

BULLETIN 2000-028-EL

Revised September 4, 2015

LOCATION OF CONSUMER'S SERVICE CONDUCTORS AND CONSUMER'S SERVICE EQUIPMENT

This bulletin clarifies the requirements of the location of consumer's service conductors and consumer's service equipment.

The requirements of consumer's service equipment location and consumer's service conductors location are regulated by Rule 6-206 and Rule 6-208 of the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I (CEC). Rule 6-208 of the CEC requires that all cables or raceways containing consumer's service conductors must be located outside of buildings. Exceptions to these requirements apply only where these raceways or cables are:

1. Embedded in and encircled by not less than 50mm of concrete or masonry where permitted by Section 12 of the CEC;
2. Directly buried in accordance with Rule 6-300 and located beneath a concrete slab not less than 50mm thick; or
3. Run in a crawl space located underneath a structure, provided such crawl space:
 - a) does not exceed 1.8m in height measured between the lowest part of the floor assembly and the ground or other surface below it;
 - b) is of non-combustible construction; and
 - c) is not used for the storage of combustible material.

Rule 6-208 also states that raceways and cables containing consumer's service conductors are allowed to enter the building only for the sole purpose of connection to a consumer's service box.

Location of a consumer's service box in the building being served is regulated by Rule 6-206. This rule, in part, mandates that each consumer's service box must be as close as practicable to the point where the consumer's service conductors enter the building. For the purpose of the interpretation of the latter requirement, "as close as practicable" is deemed to be the installation of a consumer's service box within 1.5 m from the point where the consumer's service conductors enter the building.

NOTES:

1. Raceways or cables containing consumer's service conductors located outside of buildings are permitted to be enclosed in ducts (boxed in) provided that these ducts are attached to exterior surfaces of the buildings (to vinyl or aluminum siding, or to stucco finish).
2. Provisions of this bulletin do not apply to supply service conductors run within the consumer's service raceways by the supply authority to a consumer's service. The installation of consumer's service raceways is regulated work (i.e. it is done by an electrical contractor under permit in accordance with applicable requirements of the CEC). Provisions of this bulletin apply to the consumer's service raceways intended for installation of the BC Hydro run conductors.

3. When it is impracticable to install a consumer's service box within 1.5m from the point where conductors enter the building, and a technically substantiated request for a deviation from the CEC requirements is submitted by a permit holder in accordance with Rule 2-030 (See Bulletin 2009-004-EL), a Special Permission may be granted by the City Electrician to install a consumer's service box in a location that could be extended up to 6 m within the point where conductors enter the building.

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