

Temporary Underground Service Installation Standard (2025)

General Overview

- This standard applies to all temporary underground electrical services installed within PPEC's service territory.
- Temporary installations must meet the construction, clearance, grounding, and safety standards outlined herein, along with all applicable requirements of:
 - National Electrical Code (NEC 2023 Edition)
 - National Electrical Safety Code (NESC 2023 Edition)
 - Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Standards
 - PPEC's Safety Manual and Construction Standards
 - Unsafe or non-compliant installations will not be energized.

1. Structure and Post Requirements

- Acceptable Structures:
 - 4" x 4" or larger treated wood post or equivalent
 - Set at least 2 feet into undisturbed soil
 - Braced using 2" x 4" treated wood with minimum (2) 10D nails or lag bolts per end
 - Set minimum 4 feet into undisturbed soil.
- Location:
 - Post must be installed a minimum of 5 feet from cooperative pad mount or pedestal equipment

2. Trenching and Conduit Installation Requirements

- Conduit must be a minimum of 2" Schedule 40 PVC or equivalent
- Conduit must be buried with minimum 24" cover
- Warning tape must be installed 12" above conduit
- Elbows must be sweeping type, with no sharp bends
- Conduit must extend to within 12" of the cooperative's pad mount or pedestal, leaving 10" of wire coiled for connection

3. Electrical Equipment Requirements

- Meter Base:
 - Member-furnished.
 - 100A or 200A, UL-listed, ringless, with manual lever bypass or bypass horns.
 - Mounted 4' to 6' above final grade to center of meter
- Weatherproof Disconnect:
 - NEMA 3R enclosure minimum (60 A)
 - Required when service exceeds six circuits.
- GFCI Outlet:
 - A weatherproof 15A/20A GFCI-protected 120V receptacle must be installed if site power is needed.
- All equipment must be suitable for outdoor use

4. Grounding Requirements

- Ground Rods:
 - Two (2) 5/8" x 8' copper-clad ground rods.
 - Rods must be installed a minimum of 6 feet apart.
 - Must be driven into undisturbed soil.
- Grounding Conductors:

- Minimum #4 solid bare copper conductor for 200A.
 - Minimum #6 solid bare copper conductor for 100A.
- Bonding:
 - Meter base and disconnect enclosures must be bonded per NEC 250.92.

5. Service Conduit and Cable Requirements

- Minimum #2 AL USE-2 Conductors or #4 Copper for 100A.
- Liquidtight or Schedule 80 conduit required where exposed.
- Minimum three conduit straps required:
 - One within 12",
 - Others within 3' – 5' apart.
- Leave 10' of service wire for cooperative connection at pad mount or pedestal

6. Member vs. PPEC Responsibilities

- Member Responsibility:
 - Provide and install post, bracing, trenching, conduit, ground rods, meter base, entrance cable, GFCI receptacle, and disconnect
- Utility (PPEC) Responsibility:
 - Provide pad mount / pedestal, inspect installation, install meter, energize service

7. Inspection and Energization

- Inspection prior to energization.
- Non-compliant installations must be corrected at member's expense.

8. Temporary Service Term Limit

- Temporary services are limited to 12 months unless otherwise authorized by PPEC.
- Member responsible for removal after expiration if necessary.

9. Important Safety Notes

- Trees or vegetation shall not be used to support service drops (NEC 225.26, 230.10(A)).
- No field repairs to member-owned wiring shall be made by PPEC employees.
- PPEC reserves the right to refuse or disconnect hazardous installations
- Contact OHIO or INDIANA 811 before digging
- PPEC personnel will not repair or modify member-supplied wiring or equipment

