

**BULLETIN 2009-004-EL**

*Revised March 16, 2015*

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**APPLICATION OF RULE 2-030 OF THE CE CODE  
PART I "DEVIATION OR POSTPONEMENT"**

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This bulletin outlines the conditions under which an application for a Special Permission can be made to deviate from the prescriptive requirements of the Canadian Electric Code.

Rule 2-030 of the Canadian Electric Code (CEC) recognizes the fact that a deviation from the CEC prescriptive requirements could be allowed. Although Rule 2-030 clearly states that "if necessary", a Special Permission to deviate from the CEC requirements must be obtained before proceeding with the work and emphasizes that a Special Permission shall apply only for a particular installation for which it is given, it does not explain the criteria required for each such application.

The Object of Section 0 of the CEC addresses the fundamental principles of protection against electric shock, thermal effects, overcurrent, fault currents and overvoltage in electrical installations. Strict compliance with the prescriptive rules of the CEC is required to meet these fundamental safety principles and to provide an essentially safe installation.

However, it is acknowledged by the Object of Section 0 of the CEC that a safe installation may be also achieved by alternatives to this CEC requirement, where such alternatives meet the fundamental safety principles provided by the prescriptive rules of the CEC. Therefore, in accordance with provisions of Rule 2-030 each request for a deviation from the CEC requirements is considered by the City Electrician based on the following conditions:

1. A request for a Special Permission is made by using a generic application form (see attachment);
2. A request is submitted by the permit holder (FSR of an electrical contractor) or by the Electrical Registered Professional of record in respect to the specific permit number and to the specific installation only;
3. Each request provides a reference to the particular rules of the CEC from which a deviation is requested; and
4. Each request demonstrates a clear technical substantiation that a proposed alternative meets the fundamental safety principles of protection mandated by the CEC requirements from which a deviation is requested.

When a Special Permission is granted, a completed request form is signed by the City Electrician (or on his behalf) and returned to the applicant.

(Original signed by)

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W. White  
MANAGER, TRADES INSPECTION  
DEPUTY CITY ELECTRICIAN

(Original signed by)

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P. Ryan, M. Sc., P. Eng.  
CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL  
DIRECTOR, BUILDING CODE & POLICY

Attachment

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**Attachment to BULLETIN 2009-004-EL**

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**REQUEST FOR SPECIAL PERMISSION**

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The City Electrician  
453 W 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V5Y 1V4

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(YY MM DD)

Dear Sir: The following are the reasons for the request and supporting information

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Electrical permit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Building permit: \_\_\_\_\_

To deviate from the following code requirements: Rule(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for request, summary of solutions and provide analysis and evaluation to validate acceptance:

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FSR/Permit Holder \_\_\_\_\_ Affix Professional Seal (if applicable)

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Registered Professional of record (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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For CoV office use only  
Request for Special permission is accepted: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

For the City Electrician (name and the signature): \_\_\_\_\_

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