

City of Tacoma Electrical Code

Effective July 1, 2005



Chapter 2.04 ELECTRICAL CODE

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2.04.010 Title. This chapter shall be known as the Electrical Code of the City of Tacoma.

2.04.020 Purpose. The purpose of this Code is the practical safeguarding of persons and property from electrical hazards arising from the use of electricity. This Code contains provisions that are considered necessary for safety. Compliance with this chapter and proper maintenance will result in an installation that is reasonably free from hazard but not necessarily efficient, convenient, or adequate for good service or future expansion of electrical use.

2.04.030 Scope of chapter. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all electrical conductors and equipment installed, used, rented, offered for sale, or distributed for use in areas served by Tacoma Power and its franchised entities, except as shown in Article 90-2(b) of the current edition of the National Electrical Code.

2.04.035 Adoption.

A. RCW and WAC adoption and incorporation by reference. The City hereby adopts and incorporates into this chapter, the Tacoma Electrical Code, those provisions of the Revised Code of Washington (“RCW”) contained in Chapter 19.28, and the Washington Administrative Code (“WAC”), Chapter 296-46 B, that relate to approved methods of construction, repair, maintenance, use of materials, and approval of installations intended to insure the safety of life and property, as now set forth or as hereafter may be amended.

B. NEC adoption. The City hereby adopts and incorporates into this chapter, the Tacoma Electrical Code, the provisions of the current 2005 National Electrical Code (“NEC”).

2.04.040 Standards for installations. All electrical installations shall be in conformity with the provisions of this Code and with approved electrical standards for safety to life and property. Where no specific standards are prescribed by this Code, conformity with the regulations set forth in the current edition of the NEC, as amended by the state of Washington Electrical Code, shall be prima facie evidence of conformity with approved standards for safety to persons and property. If any rules in this Code are found to be not at an equal, higher, or better standard of materials, devices, appliances, and equipment than of those of the state of Washington Electrical Code, the requirements of the state of Washington Electrical Code will prevail. The current edition of the NEC shall mean the current edition of the NEC as adopted by the City in Section 2.04.035.

2.04.050 Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this chapter is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this chapter. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this chapter and each section, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase be declared unconstitutional.

2.04.060 Enforcement of chapter. The Chief Electrical Inspector of the Light Division of the Department of Public Utilities, hereinafter called the Chief Electrical Inspector, shall be responsible for the enforcement of this chapter.

2.04.070 Definitions.

“City” means the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division, doing business as Tacoma Power.

“Code” means this chapter.

“Contractor” means the person, firm, or corporation performing the installation of electrical equipment as licensed by the state of Washington, and the owner doing his or her own residential work on his or her primary residence.

“NEC” means the National Electrical Code.

“Occupying” means moving furnishings, material, merchandise, or persons into a building or premises.

“Owner” means the legal owner of the property on which electrical work is installed or is to be installed.

“Point of Service” means the point where the customer’s service conductors are connected to Tacoma Power’s service utility conductors.

“Stop Work Notice” means a written notice posted by the electrical inspector ordering the electrical work to be suspended until the inspector removes the notice.

“WAC” means the Washington Administrative Code.

2.04.080 Duties of Chief Electrical Inspector. It shall be the duty of the Chief Electrical Inspector to see that the provisions of this chapter are enforced. The Chief Electrical Inspector shall, upon application, issue permits for the installation or alteration of electrical wiring, devices, appliances, and equipment, and shall make inspections of electrical installations as provided in this chapter. The Chief Electrical Inspector may delegate appropriate inspection and enforcement duties prescribed by this chapter to electrical inspectors, assistants, and other persons duly qualified and regularly employed by the City.

2.04.090 Effective date of chapter. Any electrical work for which a permit was obtained before the date on which this chapter becomes effective may be installed and completed in accordance with the laws and regulations which were in effect at the time of issuance of any such permit.

2.04.100 Inspection of new electrical installations.

A. Rough-in wiring or installation of electrical equipment not listed for use in wet locations shall only be installed in a structure or area of a structure that is completely free of exposure to the elements.

B. The electrical contractor or homeowner installing electrical equipment shall request an inspection within three business days of completion of the work.

