

ELECTRICAL BULLETIN 2014-05

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Subject: Receptacles for maintenance of equipment located on rooftops

Rule 2-314 of the Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1, 2012 (CEC) requires that where heating, ventilating, air conditioning or similar equipment is installed on a rooftop, other than at a dwelling unit, that a receptacle be provided for the maintenance of the equipment.

Rules 26-702 & 26-704 of the CEC indicates the particulars requirements that the installation of the maintenance receptacle shall meet.

This bulletin shall provide direction on what is acceptable to comply with the above rules.

Question 1

Are there exemptions when a maintenance receptacle is not required?

Answer 1

Yes, an installation at a dwelling unit is exempt.

Question 2

What type of installation is acceptable to meet the above indicated rules?

Answer 2

- a) At least one receptacle mounted on a pedestal type arrangement or a permanent structural part of the building rooftop that complies with all of the requirements of rules 26-702 & 26-704 of the CEC and this bulletin. Additional receptacles must be installed, as necessary, to meet the 7.5 m maximum distance requirement where applicable. **or**
- b) A receptacle integral to the equipment, supplied at the factory, that meets the requirements of rules 26-702 & 26-704 of the CEC and this bulletin is installed in every new unit and is accessible at all times without having to open any other section of the equipment and the receptacle is not blocked or limited by location or position of the equipment for access after the final installation of the equipment.

Question 3

A new rooftop unit is installed on an existing building where no maintenance receptacle exists for any of the existing rooftop units, does a receptacle in accordance with rule 2-314 of the CEC and this bulletin need to be installed?

Answer 3

Yes, at least one maintenance receptacle in accordance with this bulletin and answer 2 a) **or** 2 b) must be installed to provide a maintenance receptacle for just that unit. Additional maintenance receptacles per this bulletin may be required where more than one new rooftop unit is installed.

Question 4

Where an existing rooftop unit is replaced and a maintenance receptacle does not exist, is a maintenance receptacle in accordance with rule 2-314 of the CEC and this bulletin required to be installed when the replacement unit is installed?

Answer 4

No, provided the electrical characteristics of the replacement unit are the same as the original unit.

Where the electrical characteristics of the replacement unit are different a maintenance receptacle in accordance with rule 2-314 of the CEC and this bulletin must be installed.

Notes:

1. Where a maintenance receptacle is installed as indicated in answer 2(a) above and it is intended to serve more than one tenants rooftop unit as the maintenance receptacle, the branch circuit feeding that receptacle shall be supplied from the house panel (panel used to supply power for common areas of the building) not any individual tenants panel.

One branch circuit may be used to feed several such installations as indicated in this note but it cannot feed any other type of outlets or equipment.

A permanent lamicaid type label shall be installed at each receptacle identifying the power source location, panel and branch circuit number.

2. Where a receptacle integral to the equipment, supplied at the factory, as indicated in answer 2(b) or 3 above is used, one branch circuit may be used to feed several rooftop units for one tenant.

The branch circuit cannot feed any other tenant's maintenance receptacle or any common maintenance receptacle or any other type of outlets or equipment.

A common house panel cannot be used to supply the branch circuit.

The receptacle integral to the equipment of one unit cannot be used to meet the requirements of a maintenance receptacle of any other rooftop unit.

A permanent lamicoid type label shall be installed at each maintenance receptacle and the main disconnect for each rooftop unit identifying the power source location, panel and branch circuit number.

And, a permanent lamicoid type label shall be installed at both the receptacle and the main disconnect for each rooftop unit indicating –“ CAUTION “ - Two separate power sources –XXX V for Rooftop unit and 120 V for maintenance receptacle”

Adjust wording on the Caution label as required for appropriate voltage of the rooftop unit.

3. Receptacles cannot be installed on rooftop units at the site, for any purpose. Only those installed at the factory and integral to the rooftop unit are acceptable.

4. It is the responsibility of the electrical contractor to verify any issues or concerns with regard to this bulletin prior to the installation rather than after, as any installation found not to be compliant with this bulletin may be ordered disconnected.

This bulletin may be subject to revisions at any time.

Review Dept. of Labour Electrical Bulletins at:

<http://novascotia.ca/lae/electricalsafety/electricalbulletins.asp>

Any deviations or questions concerning this Bulletin may be forwarded to the:
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