

August 12, 2011

Sioux Falls Licensed Electrical Contractors  
City of Sioux Falls

Subject: Public Hearing  
Pending Adoption of the 2011 National Electrical Code by the City of Sioux Falls

The Electrical Inspection division of Building Services is proposing a public hearing to discuss issues and to seek input for the proposed local adoption of the 2011 National Electrical Code which includes both state and local modifications. The meeting will start at 3:30 pm, Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 in the Old City Commission Chambers on the first floor of City Hall located at 224 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

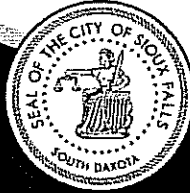
The "Draft Electrical Ordinance" details either the ordinance section or the NEC article that is changed by underlining what has been added and overstriking what has been eliminated. Each change is also provided with a commentary explaining whether the change originates from the SD Electrical Commission or the City Electrical Inspection division, and additionally explains the intent of the modification. <http://www.siouxfalls.org/buildingservices/news>

The entire pending ordinance can be found at [www.siouxfalls.org/buildingservices/news](http://www.siouxfalls.org/buildingservices/news).

### Significant Technical Changes to the 2011 National Electrical Code

The following lists 12 significant technical changes to the 2011 National Electrical Code that will be reviewed. These are only a few of many new requirements, all of which are highlighted in the 2011 National Electrical Code book.

- **NEC Article 110.24(A)** requires that service equipment in other than dwelling units shall be legibly marked in the field with the maximum available fault current.
- **NEC Article 200.7(C)(1)** requires when using a white wire within a cable assembly as an ungrounded conductor, this conductor must be permanently re-identified to indicate its use as an ungrounded conductor by marking tape, painting, or other effective means at its termination and at each location where the conductor is visible and accessible.



- **NEC Article 210.8** requires the ground fault circuit-interrupter (GFCI) shall be installed in a readily accessible location.
- **NEC Article 210.8(B)** added ground fault circuit-interrupter (GFCI) protection for receptacles installed in the following areas: (6) indoor wet locations, (7) locker rooms with associated showering facilities, and (8) garages, service bays, and similar areas where electrical diagnostic equipment, electrical hand tools, or portable lighting equipment are to be used.
- **NEC Article 210.12(B)** requires in any of the areas specified in 210.12(A), where branch-circuit wiring is modified, replaced, or extended, the branch circuit shall be protected by one of the following: (1) a listed combination-type arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) located at the origin of the branch circuit, or (2) a listed outlet branch-circuit type arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) located at the first receptacle outlet of the existing branch circuit.
- **NEC Article 210.52(I)** requires foyers that have an area that is greater than 60 square feet shall have a receptacle(s) located in each wall space 3 feet or more in width and unbroken by doorways, floor to ceiling windows, and similar openings.
- **NEC Article 210.52(E)(3)** requires balconies, decks, and porches that are accessible from inside the dwelling unit shall have at least one receptacle outlet installed within the perimeter of the balcony, deck, or porch.
- **NEC Article 300.5(D)(3)** requires underground service conductors that are not encased in concrete and that are buried 18 inches or more below grade shall have their location identified by a warning ribbon that is placed in the trench at least 12 inches above the underground installation.
- **NEC Article 314.27(C)** requires that if spare, separately switched, ungrounded conductors are provided to a ceiling box, the box shall be listed for sole support of a ceiling-suspended (paddle) fans.
- **NEC Article 404.2(C)** requires where switches control lighting loads supplied by a grounded general purpose branch circuit, the grounded circuit conductor (neutral) for the controlled lighting circuit shall be provided at the switch location.
- **NEC Article 406.13** requires 125-volt, 15- and 20-ampere receptacles located in guest rooms and guest suites shall be tamper-resistant receptacles.
- **NEC Article 406.12** removed the requirement for use of tamper-resistant receptacles that are more than 5½ feet above the floor, that are part of a luminaire or appliance that is not easily moved and that is cord-and plug-connected, and nongrounded receptacles used as replacements.

### Significant Administrative Changes to the 2011 National Electrical Code

The vast majority of the ordinance carries over the same administrative modifications from the previous adoption. Although, the following are administrative changes which will also be reviewed.

- **Sec. 15-1. Electrical Code Adopted.** This changes the national model code standard from the 2008 to the 2011 National Electrical Code.
- **Sec. 15-6(b) New electrical service entrances in existing single family and multiple family dwellings.** To be consistent with the International Property Maintenance Code, for a service update with increase amperage on a dwelling, if a bathroom is not provided with a receptacle, this provision calls for the installation of a GFCI receptacle outlet.
- **Sec. 15-7(g) Modifications; Sec. 15-7(h) Alternative materials, methods, equipment and appliance; Sec. 15-8 Liability; Sec. 15-12(b) Prosecution of violation.** The National Electrical Code is not provided with administrative provisions that define the scope and authority of the Electrical Inspection Division. These provisions are inserted to be consistent with those administrative provisions for the Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, and Housing Inspection Divisions of Building Services.
- **Sec. 15-8 Fees.** Building Services has been directed to increase revenues. This intends to provide a moderate increase to electrical inspection fees to cover the costs of providing electrical inspection services. The last time that fees have been increased in the Electrical Inspection Division was 2002. The effective date for the fee increase is proposed to be January 1, 2013.
- **Sec 15-32. Bond Required.** Instead of the City relying on the State's bonding capability, this proposes that a licensed electrical contractor or Class B contractor post a \$10,000 compliance bond with the City of Sioux Falls by January 1, 2012.

Your review and input will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Ron Bell  
Chief Building Services Official