

Paragould Code Pertaining to Electrical Installations

Sec. 7.3 Requirements for service entrances and wiring methods in addition to those required by the NEC.

In addition to the requirements of the electrical code adopted by this chapter, the following shall apply to all new and upgraded service entrances and wiring methods:

- (a) A service disconnecting means shall be installed at a readily accessible location outside of a building or structure nearest the meter base/point of entry.
- (b) The meter socket shall be mounted so that the center of the electric meter will be no higher than 72 inches and no lower than 48 inches above finished ground grade. Screws, anchors or toggle bolts shall be used to fasten the socket.
- (c) For overhead service, the service mast shall be a minimum two (2) inch rigid trade size steel conduit extending through the roof * no less than 24 inches to allow for minimum clearance of 18 inches from drip loop to roof. A weather head shall be installed and roof flashing shall be fitted around the mast. Height of mast and point of attachment shall be such as to allow adherence to NESC Table 232-1 for clearance from the ground or structure to service line.
 - Exception – only if building is multiple stories or attachment point is such as to give the utility above ground/structure clearances and is approved in advance of installation. If service is to be attached to the structure instead of the mast, a 5/8 inch galvanized eyebolt with a backing plate inside the structure shall be installed through the wall.
- (d) Approved pipe straps shall be used to hold the mast, and installed every 24 inches, starting 6 inches above the meter socket.
- (e) A five eighths (5/8) inch by eight (8) foot copper clad ground rod shall be driven below the ground surface.
- (f) The ground wire from the meter socket to the ground rod shall be in a conduit.
*Underground installations shall have the grounding wire in a separate conduit from the service conductors.
- (g) A conduit nipple or service entrance cable shall be installed from the service disconnect to the distribution panel.
- (h) For masonry or metal wall construction, a conduit nipple shall be used from the service disconnect to the distribution panel.
- (i) Grounding bushings shall be installed on metal nipples in the meter socket and panel box.
- (j) For installations of 400 amps and below, the minimum wire * size compared to the main breaker shall be as follows:

<u>Wire Size</u>	<u>Main</u>
#4 copper	100 amps
#2/0 copper	200 amps
#500 MCM copper	400 amps
Or 2 parallel #2/0	400 amps

* Aluminum wire may be used in service entrances. Contact PLWC personnel to ask about aluminum wire sizes.

(k) All additions and new construction of commercial buildings and places of assembly shall be wired in conduit.

Reference: #84-5, §1.4-9-84, #95-18, §1.6-26-95

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