

2016 ALBERTA ELECTRICAL UTILITY CODE

SUBJECT: Section 2 – General Rules

Rule 2-024 Consumer's Service Connection

Purpose:

Industry has requested clarification regarding the demarcation point between Consumer installations and Utility/Supply Authority installations.

Code references:

Alberta Electrical Utility Code

2-024 Consumer's Service Connection

The operator of a utility system shall not connect, or allow to be connected, an electrical consumer's service to the electric utility system unless:

- (a) the attachment point for conductors used on overhead systems to supply the consumer's service is located so that the conductors maintain required clearances;
- (b) the metering equipment and location are acceptable;
- (c) the electric utility has assurance from the owner or the owner's agent that the installation is ready for connection and no obvious hazards should result;
- (d) the electric utility has received a copy of a valid permit or authorization issued by the authority having jurisdiction; and
- (e) for existing service re-connections, and at the discretion of the electric utility, a re-inspection of the consumer's service is performed.

Canadian Electrical Code, Part I

Section 0 — Object, scope, and definitions

Service, consumer's — all that portion of the consumer's installation from the service box or its equivalent up to and including the point at which the supply authority makes connection.

Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by
the Provincial Electrical Administrator

[Original Signed]

Clarence C. Cormier, P.Eng.

The logo for the Province of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized script font, followed by a small blue square.

Supply authority — any person, firm, corporation, company, commission, or other organization responsible for an electrical power distribution network that connects to a consumer's service (see Appendix B).

Discussion:

There are differences in how the demarcation is determined in various jurisdictions, as well as differences between commercial and residential, underground and overhead, etc. It is important to prevent any gaps in oversight between the Utility SCO and the Consumer SCO.

Examples in the Canadian Electrical Code Handbook do not cover all situations and have led to confusion.

Also, the demarcation point has to meet the requirements of both the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I and the Alberta Electrical Utility Code, e.g. if the property line is deemed to be the demarcation point, then a splice/connection must exist at the property line.

Interpretation:

The purpose of the STANDATA is to provide guidance in situations where the demarcation point is not already identified.

The location of the demarcation point can be unique for each customer as determined by the supply authority; however, for the purposes of determining demarcation between the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I and the Alberta Electrical Utility Code, the **typical** point of demarcation:

- for an overhead service is the connection point at the service head;
- for a residential underground service is the line side terminal of the customer's meter base;
- for a commercial underground service is the secondary terminals of the transformer; and in the event that the commercial service cabling system is extended from the transformer to pedestals or underground enclosures, then the demarcation point is the terminals in the pedestals or the underground enclosures.

The demarcation point should be identified in all cases.

This INTERPRETATION is applicable throughout the province of Alberta.