C. No equipment shall be energized before it has been inspected and approved for energizing, except equipment repaired or replaced where power must be immediately restored for safety or living purposes. In such cases, a request for inspection must be made no later than the next business day.

D. No electrical wiring shall be covered or concealed until inspection approval has been given. Where an electrical installation is covered or concealed before approval, it shall be exposed for inspection. The City shall bear no liability for damages or costs resulting from exposing the electrical installation.

E. Underground service laterals shall be installed in a continuous approved raceway at a minimum depth of 24 inches for 0 to 600 volts and 36 inches for over 600 volts.

2.04.110 Inspection of existing electrical installations.

A. The Chief Electrical Inspector is hereby empowered to inspect all existing wiring, appliances, devices, and equipment coming within the scope of this chapter. When the installation of any such wiring, appliance, device, or equipment is determined to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, the person, firm, or corporation owning, using, or operating the same shall be notified and shall make the necessary repairs or changes required to place such wiring, appliances, devices, or equipment in a safe condition, and have such work completed within 48 hours after notification thereof, or within such further reasonable time as may, upon request, be allowed.

B. The Chief Electrical Inspector is hereby empowered to disconnect or order the discontinuance of electrical service to such conductors or apparatus found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, or to have been installed without a permit. He or she shall thereupon attach a notice which states that such conductors or apparatus have been disconnected due to violation of the provisions of this chapter. It shall be unlawful to remove a notice of disconnect or to reconnect electrical equipment to an electrical power source without authorization from the Chief Electrical Inspector. Any person removing the notice, or reconnecting the equipment or wiring before approval to do so has been given, will be subject to the penalties outlined in this chapter.

C. Abandoned conductors, conduits, and electrical equipment shall be removed from structures unless it is de-energized, supported, capped, and enclosed or terminated by an acceptable method and tagged “For Future Use” at every accessible location.

2.04.120 Final inspection and service approval.

A. Final inspections are required on all premises before occupancy. Each unit of a multiple occupancy building or complex must have a separate final electrical inspection approval before it is occupied. It is the responsibility of the electrical permit holder to request a final inspection at the time the electrical installation is completed. The responsible party not complying with the requirement of this section shall be subject to the penalties outlined in this chapter.

B. Final approval will not be given until all fees owed on the project or permit(s) are paid. The Inspector will post final approval notice when the electrical installation is completed and in compliance with this chapter.

C. The Chief Electrical Inspector is hereby authorized to disconnect any electrical installation or equipment which has been connected before the approval for service has been given. He or she shall thereupon attach a notice which shall state that the wiring or apparatus has been disconnected due to violation of the provisions of this chapter. Any person removing the notice, or reconnecting the equipment or wiring before approval to do so has been given, will be subject to the penalties outlined in this chapter.

2.04.130 Temporary wiring.

A. Limited use of electricity for emergency or construction purposes may be granted. An electrical permit must be purchased and inspection approval must be given before energizing the electrical installation, except as provided in this chapter. Emergency installations shall be limited to a 30-day period. Temporary wiring for construction use is limited to the duration of construction.

B. For changing out overhead electrical services, the holder of the electrical permit must disconnect power from Tacoma Power's supply at the customer's point of service and make a temporary connection to the Tacoma Power system when the work is complete. A request for inspection must be made within 24 hours after temporary connection. A permanent connection will only be made by Tacoma Power after inspection approval.

2.04.135 Metering installations and equipment.

A. Meter height. No meter shall be installed at a height greater than six feet from the front working surface or grade to the mid-point of the meter glass and no lower than five feet from the front working surface or grade to the mid-point of meter glass, except as provided below:

1. Commercial multi-metering installed in a vertical configuration shall not be installed below 36 inches from the front working surface or grade to the mid-point of the meter.

2. Residential multi-metering installed in a vertical configuration shall not be installed below 28 inches from the front working surface or grade to the mid-point of the meter.

3. Listed service pedestals and packages containing integral meter sockets, installed according to the manufacturer's instructions, are allowed to be at the height for which they are designed.

