

Section 1. Chapter 34 of Title 1 of the RCNY is amended by adding new sections 34-04, 34-05, 34-06 and 34-07, to read as follows:

§34-04 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

Electrical Code: The term “Electrical Code” means Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York. Such term shall include the Electrical Code Technical Standards.

Electrical Code Technical Standards: The term “Electrical Code Technical Standards” means the edition of the National Fire Protection Association NFPA 70 National Electrical Code (“NEC”) currently adopted by New York City with such amendments as may be enacted by local law.

§34-05 Electrical advisory board. a. In accordance with section 27-3005(a)(7) of the Administrative Code, the Commissioner shall appoint a special board, to be known as the “electrical advisory board.” The electrical advisory board shall provide advice regarding (i) the approval of the use of electrical appliances, devices, and materials not otherwise approved for use by the Electrical Code, (ii) the granting of approval to use wiring or appliances not otherwise allowed by the Electrical Code Technical Standards and (iii) the granting of approval for specified types of electrical installations. The members of the board shall be appointed annually and shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner. The number of members and their organizational affiliations shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. The board shall have a Chair and Vice-Chair appointed annually by the Commissioner.

b. Electrical advisory board review shall be required in the following circumstances:

(1) Electrical Installations:

(a) Electrical advisory board review shall be required where service equipment totals 1000 Kilo-Volt Amperes (“KVA”) or greater, or where any new alteration or addition to an electric service installation causes the altered installation to total 1000 KVA or greater, as further detailed below:

(A) A new installation of equipment totaling 1000 KVA or higher;

(B) Any change in an installation with a rating of 1000 KVA or higher, up to and including the second level overcurrent protection, unless it was fully described and approved as “future” on the original approved plan.

(C) Any addition to an existing installation which would bring the total to 1000KVA or higher.

(D) A new installation or revised installation above 600 volts, irrespective of KVA rating.

(E) The addition of any equipment in a room, which would affect clearances around the equipment of a 1000 KVA installation.

(b) Electrical advisory board review shall be required where proposed electrical installations involve appliances and materials not covered by the Electrical Code Technical Standards.

(2) Electrical Equipment or Materials. Electrical advisory board review shall be required for manufactured wiring systems, low voltage lighting systems, painting equipment /spray booths, and electrical equipment not specifically addressed in the Electrical Code Technical Standards and any other electrical equipment not bearing the label of approval of an electrical testing laboratory acceptable to the Commissioner.

c. Filing Requirements for Electrical Advisory Board Review.

(1) Filing requirements for Electrical Installations 1000 KVA or Greater, or New or Revised Installations above 600 Volts

(a) A cover letter, payment as specified in (d) below, and 2 sets of complete drawings shall be filed at:

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Bureau of Electrical Control

(address provided in the City's website, <http://www.nyc.gov>)

(b) Submission shall be made by a New York City Licensed Master or Special Electrician, a New York State Licensed Professional Engineer, or an individual with comparable qualifications from an outside jurisdiction.

(c) A filing fee of \$650.00 shall be paid for each submission, no part of which shall be refundable.

(d) Payment shall be made by a money order or corporate/business check, a bank check or a certified check, and shall be made payable to "Department of Buildings."

(e) Requirements for Plans and Drawings. All submissions for electrical advisory board review for service equipment totaling 1000KVA or more or above 600 Volts shall include the following plans/drawings:

- One line diagram

- Plan view / service equipment room layout
- Physical details of switchboard & distribution panel equipment as per the following requirements:

(A) All drawings shall be clear, legible, and use standard notations. All drawings shall be folded to 8 1/2" x 11," except for equivalent electronic versions authorized by the Department.

(B) Installations that are not all new shall clearly mark what is new and what is existing. In addition, all new work shall be encircled by a 'bubble' or 'cloud' on the drawings.

(C) For residential installations, the calculations justifying a de-rating of the neutral shall be submitted.

(D) The plan view shall be drawn to scale, showing the point of service entrance into the building. If the building sets back from the property line, the underground service feeder shall be shown, including wire and raceway sizes.

(E) The arrangement of service equipment and its proximity to the point of service entrance shall be shown, complete with details of the equipment, and the manner in which service will be extended to the service equipment. If the switchboard is free standing, the clearance around the switchboard shall be shown.

(F) The location of the main switchboard and/or distribution panels in relation to the service equipment and how they are interconnected shall be shown.

(G) The location of the electric service room with respect to the surrounding areas shall be shown.

(H) The means of egress from the switchboard room and where it leads to shall be shown. The legal exit(s) to which egress door(s) lead shall also be shown.

(I) When there is more than one service location within a building, drawings shall contain a notation indicating that signs are posted at the entrance door of each switchboard room showing the location of all the other switchboard rooms. The location and wording of the signs shall be specified.

(J) If the existing service equipment and/or point of service entrance is to be discontinued, the drawings shall so state.

