

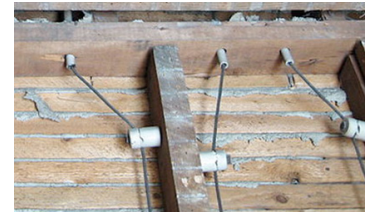
# Knob & Tube Wiring Inspection Requirements

Dear Homeowner:

You are receiving this notification because your home has knob and tube (K&T) wiring. Before your insulation project can move forward, we require a licensed electrician inspect the area to be insulated and complete and a “Knob and Tube Wiring Inspection Report.” This report should be submitted to Tacoma Power’s Customer Energy Programs department (included on other side).

## Background:

The standard method of electrical wiring in homes built between 1880 – 1950 was K&T. Ceramic insulators (knobs) were nailed to joists and studs in attics, walls and, sometimes, under the floor to run wires through unobstructed spaces. Ceramic tubes protect the wires that run through studs and joists.



## Safety and code compliance:

Because of its age, the condition of K&T wiring can vary significantly, causing potential safety concerns. Before new insulation can be installed, an inspection by a licensed electrician is required to assess the condition of the wiring and electrical service. Common reasons knob and tube wiring needs inspection:

- Improper splices into knob and tube wiring
- Poor condition of insulator knobs
- Wires connected to the wrong sized circuit protection (i.e. circuit breaker or fuse) which can cause overheating and possible fire hazard

## Next Steps:

Follow the steps below to move forward with your insulation project:

1. Call a certified, licensed electrician to schedule an inspection. A list of licensed contractors is available on our website at: [mytpu.org/contractor](http://mytpu.org/contractor)
2. Have the electrician conduct the inspection. He or she should then complete and submit the “Knob and Tube Wiring Inspection Report”. Inspection findings:
  - **“Qualified to be insulated”** – submit the inspection report, certified by the licensed electrician, to Tacoma Power along with the application form and insulation bid.
  - **“NOT qualified to be insulated”** - electrical repairs must be completed prior to insulating the home.
    - Reinspection is required after all repairs have been successfully completed. Once the electrician finds the area “qualified to be insulated,” submit the inspection report application form and insulation bid to Tacoma Power.

For rebate and loan projects, the cost of the K&T wiring inspection *and* any required repairs are the responsibility of the property owner.

If you have any questions, contact (253) 502-8363 or email [rconservation@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:rconservation@cityoftacoma.org).



# Knob & Tube Inspection Report

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

## PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

Property Owner Name:	Project Number:
Installation address:	Primary Phone:
City:	Zip:

**This report must be completed by a licensed electrical contractor and returned to Tacoma Power's Customer Energy Programs Department **PRIOR** to installing insulation at the address listed above.**

Electrician Name:	Washington State Contractor ID:
Phone:	Phone:

All knob and tube circuits have over-protection not to exceed those listed in table 310-16 of the National Electric Code (e.g., 15 amp for 14 gauge wire; 20 am for 12 gauge wire)

Check the boxes that apply and explain any deficiencies found.

<input type="checkbox"/> Circuit breakers <input type="checkbox"/> S-type fuse holder <input type="checkbox"/> S-type adapters and fuses	<b>Lighting &amp; Receptacle circuits (list amps)</b>
	#1: ___ #2: ___ #3: ___ #4: ___ #5: ___ #6: ___ #7: ___

## CEILING AREA

General Condition:  Good  Poor **Knob & Tube Wiring:**  Active  Inactive

If poor, please explain:

I certify that the above conditions exist and the ceiling area is:

Journeyman Electrician:

Qualified to be insulated  NOT qualified to be insulated

Date:

## WALL AREA

General Condition:  Good  Poor **Knob & Tube Wiring:**  Active  Inactive

If poor, please explain:

I certify that the above conditions exist and the wall area is:

Journeyman Electrician:

Qualified to be insulated  NOT qualified to be insulated

Date:

## FLOOR AREA

General Condition:  Good  Poor **Knob & Tube Wiring:**  Active  Inactive

If poor, please explain:

I certify that the above conditions exist and the floor area is:

Journeyman Electrician:

Qualified to be insulated  NOT qualified to be insulated

Date: