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8. Multi-Family Residential Buildings

8.1 General

This section describes services with separate meters for multi-family residential buildings with three or more units. The Power Company requires grouping of service entrance conductors at a common location.

The customer is responsible for providing, installing, and maintaining all service equipment (including overhead service entrance conductors, conduit, enclosures, and meter sockets). Service equipment shall be installed and maintained to be within rights-of-way and provide space for the installation and maintenance of Power Company facilities.

All necessary permits and ruling governmental approvals shall be in place before connection and energizing.

Any deviations from the requirements in this section must be approved in writing by the Power Company prior to installation. Permanent power may not be connected if the requirements are not met.

8.2 Maximum Available Fault Current

The maximum available fault current depends on the type of service being provided. The customer shall furnish equipment to withstand maximum available fault currents. Upon request, the Power Company will supply information on the maximum available fault current at the customer's service entrance.



8.3 Multiple Meter Sockets

All multiple meter sockets shall meet the following requirements.

Requirements:

- 1. Meter sockets shall not be used as junction boxes.
- 2. Acceptable meter sockets are those manufactured in accordance with current EUSERC requirements, as well as ANSI-C12 and UL/ANSI-414.
- 3. Meter sockets shall be ring-type.
- 4. Customer conductors installed in meter sockets shall be kept separate from Power Company conductors.
- 5. The common (or "house") service requires a safety socket. Single-phase, 100 A common services that include **only** lights and/or irrigation loads do not require a safety socket.
- 6. The cable pulling section must be sized for Power Company service termination per EUSERC 343.
- 7. A main disconnect is required when more than six services are connected. If an existing installation expands beyond six services, a main disconnect shall be installed.
- 8. NEC-approved load calculations are required when the sum of distribution section ampacities exceeds the pulling section ampacities. (See NEC Article 220, *Branch-Circuit, Feeder, and Service Calculations.*)
- 9. Each service shall have a lockable and easily accessible disconnect in sight of the meter socket location. If the disconnect is not in sight of the meter socket, a label shall be placed at the meter socket location indicating the location of the disconnect.
- 10. All required labels shall be correctly installed before the service is energized. Labels shall:
 - a. be permanently affixed to the equipment
 - b. be of sufficient durability to withstand the local environment. Engraved metal or hard plastic labels are required.
 - c. not be attached to removeable covers
- 11. Each metered service and associated breaker shall be labeled to identify the dwelling unit address. Service will not be connected until permanent labels are attached.
- 12. It is the responsibility of the customer to ensure the meter sockets are correctly labeled. These labels shall be kept current for the life of the facility.
- 13. A minimum vertical clearance of at least 48" from the center of the lowest meter to the final grade is required. However, a minimum vertical clearance of 36" to the center of the lowest meter is acceptable if a minimum 36" wide, flat, permanent surface (such as a concrete pad or walkway) below the meter is provided at the final grade and extends at least 18" on either side of the meter cabinet.
- 14. On overhead services, the customer must furnish all lugs and connect conductors to the line-side terminals. The customer is responsible for bringing the service entrance conductor to the connection of the utility service drop.
- 15. For underground service, the Power Company will provide line-side cable and connectors, and will terminate on the line-side of the equipment.
- 16. All unused openings shall be covered and secured by the customer.





- 17. Meters and metering equipment shall be located outdoors.
- 18. Locate the main disconnect handle a sufficient distance from the meter and the pull box to allow full operation without interference.
- 19. Panel covers must be secured in place prior to service equipment being energized.

A list of acceptable meter sockets is available online at https://www.pacificpower.net/working-with-us/builders-contractors/electric-service-requirements.html, and https://www.pacificpower.net/working-with-us/builders-contractors/electric-service-requirements.html, and https://www.pacificpower.net/working-with-us/builders-contractors/electric-service-requirements.html, and https://www.pacificpower.net/working-with-us/builders-contractors/electric-service-requirements.html

Figure 27 shows two styles of banked meters. The top half of the figure shows a meter bank with the cable pull section, main disconnect, and meter bank as three separate sections. The lower half of the figure shows a meter socket module in which these sections can be bolted together into one expandable unit.



Figure 27—Multiple Meter Socket Installations, Overhead and Underground

(Typical Combination Service Termination Enclosure and Meter Socket Panels for Multi-Unit Applications)



8.3.1 Maximum Available Supply

The Power Company will determine the size of the transformer based on expected peak loading.



A pull box is required for multi-family services. EUSERC 343 specifies dimensions of the cable pulling section for 0-1200 A. See Figure 28 and Table 16.

Figure 28—Pull Box Requirements





Table 16—Minimum Pull Box Dimensions

(Applies to the Power Company portion of the pull box)

Total Comise	``W ″		``Y ″	``X ″
Total Service	3-Wire	4-Wire	Depth	Lug Height
0-200 A	10 1⁄2″	14″	6″	11″
201-400 A	10 1⁄2″	14″	6″	22″
401-800 A	16 ½″	22″	11″	26″
801-1200 A	22 1/2″	30″	11″	26″

8.5 Overhead and Underground Multi-Family Meter Locations

Consult the Power Company to determine the point of attachment for service.

Requirements:

- 1. All meters shall be in a common location.
- 2. Meter banks shall be installed on the side of the building closest to the utility source.
- 3. The service entrance and meter shall be installed as described in Section 4, Clearances.
- 4. The service entrance shall be sealed, as described in Section 3, Services and Meter Installations.

8.5.1 Multi-Family Meter Location, Underground Service

Conduit shall be installed per Section 5.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN



Figure 29—Multi-Unit Underground Service

8.5.2 Multi-Family Meter Location, Overhead Service

The customer is responsible for bringing the service entrance conductor from the meter socket to the service point.

The Power Company will extend overhead service to a single weatherhead.



Figure 30—Multi-Unit Overhead Service



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