

**PART VI****SERVICE AND METER CONNECTION EQUIPMENT**

Before construction is begun, the Consumer Member shall contact the Cooperative regarding the location, number and type of meters, space requirements, and the arrangements of the metering and service equipment.

The Cooperative will furnish, install, maintain, and test all Cooperative meters in accordance with industry approved methods. Meters and all other equipment furnished by the Cooperative shall remain the property of the Cooperative.

**A. APPROVAL OF PLANS**

The Consumer Member shall submit detailed plans of the proposed service equipment installation showing the arrangement of service raceway, cable, and buses, beginning at the point of service entrance. The Consumer Member shall secure Cooperative approval in writing before the work is started if the installation involves switchboard mounting of service equipment, service equipment having a rating totaling more than 600 amperes, or service equipment rated more than 300 volts between any two conductors.

Although detailed plans are not required for other installations, the Consumer Member shall consult the Cooperative and secure approval of his proposed plan before installing any service equipment.

**B. WIRING SEQUENCE**

Unless the Cooperative specifically approves otherwise, the wiring sequence shall be meter, main switch or breaker. This sequence applies to all individually metered loads connected to alternating current service not exceeding 600 volts between conductors. For service exceeding 600 volts between conductors, consult the Cooperative.

**C. NUMBER OF METERS**

All service equipment installations for alternating current service not exceeding 600 volts between conductors shall be arranged so that not more than one meter will be required per Consumer Member per class of service, except:

1. Where the operation of the Cooperative's system requires the installation of an additional meter or meters; or,
2. The Consumer Member qualifies for and accepts separate billing under an available rate schedule requiring an additional meter or meters.

**D. SEALING AND TAMPERING**

1. **Sealing of Meters and Meter Enclosures:** All meters and meter enclosures will be sealed by the Cooperative. Before electric service is supplied, the Customer shall provide an approved means of sealing all points of access to unmetered wiring in equipment furnished and installed by the Customer. Metered and unmetered wiring shall not be installed in

the same raceway. No equipment other than that approved by the Cooperative shall be installed on the source side of the meter.

2. **Altering Meter Seal or Changing Meter:** Only an authorized Cooperative employee shall break or remove a meter seal or change a meter.
3. **Tampering:** In the event tampering with a meter or Cooperative equipment has occurred at the Customer's service address, the Cooperative will terminate service. To have service restored, the Customer must comply with Part III (Meter Reading and Billing), O (Meter Tampering and Unauthorized Electricity Consumption).

E. METER LOCATION

The location of meters is an important consideration to both the Cooperative and the Consumer Member. Before construction is begun, the Cooperative shall be consulted and approval of the meter location shall be obtained. The Cooperative will endeavor to select a location that will be most suitable to both parties. Metering equipment shall be located to be readily accessible to the Cooperative.

Meters for residential service shall be installed outdoors. Residential meters shall not be enclosed by fences with locked gates, nor shall they be located in carports, open porches, or other such areas that may later be enclosed by walls or screens. If a meter area is later enclosed, the Consumer Member shall arrange to have the meter facilities moved to an outside location at his expense.

Meters for commercial and industrial service shall normally be installed outdoors. However, the Cooperative may approve a suitable location indoors for meters to apartment, office, commercial, or industrial buildings, etc., provided such meters are accessible at all times. Approval to locate meters indoors shall be obtained in writing.

Meter installations will be subject to the following restrictions:

1. Where one Consumer Member is to be supplied, the metering equipment shall be located 4 to 6 feet above ground level.
2. Where metering equipment is located other than at the point of entry of the service entrance wiring, the Consumer Member's unmetered wiring (such as the wiring from the point of entry or the main disconnecting means to the source side of the metering equipment) shall be enclosed in rigid metal conduit, electrical metallic tubing, or wire troughs with provision for sealing.
3. Where the meters are to be installed on a building, the Consumer Member shall provide a suitable space for their installation, as close as practicable to the point of service entrance or attachment.

