

Electrical Work, Metering and Service Connections

Distribution Company Awareness

This bulletin addresses Electrical Distributors performing service connection work associated with installing customer-owned electrical cables for connecting a customer to the distribution system and revenue metering equipment beyond the demarcation point.



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3

ESA Direction

Metering and Service Connection Work on Customer-Owned Equipment

Electrical Distributors are permitted to perform service connection work on customer-owned equipment that is directly associated with making a connection to the distribution system, and metering work under Regulation 22/04, including but not limited to the following examples:

- Installing cables up the pole which includes associated protection (e.g. cable guards, sunlight protection for inner conductors, etc.) (Picture 1);
- Installing cables into subsurface chambers or boxes and backfilling the trench;
- Installing cables into foundations or pad-mounted equipment and backfilling the trench (Picture 2); or
- Installation, removal, replacement, testing, servicing or maintaining metering and associated metering equipment (e.g. CTs, VTs, adapters, test switches, communications equipment, components, connecting conductors, etc.) (Picture 3).

Safety standards must be met for compliance with Regulation 22/04, including the applicable sections of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) or CSA Standards.

Regulation 22/04 Excerpt

Application

2. (4) *The ESC, and not this Regulation, applies with respect to,*

(a) electrical installations and electrical equipment located beyond the ownership demarcation point, except for revenue metering equipment and associated equipment, current transformers, voltage transformers and remote terminal units;

ESA Recommends

It is recommended that Electrical Distributors meet the requirements of Rules 2-100 to 86-404 of the OESC for customer-owned equipment being installed. Some frequently applied OESC rules related to this bulletin include:

- OESC Rule 6-114 requires a weatherhead to be installed for riser mechanical protection such as a PVC conduit.
- OESC Rule 2-136 requires insulated conductors and cables exposed to direct rays of the sun to be marked sunlight resistant “SR”, “Sun Res” or “Sunlight Resistant”. When the outer covering of the cable assembly marked sunlight resistant has been removed for termination, the inner jacket of the internal insulated conductors exposed to direct sunlight shall be:
 - marked as sunlight resistant; or
 - protected by tubing, tape or equivalent that is marked as sunlight resistant.
- OESC Rules 6-400 through 6-412 governing metering equipment and establish the requirements when preparing revenue metering for an electrical service.

When Electrical Distributors permit non-Distributor persons to install the cable (e.g. riser installations), it is recommended that the customer be required to hire a Licensed Electrical Contractor qualified to do the work safely. This is recommended to ensure customers or other unqualified people (e.g. some 309 Construction & Maintenance Electricians) do not endanger themselves and/or breach the safe limits of approach under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Electrical Distributors clearly document ownership and responsibility boundaries for metering and non-metering equipment at each installation.