

ELECTRICAL BULLETIN

2021-01

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Date: April, 2021

Subject: **Adoption of the 2021 Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1- 25th Edition**

Effective May 1, 2021, the 2021 Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1- 25th edition (CE Code) will be adopted per the Electrical Code Regulations which are made under the authority of section 6 of the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.

Compliance to the 2021 CE Code will be required for any electrical work, installation, or equipment within Nova Scotia and per any bulletins issued by this office or the electrical inspection authority.

To ensure uniformity in electrical inspections the code is adopted with no amendments.

Limited direction on new rules may be provided in this bulletin. Future bulletins may be issued from this office or the electrical inspection authorities to provide clarity and direction on how various rules are interpreted and should be reviewed by all users of the code.

Electrical work that started prior to May 1, 2021, may be inspected to the 2018 CE Code if an electrical permit was obtained for that electrical work, and where applicable, the plans were accepted by the electrical inspection authority, prior to May 1, 2021

Where electrical work starts, or plans are submitted on or after May 1, 2021 design, review and inspections shall be per the 2021 CE Code regardless of when the permit was issued.

The electrical inspection authority reserves the right to determine whether electrical work was started on any installation prior to May 1, 2021.

As in previous editions where a change to a section or rule has been made from the previous code the change is identified. In the 2021 CE Code changes are identified by a small triangle located in the left-hand margin.

The following are **brief summaries** of some of changes in the 2021 CE Code.

Code users should review all code changes identified in the code and incorporate them into their design and installations where appropriate.

Section 10 – *Grounding and bonding*

- Table 17 – *Impedance grounded systems*, monitoring and control requirements for impedance grounded systems
- The rules related to installation of bonding conductors was added back to the 2021 code after being omitted in the previous edition.

Section 12 – *Wiring Methods*

- Updated rules on cable or raceways installed in roof deck systems.
- Deletion of outdated requirements pertaining to open wiring rules.
- Updated Table 19 - *Conditions of use for insulated conductors and cables other than flexible cords, portable power cables, and equipment wires*, was reorganized and simplified.

Section 18 – *Hazardous Locations*

- Updated special terminology related to seals and new content on the requirements for use of seals such as primary and secondary process seals.

Section 22 – *Locations in which corrosive liquids, vapors, or excessive moisture are likely to be present*

- Contains a new subsection for farm buildings housing livestock, as well as revised rules for equipment in Category 1 and 2 locations. Special terminology was introduced to aid in clarifying the rules on deeming an area noncorrosive.

Section 26 – *Installation of electrical equipment*

- Rules on Storage Batteries have been removed from this section and new requirements for Installation of Batteries added to Section 64
- Additional rules for labeling panelboards to identify branch circuits in subdivided dwelling units to allow the interconnection of smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.
- New requirements for ground fault protection on branch circuits installed below ground level in areas designated as flood hazard zones.
- New requirement for ground fault circuit interrupter protection for all 15A and 20A receptacles located outdoors within 2.5 m of grade.

Section 30 – *Installation of lighting equipment*

- Removal of switching/luminaire requirements in dwelling units, stairways, basements, storage rooms, garages and carports due to duplication with the National Building Code of Canada.

Section 64 – *Renewable energy systems, energy production systems, and energy storage systems*

- There have been updates to the special terminology that defines the various types of energy storage systems such as field-assembled and self-contained to assist in clarifying the applicable rules.
- New subsection governing the installation of energy storage systems which includes the location and separation requirements for such systems depending on the rating, conformance to UL 9540, etc.

Section 72 – *Mobile home and recreational vehicle parks*

- Load calculations and equipment layout for recreational vehicle lots were updated.
- New Table 71 – *Calculated load for services and feeders for recreational vehicle parks*, was added to provide new guidance for demand calculation requirements.

These changes are just a few of the high-level changes coming in the 2021 CE Code and only provides a brief description of the actual changes and does not include in some instances further requirements or details specific to the code change.

To fully understand all the proposed changes in the 2021 CE Code it is strongly recommended that all affected or interested parties sign up for a code seminar when offered.

As in the past, code seminars are typically offered by NSPI, CSA, Electricity Forum and Dalhousie University starting in the early spring after the code is published.

Any questions regarding the CE Code portion of this bulletin may be forwarded to the:

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