4. Special permission is granted by the Chief Electrical Inspector.

B. All meters in a multiple occupancy building shall be accurately marked to identify the units they serve. Labels must be of sufficient durability to withstand removal from rubbing, fading, or environmental exposure. Label characters must be a minimum 1/2-inch tall and of a contrasting color or shade from the surface to which they are affixed so that they are easily readable.

C. No customer meter sockets will be placed on a pole owned and maintained by Tacoma Power.

2.04.140 New electrical installations. All new or altered services, feeders, circuits, circuit extensions, and installations must meet requirements of this chapter.

2.04.150 Unlawful to alter existing wiring. It shall be unlawful for any person to alter in any way any electrical wiring, or to permit such electrical wiring to be altered, unless done in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.

2.04.155 Variance from Code requirements. A variance from the electrical installation requirements of this chapter may be granted by the Chief Electrical Inspector when it is assured that equivalent objectives can be achieved by establishing and maintaining effective safety. The variance request must be made in writing by the permit holder or designer, using a form provided by the Electrical Inspection Office. A variance which has been granted shall be for a specific site and time and will not be considered as a precedent for other installations. All variances must be granted in writing.

2.04.160 Move-on housing. In addition to the requirements of WAC 296-46B-010, any structure which has been moved must have its service upgraded to meet the electrical service requirements of this chapter. Kitchen, bath, and laundry circuits shall comply with the current edition of the WAC and the version of the NEC currently adopted by the City under Section 2.04.035.B for new installations of electrical wiring. AFCI protection, in compliance with the NEC, will be required on all bedroom circuits.

2.04.170 Fusing and equipment protection.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to change fuses or circuit breakers to other than the exact like-in-kind replacements or to those which met standards at the time of installation. Requirements for conductor and equipment protection, series ratings, and arc flash levels must be adhered to when replacing fuses and circuit breakers.

B. Where Edison-base type plug fuses are over-fusing a circuit, replacement with Type "S" (tamper resistant) adapters and fuses or circuit breakers is required.

2.04.180 Explanation of chapter requirements. An inspector may answer relevant questions concerning interpretation or application of adopted regulations and rules outlined in this Code. No inspector shall lay out work or act in the capacity of an electrical installation consultant.

2.04.190 Right of entry. An inspector shall have the right to enter any and all buildings and premises which contain electrical wiring or apparatus, at any reasonable hour, for the purpose of inspecting or testing the installation of electrical wiring, electrical devices, and/or electric materials.

2.04.200 Non-liability of City for damages. This chapter shall not be construed to alter the responsibility or liability of any person owning, designing, operating, controlling, or installing any electrical wires, appliances, apparatus, construction, or equipment for damages to persons or property caused by a defect therein, nor shall the City, or any employee or agent thereof, be held as assuming any such liability by reason of the inspection or other examination authorized herein or the notice of approval issued by the Inspector.

2.04.210 Permits required. A permit shall be purchased before electrical equipment may be installed, altered, or repaired, except for like-in-kind replacement of a contactor, relay, timer, starter, circuit board, or similar control component, household appliance, circuit breaker, fuse, residential luminaire, lamp, snap switch, dimmer, receptacle outlet, thermostat, heating element, luminaire ballast with an exact same ballast, component(s) of electric signs, outline lighting, skeleton lighting or skeleton neon tubing where the electrical system is not modified, 10 horsepower or smaller motor, and induction detection loops described in WAC 296-46B-300(2) and used to control gate access devices.

2.04.220 Permits and inspections.

A. An electrical permit application shall be filled in completely and accurately before it will be accepted by the Electrical Inspection Office.

B. Electrical permits shall expire one year after the date of issue or one year after the most recent inspection, whichever is later.

C. The permit holder is responsible for providing or arranging access to the work to be inspected.

D. The inspection site address shall be clearly visible from the street.

E. Electrical code violations identified by the inspector shall be posted at the work location. Violations shall be corrected within 15 days of notification unless a written request for extension is granted by the Chief Electrical Inspector.

