

BULLETIN 2000-027-EL

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REQUIREMENTS FOR BAR COUNTER RECEPTACLES IN ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TEMPORARY POWER FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

The intent of this bulletin is to provide clarification and to establish a consistent and uniform enforcement approach for the requirements for bar counter receptacles in one and two family dwellings and temporary power for electrical installations.

1) Receptacles installed in the built-in wet bar counter areas

BACKGROUND

There is a variety of dwelling units in the City of Vancouver where installation of a wet bar or other similar counter with a sink is intended to be used with appliances normally utilized on kitchen counters. These areas are also intended for installation of a refrigerator near a wet bar counter and a heating and cooking appliance if such appliance is authorized by the provisions of Vancouver Building By-law or Vancouver Zoning and Development By-law. Thus, a policy on receptacles that are required in such areas will provide a uniform and consistent approach to installation requirements similar to those mandated by Rules 26-710, 26-712 and 26-722 of the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I (CEC) for kitchens in dwelling units.

REQUIREMENTS

Where a built-in bar or other similar counter with a sink and a work surface is provided, or intended to be provided in a dwelling unit, the following requirements must be met:

- a) At least one GFCI protected duplex receptacle shall be installed on the wall behind the counter work surface on each side of the counter sink.
- b) The duplex receptacles referred to in item a) above shall be supplied by a branch circuit that does not supply any other outlets.
- c) One receptacle connected to a separate branch circuit shall be installed for a refrigerator.
- d) Where an electric heating and cooking appliance is authorized to be installed in a built-in wet bar counter area, a receptacle of CSA configuration 14-50R connected to a separate branch circuit shall be installed for the supply of electric energy to the appliance in conformance with CEC Rule 26-744(5) and (6).
- e) A load of 6000 W (rating of 12 KW or less) shall be considered as a calculated load for each appliance authorized to be installed as per item d), and such a load must be added to the loads of the dwelling unit for the determination of the minimum ampacity of the service.

- f) Where an additional 240 V appliance branch circuit is provided as described in item d) above, the duplex receptacles referred to in item a) above shall be supplied by two separate branch circuits; wired on the single circuits (5-20R) or a split circuit (5-15R) for both.

NOTE

Authorized - means permitted by the provisions of the Vancouver Building By-law, the Vancouver Zoning and Development By-law or similar regulations. The condition of the authorized installation must be indicated on the electrical permit. (See Bulletin 2005-005-EL)

2) Permits for Temporary Power

BACKGROUND

Our experience has demonstrated that in a variety of dwellings under construction, no separate electrical permits have been obtained by electrical contractors for the temporary use of power in conformance with Section 5.11 of the City of Vancouver Electrical By-law No. 5563. Some contractors use future permanent services as a means to provide temporary power for construction purposes. This latter development has created a number of specific concerns relative to electrical safety. Thus, this bulletin clarifies the City policy on permits for temporary power. It is intended to provide consistency for the electrical installers and regulators and will improve electrical safety in buildings under construction.

REQUIREMENTS

- a) A separate electrical permit shall be obtained for a temporary service where the temporary use of electric power is required to facilitate construction of a building.
- b) Installation of a temporary construction pole, service entrance equipment, grounding and feeders, shall comply with applicable requirements of Section 76 of the CEC.
- c) Transfer of a connection from a temporary construction pole to a permanent service in the building is subject to the acceptance by the district electrical inspector, provided that the building is substantially completed and lockable.

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