



*Building a Safer Idaho*

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911 Emergency Call Power Supply for Fiber Optics

The 2017 NEC, section 210.8(A)(3), requires all outdoor receptacles to be GFCI protected. The authority having jurisdiction may waive specific requirements in this Code or permit alternative methods where it is assured that equivalent objectives can be achieved by establishing and maintaining effective safety.

It is my opinion that the use of GFCI protected receptacles, outside, for *911 Emergency Call Power supply for Fiber Optics* may increase the potential for injury to citizens of the state of Idaho. The requirement for protecting GFCI receptacles in these installations will not be necessary when the following steps have been taken to establish and maintain effective safety.

1. The receptacle provided to supply the *911 Emergency Call Power Supply for Fiber Optics* shall be an individual receptacle, duplex receptacles will not be allowed.
2. A weatherproof, metallic, while-in-use device cover or enclosure, made from heavy duty die cast or other metal suitable for the environment shall be used.
3. The approved device cover or enclosure shall have means available for limiting access to approved personnel.
4. A stainless steel band or strap, with an individual serial number, shall be installed to limit access to the receptacle by locking the cover in a closed position.
5. A stainless steel tag shall be attached to the stainless steel band or strap denoting:
  - a. That the outlet/receptacle does not provide shock protection.
  - b. That the outlet is for "utility use only"
  - c. That Dangerous voltage exists.
  - d. "Keep Out"
6. All other wiring means and equipment is installed to comply with the National Electric Code.

This alternative method should assure that equivalent objectives of the NEC have been achieved and effective safety has been maintained.

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