F. Electrical permits shall be required for each building address of an apartment or condominium complex.

G. Electrical permits are transferable, provided the permit has not expired, has no fees owing, nor has had inspection activity. The transfer must take place at the Tacoma Power Electrical Inspection Office. The contractor taking ownership of the permit and installation must present a statement and authorizing signature of approval to transfer permit ownership to the contractor.

2.04.230 Permit to owner – Single family residence.

A. Permits to perform electrical work on any residence may be issued to the homeowner, provided that:

1. The work shall be done by the owner who resides at the property, except that an owner may temporarily reside elsewhere during the work if he or she intends to reside at that location when the work is completed.

2. The owner signs an affidavit stating ownership of and residence at the property where the work will be performed, and the intent to reside at the premises for at least one year after the date of application.

3. The owner who is to perform the work can demonstrate to an inspector that he or she has sufficient knowledge of codes and electrical installation practices to properly perform the work.

4. The owner provides documentation that he or she is the owner of the property, such as a copy of a deed, along with evidence of identity.

B. The homeowner and person(s) who gave assistance with the installation must be present during the inspection.

C. If it is apparent from the character of the work performed that the owner is not qualified to do the work under the permit issued, an inspector may require the work that is in violation of this chapter be changed, altered, or repaired by a licensed electrical contractor.

2.04.240 Filing of drawings and specifications.

A. A completed plan review application shall be included with information required to complete the review process. A completed Non-Residential Energy Code Lighting Summary must be included on all commercial projects requiring plan review. Plans must clearly reflect Energy Code requirements for lighting controls.

B. Permit applicants are required to submit electrical plans, load calculations, job value documentation, and specifications for work to be performed on:

1. Commercial and industrial services or feeders 400 amps and greater.
2. Residential services and feeders over 400 amps.
3. Commercial projects with a scope that covers more than 2,500 square feet.
4. Projects requiring plan review in accordance with WAC 296-46B-010. These plans must be stamped by a Professional Engineer.
5. All systems that have emergency (NEC 700, 517) generators or use primary voltage (over 600 volts).

C. Electrical plans must be submitted to the Electrical Inspection Office for review, giving sufficient time to complete the review prior to beginning construction. The Tacoma Power-approved set of drawings must be on the job site for the inspector’s use. No inspection will be performed unless the approved plans are on the job site or special written permission is granted by the Chief Electrical Inspector. No fees are charged for normal plan review. When no permit has been purchased, or excessive time is required to review plans submitted with incomplete information or extensive errors, a fee of \$80 per hour will be charged. Shipping and handling fees of \$25 will be charged on all plans requested to be mailed back to the submitter.

2.04.250 Fees for permit and inspection required. Current standard fees for connecting electrical services to the Tacoma Power system, as well as the permit fees, must be paid before the permit application process can be completed. No inspection will be performed until the permit application process is completed.

2.04.255 Permit and inspection fees. Current standard fees for permits and inspections by Tacoma Power are as follows:

A. Residential.

1. Table A. New and remodeled single-family, apartment, or condominium services and feeder fees are set forth in Table A below, and include branch circuit wiring from the service(s) or feeder(s). All wiring by the same contractor on residential occupancies of 400 amps or less is included under the fees from Table A.

TABLE A

Service/Feeder Ampacity	Permit Fees		
	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
	Overhead Service 2 Trips	Underground Service 4 Trips	Feeder Only 2 Trips
1–200	\$80	\$160	\$60
201–400	\$120	\$200	\$70
Over 400	Use TABLE B		

Where multiple inspections are required the permit fee shall not be less than \$40.00 times the number of requested inspections.

- 2. Circuit alterations and repairs. The fee for 1 to 4 new circuits, circuit extensions, or alterations where the service or feeder is not modified, increased, relocated, or replaced. \$50
 - Each additional circuit \$ 5
- 3. Service alterations and repairs. Minor alterations and repairs to outdoor portions of electrical services, such as repair or replacement of, mast, weather head, service attachment bracket, or meter base \$40
 - 4. Temporary services 1-200 amps single phase \$40
 - 5. Temporary services over 200 amps or three phase and systems with feeders. Table B
- 6. Mobile homes.
 - Mobile home service or service and feeder on same trip . . \$80
 - Feeder only \$40
- 7. Residential swimming pool. \$120
- 8. Residential spas and boat space. \$40
- 9. Residential well, septic system, irrigation system. \$40
- 10. Mobile home and RV parks.
 - Master service and feeders. Table B
- 11. Portable generator transfer panel and equipment. . . . \$60

