

“Materially Insignificant” Alterations

Overview

This bulletin contains direction on how an LDC may demonstrate compliance with Regulation 22/04, with respect to “materially insignificant” alterations to electrical equipment. ESA views “materially insignificant” alterations to consist of any work that does not materially change the existing electrical equipment, typically forces on poles & strength of poles. ESA recognizes that some forms of overlashing, flags, traffic signs and flower baskets may be deemed “materially insignificant”.

ESA Direction

The LDC should establish the maximum alterations that are allowed in order to determine if a proposed alteration to electrical equipment will be “materially insignificant”. If an alteration, typically attachment, has been deemed “materially insignificant” by the LDC, “materially insignificant” equipment may be exempt from Sections 7 and 8 of the Regulation (where applicable).

Examples

1. A P.Eng deems a 3rd Party Attacher’s overlash to be “materially insignificant”. The LDC may not require the 3rd Party Attacher to supply an approved plan, drawings or specifications for installation work. The LDC may require a Record of Inspection and Certificate to be completed.
2. A P.Eng deems the Municipality’s request to attach Canadian Flags to poles to be “materially insignificant”. The LDC may not require the Municipality to supply an approved plan, drawings or specifications for installation work. The LDC may also not require a Record of Inspection and Certificate to be completed.

To maintain safe installations all alterations shall be brought to the attention of the LDC prior to any alteration being made. This is to ensure that the alterations, especially attachments, do not exceed the safety requirements detailed in Section 5 of Regulation 22/04 (e.g. clearances from overhead line components, clearance above finished grade, etc...), and can be reviewed to the LDC’s definition of “materially insignificant”.