

A Member of the International Code Family™



INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL ELECTRICAL CODE

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

2003

2003 ICC Electrical Code™

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PREFACE

Introduction

Internationally, code officials recognize the need for provisions in administering the *National Electrical Code*® (NEC®). The *ICC Electrical Code*™—*Administrative Provisions* is designed to meet these needs through model code regulations. These administrative provisions correlate with provisions in the International Code system and are specifically geared to electrical code enforcement.

This 2003 edition is fully compatible with all the *International Codes* (“I-Codes”) published by the International Code Council (ICC), including the *International Building Code*, *International Energy Conservation Code*, *International Existing Building Code*, *International Fire Code*, *International Fuel Gas Code*, *International Mechanical Code*, *ICC Performance Code*, *International Plumbing Code*, *International Private Sewage Disposal Code*, *International Property Maintenance Code*, *International Residential Code*, *International Urban-Wildland Interface Code* and *International Zoning Code*.

The *ICC Electrical Code*—*Administrative Provisions* provide many benefits, among which is the model code development process that offers an international forum for electrical professionals to discuss performance and prescriptive code requirements. This forum provides an excellent arena to debate proposed revisions. This model code also encourages international consistency in the application of provisions.

Development

The 2000 *ICC Electrical Code*—*Administrative Provisions* was the culmination of an effort initiated in 1999 by a development committee appointed by ICC and consisting of representatives of the three statutory members of the International Code Council: Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) and Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCCI). The intent was to draft a comprehensive set of regulations for administering the NEC. Content of the administrative provisions of the *International Codes* was utilized as the basis for development. This 2003 edition presents the code as originally issued, with changes approved through the ICC Code Development Process through 2002. A new edition such as this is promulgated every three years.

With the development and publication of the family of *International Codes* in 2000, the continued development and maintenance of the model codes individually promulgated by BOCA (“BOCA National Codes”), ICBO (“Uniform Codes”) and SBCCI (“Standard Codes”) was discontinued. The 2003 *International Codes*, as well as their predecessor—the 2000 editions, are intended to be the successor set of codes to those codes previously developed by BOCA, ICBO and SBCCI.

The development of a single set of comprehensive and coordinated family of *International Codes* was a significant milestone in the development of regulations for the built environment. The timing of this publication mirrors a milestone in the change in structure of the model codes, namely, the pending Consolidation of BOCA, ICBO and SBCCI into the ICC. The activities and services previously provided by the individual model code organizations will be the responsibility of the Consolidated ICC.

Adoption

The *ICC Electrical Code*—*Administrative Provisions* is available for adoption and use by jurisdictions internationally. Its use within a governmental jurisdiction is intended to be accomplished through adoption by reference in accordance with proceedings establishing the jurisdiction’s laws. At the time of adoption, jurisdictions should insert the appropriate information in provisions requiring specific local information, such as the name of the adopting jurisdiction. These locations are shown in bracketed words in small capital letters in the code and in the sample ordinance. The sample adoption ordinance on page v addresses several key elements of a code adoption ordinance, including the information required for insertion into the code text.

Maintenance

The *ICC Electrical Code*—*Administrative Provisions* is kept up to date through the review of proposed changes submitted by code enforcing officials, industry representatives, design professionals and other interested parties. Proposed changes are carefully considered through an open code development process in which all interested and affected parties may participate.

The contents of this work are subject to change both through the Code Development Cycles and the governmental body that enacts the code into law. For more information regarding the code development process, contact the Code and Standard Development Department of the International Code Council.

While the development procedure of the *ICC Electrical Code*—*Administrative Provisions* assures the highest degree of care, ICC and the founding members of ICC—BOCA, ICBO, SBCCI—their members and those participating in the development of this code do not accept any liability resulting from compliance or noncompliance with the provisions because ICC and its founding members do not have the power or authority to police or enforce compliance with the contents of this code. Only the governmental body that enacts the code into law has such authority.

Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers

In each code development cycle, proposed changes to this code are considered at the Code Development Hearing by the ICC Electrical Code Development Committee, whose action constitutes a recommendation to the voting membership for final action on the proposed change. Proposed changes to a code section whose number begins with a letter in brackets are considered by a different code development committee. For instance, proposed changes to code sections which have the letter [B] in front (e.g., [B] 1202.9), are considered by the International Building Code Development Committee at the Code Development Hearing. Where this designation is applicable to the entire content of a main section of the code, the designation appears at the main section number and title and is not repeated at every subsection in that section.

The content of sections in this code which begin with a letter designation are maintained by another code development committee in accordance with the following: [B] = International Building Code Development Committee; [E] = International Energy Conservation Code Development Committee; [EB] = International Existing Building Code Development Committee; [F] = International Fire Code Development Committee; [M] = International Mechanical Code Development Committee; [P] = International Plumbing Code Development Committee; [PC] = ICC Performance Code Development Committee; [PM] = International Property Maintenance Code Development Committee; [RBE] = International Residential Code Building and Energy Development Committee; [RMP] = International Residential Code Mechanical/Plumbing Development Committee; [UW] = International Urban Wildland Interface Code Development Committee; and [Z] = International Zoning Code Development Committee.

Marginal Markings

Solid vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a technical change from the requirements of the 2000 edition. Deletion indicators (➤) are provided in the margin where a paragraph or item has been deleted.