B. Commercial and industrial.

1. Table B. The permit fee for all commercial and industrial work and any residential installation exceeding 400 amps shall be derived from Table B. Proof of electrical work value must be submitted at the time of application. Proof may be established by presenting a signed contract or a priced itemization of the work to be performed. The electrical work value shall be the value to the vendee of all labor, material, fittings, apparatus, and the like, whether actually paid for or not, supplied by the permit holder and/or installed by the permit holder as a part of, or in connection with, a complete electrical system, but which does not include the cost of utilizing equipment connected to the electrical system. If a signed contract or other substantial proof of value is not submitted at the time of permit application, the value may be established by the electrical inspection office using modern construction cost-estimating techniques. If the reported work value is determined to be significantly less than what was reported at the time the permit was purchased, the actual value will be determined by the electrical inspection office using modern construction cost-estimating techniques. Additional permit fees, determined from the derived value, plus an additional charge for time to determine the value, will be assessed to the permit fee. A fee adjustment shall be made for all change orders and field changes that increase the value. All fees must be paid before final approval of the project.

TABLE B

Value of Electrical Construction	Permit Fees
\$0-\$1,000	\$100.00 for the first \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$1,001-\$5,000	\$100.00 for the first \$1,000.00 plus \$4.00 for each additional \$100.00 or fraction thereof.
\$5,001-\$50,000	\$260.00 for the first \$5,000.00 plus \$2.00 for each additional \$100.00 or fraction thereof.
\$50,001-\$100,000	\$1,160.00 for the first \$50,000.00 plus \$1.50 for each additional \$100.00 or fraction thereof.
\$100,001-\$250,000	\$1,910.00 for the first \$100,000.00 plus \$9.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$250,001-\$500,000	\$3,260.00 for the first \$250,000.00 plus \$8.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$500,001-\$750,000	\$5,260.00 for the first \$500,000.00 plus \$7.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$750,001-\$1,000,000	\$7,010.00 for the first \$750,000.00 plus \$6.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$1,000,001-\$2,000,000	\$8,510.00 for the first \$1,000,000.00 plus \$5.50 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$2,000,001-\$3,000,000	\$14,010.00 for the first \$2,000,000.00 plus \$5.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$3,000,001-\$4,000,000	\$19,010.00 for the first \$3,000,000.00 plus \$4.50 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$4,000,001-\$5,000,000	\$23,510.00 for the first \$4,000,000.00 plus \$4.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$5,000,001-\$50,000,000	\$27,510.00 for the first \$5,000,000.00 plus \$3.50 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.
\$50,000,001-\$100,000,000	\$185,010.00 for the first \$50,000,000.00 plus \$3.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 of fraction thereof.
\$100,000,001 and up	\$335,010.00 for the first \$100,000,000.00 plus \$2.50 for each additional \$1,000.00 of fraction thereof.

Where multiple inspections are required the permit fee shall not be less than \$40.00 times the number of ½ hr. inspection units.

2. Traffic signals.
Traffic signal and street lighting \$80
 3. Signs.
Each sign or first field installed neon transformer \$40
Each additional sign or field installed neon transformer . . \$15
 4. Carnival, circus, fair, or similar events.
First ten of rides, generators, concessions, or gaming shows \$100
Each additional \$5
Single ride, generator, concession, or gaming show \$40
- C. Low voltage. Fees for low voltage control panels and devices, such as fire alarm systems, data systems, intrusion alarms, HVAC systems, thermostats, communication systems, and emergency control systems, are as follows:
- Each control unit \$4
 - Each device \$1
 - Minimum fee \$40
- When single-family residence low voltage wiring is installed at the same time as the power wiring by one contractor, no additional fees are required. For commercial and multi-family installations, the lesser of the fee from this paragraph or Table B may be used to derive fees for low voltage permits.
- D. Call outs, overtime, and weekend inspections. Overtime and weekend inspections must be scheduled with the inspector a minimum of 48 hours in advance. In addition to the regular permit fee, a fee for overtime inspections are required as follows:
1. Non-scheduled, non-working hours call out for inspection shall be \$360, plus \$120 per hour beyond two hours of call out time. The fee must be paid the next business day.
 2. Scheduled, non-working hours inspection shall be \$240, plus \$120 per hour beyond two hours of call out time. The fee of \$240 must be paid 48 hours in advance of the scheduled inspection, and any remaining fee must be paid the next business day.
 3. Requested inspections that extend beyond the inspector's normal working hours shall be at the rate of \$120 per hour, portal to portal.

