

Distributor Wood Pole(s) Approval

Distribution Company Awareness

This Distributor Bulletin is to inform of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC). This bulletin reflects changes to the rule numbers in Section 75 and is intended to replace Information Bulletin DIB-02-12. It is recommended that copies of DIB-02-12 be destroyed and replaced with this bulletin.

There have been inquiries in regards to acceptable options for the approval of distributor owned wood poles as required by O. Reg. 22/04. The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) drafted the *Technical Guidelines for Section 6, Section 7 and Section 8* to assist members of the industry in interpreting O.Reg. 22/04. This guideline deals with approval of electrical equipment and classifies poles as major equipment.

This bulletin is to clarify some acceptable options recognized by ESA for distributor owned wood pole approval, based on the *Technical Guidelines*.

Acceptable Approval Options For Distributor Owned Wood Poles

The Distributor may choose one of the below options to demonstrate compliance with O.Reg. 22/04.

1. A certified report issued and reviewed according to Rule of Distributor

A report signed by an Engineer, similar to a certified test report, where the licensure's obligation to public safety of the home jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to those required by Ontario, that contains sufficient information to ensure the produced pole(s) and/or production facilities are capable of producing pole(s) that meet or exceed the applicable industry standards or distributor developed specification. The distributor's competent person shall review this report, and shall provide an assurance the pole(s) present no undue hazard to persons or property.

It is the responsibility of the distributor to establish the required sufficient information in the certified report and clarify when/if the report requires re-certification. The distributor's competent person reviewing and accepting the report deems the wood pole(s) approved as per Section 6 of O.Reg 22/04.

Note: A competent person is a defined term in the *Technical Guidelines*.

2. Report signed by Professional Engineer according to Rule of Distributor

A Professional Engineer (*a person who holds a license or temporary license under the Professional Engineers Act*) provides an assurance in the form of a signed official letter that the wood pole(s) present no undue hazard to persons or property.

3. OESC requirements

Wood pole(s) approved according to OESC (Rule 2-024) or satisfying Section 75. Rule 75-100 requires poles to be classified in accordance with CSA O15 series. Rule 75-120 of the OESC lists the requirements for accepting new wood poles. These requirements include species-treatment, class, etc. Also, Rule 75-122 requires wood poles to bear markings to indicate the following as minimum information: type of wood, supplier's code, class and length. The distributor's competent person(s) are required to verify that the distributor owned wood poles satisfy these requirements of the OESC. This would deem the wood pole(s) approved as per Section 6 of O.Reg 22/04.

For the approval of existing wood poles for the purpose of maintaining or reusing, refer to Item 2.7.6 of *Technical Guidelines for Section 6 Approval of electrical equipment, Section 7 Approval of plans, drawings and specifications for installation work and Section 8 Inspection and approval of construction.*