

ELECTRICAL BULLETIN

2018-03

From: David MacLeod, C.E.I., P.Eng.
Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector

Pg. 1 of 2

Date: October 9, 2018

Subject: Requirements for the compliance to rule 10-210 of the 2018 Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1 (CEC)

The above rule provides the requirements for “grounding connections for solidly grounded ac systems supplied by the supply authority” and along with the Appendix B notes and Figures B10-4 and B10-5 provides direction on how the grounding and bonding should occur for the consumer’s meter base and service box.

It has been identified that the existing meter base standard:

- a) does not address the size requirements for the screws holding the neutral or bonding bus or lugs within the meter base and indicates no testing means to ensure the suitability of the bus or lugs as a system bonding jumper as mentioned in the Appendix B rule 10-210 note and associated Figures B10-4 and B10-5; and
- b) there are issues obtaining a meter base to provide adequate approved connection points for 3 conductors on the neutral bus as per Appendix B Figure B10-4 when required.

Therefore, until the meter base standard is revised, it appears that manufacturers can not supply a meter base that comes from the factory with full approval to cover the issues identified above.

Therefore, pursuant to section 17 of the Electrical Code Regulations a deviation is granted to require compliance to rule 10-210 of the 2018 CEC; and effective immediately

- **all meter base installations and all associated grounding and bonding requirements** for the consumer’s meter base and service box, shall follow the previous requirements and installations practices of the 2015 CEC.

Once the meter base standard has been revised and manufacturers can supply a meter base approved to the revised standard, implementation of the grounding and bonding methods as per the 2018 CEC for a consumer's meter base and service box will be required.

At that time a revised or new bulletin will be issued.

Installations installed prior to this bulletin may remain "as is" if they have passed the final inspection and all deficiencies that may have been noted during an inspection have been corrected.

The requirement for a bonding conductor from the consumer's meter base to the service box when complying with the 2015 CEC:

- 1) **is required when grounding occurs at the meter base, but**
- 2) **is not required when grounding occurs at the service box**

This bulletin, may at any time, be repealed or updated and it is the responsibility of the contractor to be aware of such changes.

Consult your local electrical inspector for direction or clarification of any requirements indicated above.

Any issues or concerns regarding this bulletin may be forwarded to the:

Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector: David MacLeod, C.E.I., P.Eng. @ 902-424-8018
Email: David.MacLeod@novascotia.ca
Electrical safety website: <http://novascotia.ca/lae/electricalsafety/electricalbulletins.asp>