E. Annual permit. For plants, institutions, and large companies employing their own electricians who are certified in accordance with certification laws of the state of Washington, an annual permit may be purchased in lieu of individual permits for maintenance on each job performed. An annual permit is not allowed to be used for the installation of capital improvements such as new buildings, additions, new services, and/or feeders. The fee is calculated at \$47 an hour, per Table C. A minimum of one inspection request per month is required. This fee will be adjusted by Tacoma Power if the time involved is substantially disproportionate to the actual time for inspection.

TABLE E
Annual Permits

Number of 1-Hour Inspection Units		Fee
1 to 3 electricians	12	\$564
4 to 6 electricians	24	\$1,296
7 to 12 electricians	36	\$1,692
13 or more electricians	52	\$2,444

F. Miscellaneous fees.

1. Wrong meter address or location.

A permit is required to correct or inspect incorrect meter addressing by the owner or his agent \$40 per 1/2 hour

2. Service disconnection.

Inspection for power disconnection. Where power disconnection is for the purpose of performing electrical work, this fee will be waived in lieu of the applicable permit fee \$4

3. Safety inspection.

Permit fee for owner requested inspections of existing installations for electrical safety \$80

4. Variance.

A processing fee for granting an electrical installation as outlined in Section 2.04.150 of this chapter \$140

5. Required inspection on services off for year or more . . . \$40

2.04.260 Penalty fees and fee adjustments. The following-described penalties may be assessed, or the described fee adjustments may be determined appropriate, by order of the Chief Electrical Inspector:

A. Trips made when the permit holder has given notice that work is ready for inspection when it is not \$40

B. The permit holder gives an incorrect inspection site address . \$40

C. More than one additional required inspection to inspect corrections as a result of carelessness, neglect, faulty workmanship, or materials. \$40

D. Failing to complete corrections within 15 days as required by this chapter. \$40

E. Removal of Stop Work Order \$40

F. Occupying a building, living unit, or business space without final electrical approval. \$275

G. Work performed without a permit 4x regular permit fee

This provision does not pertain to emergency work where a permit is purchased the next business day.

H. Failure to provide or arrange access for requested inspection \$40

I. Late charge for non-payment of penalty fees \$25

2.04.270 Penalty and adjustment fee appeals.

A. Penalty and permit adjustment fees are due at the time of assessment unless the assessed party makes an appeal to the Chief Electrical Inspector within 15 business days. If payment or appeal is not made within the 15 days, an additional \$25 late fee will be assessed and inspection activity will be stopped until the fee and late charges are paid.

B. Appeals must be made in writing to the Chief Electrical Inspector, who shall make a determination whether the appeal will be upheld or denied. The Inspector shall inform the appellant in writing of his or her decision within ten business days.

2.04.300 Protection of electrical workers. All clearances per the state of Washington rules contained in WAC 296-155-428 must be maintained while working around overhead electrical lines.

2.04.350 License requirements.

A. All persons and firms performing electrical work shall be certified and licensed or otherwise permitted to perform such work under the provisions of Chapter 19.28 RCW.

B. Persons having a current state of Washington journeyman or electrical specialty certificate for the classification of work being performed on his or her employer's business premises are excepted from the provisions of Subsection A above, provided that:

1. The electrical work is not for construction of or remodel in a building or space intended for rent, lease, or sale; and

2. The employee performing the work is a regular, full time employee of the premises owner.

C. An employee of a governmental entity performing maintenance of pump stations, flood control stations, and wastewater treatment plants under the ownership of that entity may receive an exemption from electrician's certificate. Request for exemption must be made in writing to the Chief Electrical Inspector and must contain proof that the individual meets the definition of a "Qualified Person" per NEC 100.

