

**Division of
Building
Safety**

ELECTRICAL NEWS BRIEF

Volume 2, Issue 1

February 6, 2006

Where Can You Connect Your Grounding Electrode Conductor?

The National Electrical Code Article 250.24(A)(1) states. The connection shall be made at any accessible point from the load end of the service drop or service lateral to and including the terminal or bus to which the grounded service conductor is connected at the service disconnecting means. Article 100 defines Service Drop and Service Lateral as follows.

Service Drop. The overhead service conductors from the last pole or other aerial support to and including the splices, if any, connecting to the service-entrance conductors at the building or other structure.

Service Lateral. The underground service conductors between the street main, including any risers at a pole or other structure or from transformers, and the first point of connection to the service-entrance conductors in a terminal box or meter or other enclosure, inside or outside the building wall. Where there is no terminal box, meter, or other enclosure, the point of connection is considered to be the point of entrance of the service conductors into the building.

Both of these points are ahead of the meter. With this information we can say that the Grounding Electrode Conductor can terminate at any point from the top of the service head to the service disconnect. This is also illustrated in NEC Handbook.

Is this termination accessible if it is inside a sealed meter or CT enclosure.? Article 100 defines this also as follows.

Accessible (as applied to wiring methods). Capable of being removed or exposed without damaging the building structure or finish or not permanently closed in by the structure or finish of the building.

This Grounding Electrode Conductor is no different than the Grounded and Ungrounded Conductors that terminate in these enclosures.

If the power supplier will allow this termination in their enclosures then it is code compliant to do so.

