

CUSTOMER REFERENCE GUIDE - UNDERGROUND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

The Canadian Electrical Code specifies that the supply end of a service shall be installed in a location satisfactory to both the Electrical Inspection Department and the Supply Authority (BC Hydro). The following summarizes BC Hydro requirements with respect to underground services and meters.

Installation Requirements (ES 54 S1-01)

The contractor/customer is responsible for the supply and installation of conduit which meets the requirements of the Canadian Electrical Code and BC Hydro as follows:

1. The duct shall be gray 75 mm rigid DB2 PVC.
2. The duct shall have a minimum of 900 mm of cover.
3. The duct is to be installed between a 75 mm sand base and 75 mm sand cover.
4. If the total number of bends installed between BC Hydro's duct stub-off and the meter base exceeds a composite angle of 135 degrees, a pull box may be required.
5. The minimum radius of any conduit bend shall be 900 mm.
6. All underground service conduits must be drained at the building entrance as per the Canadian Electrical Code.
7. A 3 mm minimum (#8) polypropylene pull string shall be installed in the service conduit, tied securely at the meter based enclosure and to the string in the BC Hydro stub-off.
8. The duct trench shall be in a direct line of sight, as near as possible, from the meter base to the BC Hydro duct stub-off and shall be graded to the depth of that stub off point.

Service Location

The location of the service entrance shall be:

1. In a direct line of sight with BC Hydro's service duct stub off, and
2. On the wall of the building facing the power supply; or
3. Not further than 1 metre (3 feet) back, from that wall, on either side;

If you cannot meet the requirements of the preferred service location, please contact our Service Representative by calling 1-877-520-1355 during the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Pacific Standard Time).

Service Length

The total allowable cable length, from the project property line to the meter base, is 30 metres (100 feet).

If the cable length exceeds 30 meters and is approved by BC Hydro, an extra length charge will apply.

Meter Location – For latest requirements, visit the BC Hydro website at www.bchydro.com; New and existing electrical connections; Forms and Guides, and under Revenue Metering Requirements, select: Requirements for Secondary Voltage Revenue Metering (750 V and less).

All residential socket type meters shall be installed within 1.0 m (1000 mm) and have unobstructed clearance in front of BC Hydro's meter **for clear and safe access at all times for BC Hydro representatives**. Meters must be installed between 1.5 m and 1.8 m above finished grade. Meters shall not be installed inside carports, garages, breezeways, or any part of the structure that may potentially be enclosed or within 1.0 m of a gas meter.

METER INFORMATION – GENERAL

Only one service connection (or "supply service" per the Canadian Electrical Code) will be provided to a residential dwelling.

Typically, the number of meters installed for various types of dwellings are as noted to the right. A maximum of four socket meters, connected to one supply service, are allowed to be installed.

BC Hydro's tariff definition of a single family dwelling (SFD) is a self contained unit including sleeping quarters, a kitchen, a bathroom or alternative living quarters acceptable to BC Hydro.

TYPE OF DWELLING	Number of Meters
House – one SFD	1
House with a suite – two SFDs	2
Duplex – two SFDs	2
Triplex – three SFDs	3
Four Plex-Four SFDs	4

RESERVED IN-SERVICE DATE WILL NOT BE HONOURED UNLESS ALL INFORMATION IS COMPLETE. ANY DEFICIENCIES/ DISCREPANCIES AT THE TIME OF CONNECTION WILL RESULT IN A CALL BACK CHARGE.