2.04.360 Appeals.

A. Any decision of an inspector may be appealed in writing to the Chief Electrical Inspector. The appeal must be made within 15 business days of the initial decision. The Chief Electrical Inspector shall respond in writing within ten business days.

B. Any decision of the Chief Electrical Inspector may be appealed to the Energy Services Manager. The appeal must be made in writing and within ten business days of the Chief Electrical Inspector's decision. The Energy Services Manager shall make a decision on the appeal request within a reasonable time, which decision is final and conclusive.

2.04.370 City requirements. All installations shall meet the requirements of the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Customer Service Policies as promulgated, or revised, a copy of which will be filed with the Clerk of the Public Utility Board and available for information at the Office of the Superintendent of the Light Division.

2.04.380 Classification of occupancies and wiring methods.

A. 200 ampere service capacity shall be required for all new single-family and duplex residential units of 500 square feet or more. An entire service upgrade shall not be required when only replacing a meter base, or mast, or panel, unless the load requirement is greater than the rating of the existing service.

B. Service entrance conductors for commercial occupancies shall have an ampacity not less than the rating of the service equipment they supply. For multiple-dwelling occupancies, the minimum service conductor ampacity shall not be less than the calculated service load.

C. All new Emergency (NEC 700), Legally Required Standby (NEC 701) and Health Care (NEC 517) systems fed by a 150kW or larger generator shall have their systems commissioned. The commissioning is to be performed by a firm having qualified personnel and proper equipment for complete testing of these systems. A copy of the commissioning report shall be presented to the electrical inspector prior to the final electrical inspection.

D. Customer-owned primary systems shall be installed as supervised installations as outlined in NEC 215.2(B)(2) or Tacoma Power's Utility Standards and Practices, as deemed appropriate by the Chief Electrical Inspector. Customer-owned primary systems must be designed and certified by a Washington State Registered Engineer and reviewed by the Tacoma Power Electrical Inspection Office. These systems must be certified as free of short circuits and ground faults prior to approval for energizing.

E. Each dwelling unit, as defined in NEC 100, shall be independently metered by Tacoma Power.

F. Use of Type SE cable is limited to feeders and branch circuits.

2.04.400 Violations – Notification – Penalties.

A. Any person, firm, or corporation that violates, disobeys, neglects, or refuses to comply with or resists or opposes the enforcement of any of the provisions of this chapter, or who persists in occupying any building or structure, and/or maintaining operation of any equipment or appliances, in which the electrical wiring has been declared to be in violation of this chapter, after having been notified of such violation, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, together with the cost of prosecution, or by imprisonment of not more than 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day such violation, disobedience, neglect, or refusal continues after notification of violation shall be deemed a separate offense and shall be subject to the penalty of this section. Such person, firm, or corporation shall be deemed to have been duly notified by posting of notification on the premises, equipment, or appliances by the Inspector or by the sealing out of the service, of circuits, of equipment, and/or of appliances by the Inspector, or by notification in writing by the Inspector, mailed to the owner and/or occupant at the premises involved.

B. At the option of the City, in lieu of proceeding with criminal sanctions, violations of this chapter may result in a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation. A civil penalty may be imposed by written notice issued by the Chief Electrical Inspector or his or her designated assistant. The civil penalty shall be paid prior to final approval of the premises involved. Appeals of the civil penalty may be made by a party or firm adversely affected by filing a notice of appeal with the City Hearing Examiner within ten days of receipt of the notice of civil penalty. The decision of the Hearing Examiner is final and conclusive, and is only subject to review by the Pierce County Superior Court by filing appropriate legal action within 30 days of the issuance of the Hearing Examiner's final decision. If such fine or civil penalty remains unpaid more than 60 days after said amount has been imposed and all appeals thereof have been exhausted, or the time has expired for an appeal, then said amount may be transferred to the electric utility bill account for said person or firm, and the remedies for collection for electric utility.

