

DBS Electrical Service Connection Policy

Permit types that will fall under the electrical service connection policy are as follows:

- Any electrical permit for *New Residential, New Residential - Duplex, or New Residential - Multi-family* construction will require an inspection of the electrical service prior to being energized.
- Any electrical permit for *Pumps - Water, Domestic irrigation, Sewage* (residential water and sewage pumps) will require an inspection of the permanent electrical service before the service can be energized. If the pump system is installed prior to the permanent electrical service, the pump may be connected to the temporary electrical service by a licensed contractor.
- *Mobile/Manufactured Home* services must be inspected prior to being energized.

Procedures Instituted to Achieve Policy Standards

With these three categories, a permit will be issued, but the 'OK to energize' the electrical service will not be given to the power provider until the electric service has been inspected.

Once the inspector has determined that the electrical service is ready for connection, the inspector will result the inspection as a 'pass'. If the electric service is inspected and accepted, the electrical inspector will attach a silver inspection tag to the electrical meter base.

It is important that the electrical contractor use the proper inspection request in order to generate an 'OK to energize' order to the electrical utility.

The contractor must request one of the following, when requesting an inspection, that includes energizing the electrical service.

- ***Energize Service.***
- ***Mobile Home.***
- ***Service Only.***
- ***Rough-in/Permanent Service.***

These four types of inspection requests will automatically send an 'OK to energize' to the local electrical utility once the service has been resulted with a 'pass'.

Any new Detached Shop/Garage with its own electrical service (metered separately from the residence) must have its electrical service inspected prior to being energized, as well.

The *Existing Residential or Detached Shop* permit type will not automatically generate an electrical service connection request. The contractor will need to make arrangements with the DBS office or the local electrical inspector to have the connection request made.

Special Circumstances

Work, such as service changes on occupied homes, emergency repair work, and after-hours work that requires disconnecting and reconnecting the electric service, that is done by a licensed electrical contractor, is exempt from the new inspection policy, and may be connected by the power provider prior to an inspection. The contractor should make arrangements with the power provider and the electrical inspector prior to commencing the work, if possible. **An electrical permit and inspection are still required**, but the power may be reconnected before the inspection takes place.

Work done in remote areas may be exempted from the new electrical service connection policy by the electrical inspector. The contractor should make arrangements with the electrical inspector prior to commencement of the work. The inspector and contractor can then determine how best to meet the needs of the contractor and his customer and still meet the safety requirements set forth in *NFPA 70E*.

Commercial work is also exempt at this time. Commercial electrical services may be connected prior to a service inspection. *If the service equipment access panels and doors must be removed to inspect, and/or there are no separate dead-front sections on the service equipment, the electrical contractor will need to be available during the inspection to provide access (remove covers, doors, etc.) to energized electrical service equipment.* If, for some reason, this is not possible, the contractor should contact the inspector to make inspection arrangements. If the access panels and doors are hinged and do not require removal for inspection, and there are separate dead-front sections that prevent accidental contact with the energized parts of the equipment, the contractor will not need to be present for the inspection.

Please contact us with questions.

If you are uncertain about how the new policy or procedures affect your particular situation, call your inspector, the regional electrical supervisor, or the Electrical Program Manager. We will be happy to assist you. A list of our inspectors, the areas they cover and their contact information is available on our website at <http://dbs.idaho.gov>. The regional Supervisors may be reached at the following:

- Region 1: North Idaho Gary Sonnen (208) 332-4012
- Region 2: South Central Idaho Randall Erickson (208) 332-7103
- Region 3: Southeast Idaho Kevin Gellings (208) 539-4712
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The Electrical Program Manager may be reached at the phone number and e-mail address listed below.

At DBS, our goal is to make the electrical installations in Idaho safe for the workers, the property owners, and our employees. We ask for your help and cooperation in achieving that goal. Please contact us at DBS if you have any questions or concerns regarding the new electrical service connection policy or procedures.

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