



Electrical Service Upgrades to Existing Buildings

Inspection Division Handout #E2

This guide has been prepared to outline the City of North Vancouver requirements for service upgrades or replacements in existing buildings in accordance with Provincial Bulletin 0-2-0 September 30, 2002.

1. An upgrade to a service, feeder or main panel must comply with existing regulations, which means all of the service mast, meter base and feeder to the panel must be outside the building. A service calculation may be required to ensure the new service size is adequate for the load.
2. Replacement of an existing obsolete service panel only, due to failure or potential failure of the panel is treated as an emergency repair and in this case the existing mast and meter base may be left in place provided the new panel has the same ampere rating, is not in a dangerous location, and has a main service disconnect.

During the inspection of the repair the inspector will assess the service size in relation the load and if it appears inadequate will issue an inspection notice for a service upgrade within a reasonable timeframe.

3. In both cases the main ground and cold water/gas bond must be exposed for inspection and replaced if necessary, also the clearance above grade of the Hydro service drop will be checked for compliance.

Minimum clearances are:

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|------|
| a) | Pedestrian access only | 3.5M |
| b) | Residential driveway | 4M |
| c) | Commercial driveway | 5M |
| d) | Streets, lanes, alleys | 5.5M |