4. Meters installed outdoors should be located on the building in a place where they will be protected from mechanical damage. The meter shall not be installed in driveways, walkways or carports.
5. Meters shall not be installed in a hazardous location; on mobile equipment; in a location with less than 6 feet of headroom; where subject to chemical fumes or damage; over a fuel tank; in a continuously wet or damp place; under a pipe likely to sweat; or where subject to vibration, dust, excessive heat, or cold.
6. Electric meters and meter connection equipment shall be at least 3 feet from gas meters and regulators, or approved locations of gas equipment. This distance shall be as measured between the nearest two sides of the equipment. Therefore, gas equipment may not be over, under or on either side of the electric meter connection equipment within the specified 3 feet.

F. MULTIPLE METERS

Where two or more meters are to be installed on the outside of a building, they shall be grouped at one location approved by the Cooperative. This location will normally be at the point of service entrance 4 to 6 feet above ground level.

Where more than one Consumer Member is to be supplied, the metering equipment shall, where practicable, be grouped at one location. With prior approval of the Cooperative, the metering equipment in a high-rise building may be located in groups on a limited number of upper floors. NOTE: The Cooperative may require that meter rooms be provided.

Where the area of the building makes a single group of meters impracticable, the Cooperative may approve installation of meters at more than one location. Approved fire walls must be present between points of service on any structure. Drawing A-4535 shows meter installation requirements for multiple services of three or more (240 V or less phase to ground).

Where two or more meters are installed on one building, the interior and exterior of each meter base shall be marked by the Consumer Member or contractor in a permanent and legible manner to indicate the portion or unit of the building supplied by the meter.

G. METER CONNECTION EQUIPMENT

The Consumer Member shall furnish and install according to SMECO specifications, all meter sockets, meter bases, enclosures and all wiring from the point of the utility's attachment.

The Cooperative establishes standards for all meter sockets, meter bases, meter test blocks, instrument transformer mounting brackets, and other equipment directly connected with housing and protection of metering equipment. These metering materials are referred to in this Tariff as meter connection equipment. They constitute part of the wiring installation for which the Consumer Member is responsible and shall be installed by the Consumer Member as part of his wiring. The Consumer Member is responsible for adhering to SMECO standards.

Meter sockets, enclosures, and instrument transformer mounting brackets shall be securely mounted in a plumb and level position on a solid wall or structure free from vibrations. When mounted on masonry walls or structures, meter sockets, enclosures, and instrument transformer mounting brackets shall be secured with screws set in shields or with toggle bolts. Wood pegs shall not be used.

When necessary, boards or panels shall be furnished and installed to permit mounting of meter connection equipment with wood screws. These boards shall be of clear, dressed wood at least 3/4 inch thick and painted with a good quality paint. They shall be securely fastened to the structure in a vertical position.

The Consumer Member shall provide and maintain an unobstructed space of three feet in front of and on each side of all metering equipment. Outdoor space shall be clear of obstructions such as shutters, doors, and rainspouts. Also, placement of shrubbery, flower beds, and gardens shall not interfere with installing, servicing, or reading of meters and metering equipment.

On installations requiring metering transformers, the metering transformers and secondary wiring between the metering transformers and the meter will be furnished and installed by the Cooperative. The metering transformer cabinet and the conduit for the secondary wiring between the metering transformer cabinet and the meter base will be furnished and installed by the Consumer Member. Drawings A-3659, A-3660, and A-3661 show typical CT cabinet installation requirements.

#### H. METER SPACING

Single-phase meters installed singly or in groups shall be spaced as follows:

1. Minimum clear space at side of meters: 8 inches
2. Minimum horizontal distance between centers: 10 inches
3. Minimum vertical space above rows of meters, switches or other equipment: 5 inches

For spacing required on three-phase meter installations, consult the Cooperative.

PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK