

# **OBTAINING ELECTRICAL SERVICE**

**Permanent Electrical Service** is the permanent connection of electrical power from the serving utility to a building or structure after all inspections are complete and the permit can be closed as complete. Power is to be sent to the electrical utility as permanent power.

**Temporary Electrical Service** is the connection of power to a building or structure before the permit can be completed and may involve the use of all or portions of the electrical system to complete a building or structure prior to the issuance of a certificate of completion on the electrical system.

## **Uses Prohibited**

In no case shall any portion of the permanent wiring be energized until the portions have been inspected and approved by an electrical Code Enforcement Official. Failure to comply with this section may result in disconnection of power or revocation of permit.

## **Application for Temporary Electrical Service**

Application for temporary electrical service shall be made by and in the name of the applicant. The application shall explicitly state the portions of the energized electrical system, mechanical system, and/or plumbing system for which application is made, its intended use and duration

Temporary electrical service may be obtained in one of the following ways:

### **A. All electrical inspections are complete**

For residential projects an electrical final inspection has been approved or for commercial projects an electrical Certificate of Completion (COC) has been approved but the permit cannot be closed. To receive temporary electrical service the building contractor or electrical contractor must contact the Permits office and request power. Permits staff will send notification to the utility as permanent power and place a "T" in the INS hold field on the F4 screen. There is no fee for this type of temporary electrical service.

### **B. Electrical inspections are not complete**

The building contractor or electrical contractor wishes to use of portions of the electrical system to complete a building or structure prior a residential electrical final approval or a commercial electrical certificate of completion.

1. The service wiring and equipment, including the meter socket enclosure(s), shall be installed, the service wiring terminated, and the service equipment covers installed.
2. The portions of the electrical system that are to be energized shall be complete and physically protected.
3. The grounding electrode system shall be complete.
4. The grounding and the grounded conductors shall be terminated in the service equipment.
5. At least one receptacle outlet with ground fault circuit interrupter protection for personnel shall be installed with the circuit wiring terminated.
6. The applicable requirements of the North Carolina Electrical Code shall apply.
7. Building must be completely enclosed; all windows and doors installed and building capable of being secured and locked.
8. A temporary utilities form must be completed and signed by the applicant.
9. The applicant must contact the project electrical inspector and request temporary electrical service. The electrical inspector will schedule an Inspector Conference.

10. At the Inspector Conference the temporary utilities form must be submitted to the inspector along with fees due payable by check.
11. Upon approval of temporary electrical service, the inspector will enter notes into the computer stating all conditions of the temporary electrical service and the expiration date. The inspector will be responsible for tracking the date when the Temporary Electrical Service expires (90 days from issuance) and notifying the client of the expiration.
12. The notification code "P" is to be entered on the notification field of the F2 screen when temporary electrical service is approved thereby notifying permitting staff to turn approval into the utility company. The check and temporary utilities form is to be sent to the Permits office by the next business day.
13. Permits staff will send the notification to the utility as permanent power and place a "T" in the INS hold field on the F4 screen.
14. Upon receipt of documents and fees Permit Staff will record receipt of the documents on the notes screen and record fees on the Receipts screen.
15. The Chief Electrical Inspector will monitor the monthly temporary power report for approvals more than 90 days old.

### **Extension of Temporary Electrical Service**

Upon application and payment of fees the temporary electrical service may be extended at the electrical inspector's discretion. An administrative fee is charged if no additional site visit is required. An administrative fee and trade fee is charged if the inspector determines that an additional site visit is required. If temporary fuel gas is included an additional trade fee is due for the mechanical trade.

Effective Date: December 1, 1999

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