correspondence and within its own systems to better reflect the ESA's assessment of the present state of the electrical installation.

If an ESA Inspector finds an area they have inspected appears free from electrical hazards to life and/or property, the ESA will issue a Statement of Electrical Installation Status. Alternatively, in circumstances where the inspection reveals that an area is not electrically safe and poses a risk to L&OP, then defects will be issued accordingly.

Note that the Statement of Electrical Installation Status will only apply to a portion of the electrical work identified by the applicant. It is not an ESA Final Certificate of Acceptance nor should it be used in lieu of one.