ORDINANCE

The *International Codes* are designed and promulgated to be adopted by reference by ordinance. Jurisdictions wishing to adopt the 2003 *ICC Electrical Code—Administrative Provisions* as an enforceable regulation governing electrical systems should ensure that certain factual information is included in the adopting ordinance at the time adoption is being considered by the appropriate governmental body. The following sample adoption ordinance addresses several key elements of a code adoption ordinance, including the information required for insertion into the code text.

SAMPLE ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION OF THE *ICC ELECTRICAL CODE—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS* ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance of the [JURISDICTION] adopting the 2003 edition of the *ICC Electrical Code—Administrative Provisions*, regulating and governing the design, construction, quality of materials, erection, installation, alteration, repair, location, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of electrical systems in the [JURISDICTION]; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefor; repealing Ordinance No. _____ of the [JURISDICTION] and all other ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith.

The [GOVERNING BODY] of the [JURISDICTION] does ordain as follows:

Section 1. That a certain document, three (3) copies of which are on file in the office of the [TITLE OF JURISDICTION'S KEEPER OF RECORDS] of [NAME OF JURISDICTION], being marked and designated as the *ICC Electrical Code—Administrative Provisions*, as published by the International Code Council, be and is hereby adopted as the Electrical Code of the [JURISDICTION], in the State of [STATE NAME] for regulating the design, construction, quality of materials, erection, installation, alteration, repair, location, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of electrical systems as herein provided; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefor; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said Electrical Code on file in the office of the [JURISDICTION] are hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in this ordinance, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, prescribed in Section 2 of this ordinance.

Section 2. The following sections are hereby revised:

Section 101.1. Insert: [NAME OF JURISDICTION]

Section 404.2. Insert: [APPROPRIATE SCHEDULE]

Section 3. That Ordinance No. _____ of [JURISDICTION] entitled [FILL IN HERE THE COMPLETE TITLE OF THE ORDINANCE OR ORDINANCES IN EFFECT AT THE PRESENT TIME SO THAT THEY WILL BE REPEALED BY DEFINITE MENTION] and all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4. That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The [GOVERNING BODY] hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

Section 5. That nothing in this ordinance or in the Electrical Code hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in Section 2 of this ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

Section 6. That the [JURISDICTION'S KEEPER OF RECORDS] is hereby ordered and directed to cause this ordinance to be published. (An additional provision may be required to direct the number of times the ordinance is to be published and to specify that it is to be in a newspaper in general circulation. Posting may also be required.)

Section 7. That this ordinance and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders and matters established and adopted hereby shall take effect and be in full force and effect [TIME PERIOD] from and after the date of its final passage and adoption.

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CHAPTER 1

SCOPE

SECTION 101 GENERAL

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the *Electrical Code—Administrative Provisions* of [NAME OF JURISDICTION] and shall be cited as such and will be referred to herein as “this code.”

101.2 Purpose. The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction, installation, quality of materials, location, operation, and maintenance or use of electrical systems and equipment.

101.3 Scope. This code shall regulate the design, construction, installation, alteration, repairs, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of electrical systems and equipment.

SECTION 102 APPLICABILITY

102.1 General. The provisions of this code shall apply to all matters affecting or relating to structures and premises, as set forth in Section 101.

102.1.1 Existing installations. Except as otherwise provided for in this chapter, a provision in this code shall not require the removal, alteration or abandonment of, nor prevent the continued utilization and maintenance of, existing electrical systems and equipment lawfully in existence at the time of the adoption of this code.

102.1.2 Maintenance. Electrical systems, equipment, materials and appurtenances, both existing and new, and parts thereof shall be maintained in proper operating condition in accordance with the original design and in a safe, hazard-free condition. Devices or safeguards that are required by this code shall be maintained in compliance with the code edition under which installed. The owner or the owner’s designated agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of the electrical systems and equipment. To determine compliance with this provision, the code official shall have the authority to require that the electrical systems and equipment be inspected.

[EB] 102.1.3 Additions, alterations and repairs. Additions, alterations, renovations and repairs to electrical systems shall comply with the provisions of the *International Existing Building Code* and this code, as applicable.

[EB] 102.1.4 Change in occupancy. The provisions of the *International Existing Building Code* shall apply to all buildings undergoing a change of occupancy.

102.1.5 Moved buildings. Electrical systems and equipment that are a part of buildings or structures moved into or within the jurisdiction shall comply with the provisions of this code for new installations.

102.2 Differences. Where, in any specific case, different sections of this code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern. Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable.

102.3 Other laws. The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state or federal law.

102.4 Validity. In the event any part or provision of this code is held to be illegal or void, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions thereof, which are determined to be legal; and it shall be presumed that this code would have been adopted without such illegal or invalid parts or provisions.

102.4.1 Segregation of invalid provisions. Any invalid part of this code shall be segregated from the remainder of this code by the court holding such part invalid, and the remainder shall remain effective.

102.5 Application of references. References to chapter or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such chapters, sections or provisions of this code.

102.6 Referenced codes and standards. The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 13 and such codes and standards shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes or standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

Exception: Where enforcement of a code provision would violate the conditions of the listing of the equipment or appliance, the conditions of the listing and manufacturer’s instructions shall apply.

102.7 Appendices. Provisions in the appendices shall not apply unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

102.8 Subjects not regulated by this code. Where no applicable standards or requirements are set forth in this code, or are contained within other laws, codes, regulations, ordinances or bylaws adopted by the jurisdiction, compliance with applicable standards of nationally recognized standards as are approved shall be deemed as prima facie evidence of compliance with the intent of this code. Nothing herein shall derogate from the authority of the code official to determine compliance with codes or standards for those activities or installations within the code official’s jurisdiction or responsibility.