

Notifying ESA of Disconnections Related to Illegal and Unsafe Operations

Distribution Company Awareness

This Bulletin addresses the safety hazards associated with illegal and unsafe operations such as illegal drug operations (e.g. methamphetamine labs or marijuana growers) and to make Electrical Distributors aware of their obligations to ensure full compliance with the Electricity Act. Following the requirements of the Electricity Act will ensure ESA personnel are advised of potentially dangerous situations and safety hazards they may encounter.

ESA Direction

When a facility's electrical service is disconnected because of an illegal drug operation, notify ESA's Customer Service Center:

- Telephone: 1-877-372-7233 (1-877-ESA-SAFE)
- Fax: 1-800-667-4278
- Email: esa.cambridge@electricalsafety.on.ca.

Once the facility is cleaned up and ready to be occupied, ESA inspects the facility for electrical hazards and will provide a connection authorization to the Electrical Distributor.

Part III of the Electricity Act, 1998:

Emergency termination of service

31.1 (1) A distributor may shut off the distribution of electricity to a property without notice if the distributor has reason to believe that a condition exists in respect of the property that threatens or is likely to threaten,

- a) the safety of any person; or*
- b) the reliability of all or part of the distribution system. 2005, c. 33, s. 5.*

Notice

(2) The distributor shall,

- c) give the Electrical Safety Authority written notice of the shut-off under subsection (1) as soon as possible afterwards; and*
- d) post a notice of the shut-off under subsection (1) in a conspicuous place on the property within 10 days afterwards. 2005, c. 33, s. 5.*