(K) If existing service equipment is to remain in conjunction with new service equipment and is to be supplied by the same service entrance, the drawing shall indicate

the make and size of the existing service equipment, the size and location of the ground strap, and the type and size of the fuses in the existing equipment.

(L) The drawing shall show grouping of service equipment at the point of service entrance.

(M) The drawing shall show ventilation of the room when the service equipment totals 2000 KVA or larger (this may be in the form of a note on the drawing).

(N) The drawing shall show the available short circuit current at the point of service entrance and at the point of change in the interrupting rating of the overcurrent protection. Where used, series ratings shall be indicated.

(O) A statement confirming that all fuses and/or circuit breakers have been coordinated for selective short circuit overcurrent protection shall be on the drawing.

(P) A one line diagram shall be submitted indicating the service equipment and the distribution equipment up to the 2nd level overcurrent protection, showing all overcurrent devices with their ampere rating, make and type, interrupting current ratings and bus and wire sizes. Frame and trip sizes for circuit breakers shall be indicated.

(Q) Drawings shall indicate that transformers are properly grounded. Service and distribution equipment proposed for future installation shall be marked on the drawings as "future."

(R) All voltages shall be clearly shown on the drawings, which shall include voltages pertaining to all of the equipment overcurrent protection up to and including the second level protection.

(S) Drawings shall note that cables used in a trough shall be grouped A, B, C, & N respectively. Where troughs are used for taps, the copper detail or a description of the tap shall be noted, confirming that multiset conductors are tapped correctly.

(T) The physical size of the vertical bus in the distribution panels (second level equipment) shall be shown. The overcurrent devices, bus, barriers, and gutter space layout shall be shown. Layouts of previously approved panels (to be so noted on plans) need not be submitted.

(U) When a generator (or other non-utility source) is part of a 1000 KVA submission and the generator itself is rated below 1000 KVA, a one line diagram shall be submitted showing how the generator is connected to the normal service. The drawings shall include the grounding of the generator frame and neutral bonding if needed (four pole transfer device). If the generator is rated 1000 KVA or larger, a room layout shall

be submitted along with a one line diagram, and physical drawings shall show a section view of the emergency switchboard. Also, the Advisory Board calendar number for the normal service shall be specified.

(V) Physical detail drawings for switchboard equipment shall show front and section views and shall be drawn by the switchboard manufacturer. Elevation detail shall show access to the bus connections, the size and location of the main bonding jumper (ground strap), the disconnect link in the neutral, all the barriers and how load cables leave the cabinet. Side section views shall clarify bus details.

(W) Details of gutter space, lug covers and dimensions of lugs and enclosures up to the 2nd level distribution equipment shall be shown.

(2) Filing requirements for electrical advisory board review of Appliances, Devices, and Materials Not Covered by the Electrical Code Technical Standards.

(a) A cover letter together with appropriate drawings, sketches, charts, and/or cut sheets shall be filed at:

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Bureau of Electrical Control

(address provided in the City's website, <http://www.nyc.gov>)

(b) A filing fee of \$ 350.00 shall be paid for each submission made where an electrical violation was issued due to failure to obtain prior Electrical Advisory Board review and approval, no part of which shall be refundable.

(c) Payment shall be made by a money order or a corporate/business check, a bank check or a certified check, and shall be made payable to "Department of Buildings."

(3) Filing requirements for electrical advisory board review of Electrical Equipment and Materials.

(a) The submission, including a cover letter and check, shall be filed at the following location only:

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Bureau of Electrical Control

Advisory Board

(address provided in the City's website, <http://www.nyc.gov>)

(b) A filing fee of \$ 200.00 shall be paid for each submission, no part of which shall be returned.

(c) Payment shall be made by either money order, bank check, certified check or corporate/business check. The payment instrument shall be made payable to “Department of Buildings.”

(d) The submission shall contain the following:

(A) A cover letter indicating the following:

(i) Type/model numbers of material/equipment being submitted for approval.

(ii) Items included in support of the submittal.

(iii) Explanatory information/comments, if applicable.

(B) A completed & notarized application for review.

(C) Two (2) brochures, or catalog data sheets, and a set of unmounted photographs or photographs transmitted electronically as authorized by the Department.

(D) A complete test report that includes a conclusion sheet from a laboratory acceptable to the Commissioner.

(E) Equipment samples only when requested by the Electrical Advisory Board.

d. Compliance with the Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State (“Energy Code”). All submissions made to the Electrical Advisory Board shall comply with the requirements of the Energy Code where applicable.

§34-06. Electrical Code Revision and Interpretation Committee. In accordance with section 27-3005(a)(7) of the Administrative Code, the Commissioner shall appoint a special committee to be known as the “electrical code revision and interpretation committee”. The committee may propose to the commissioner local amendments to the NEC and shall, upon request, provide interpretations and clarifications of the Electrical Code Technical Standards. The number of members and their organizational affiliations shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. The members of the committee shall be appointed annually and shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner. The Committee shall have a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary appointed annually by the Commissioner. All proposed local amendments to the NEC adopted or considered for adoption by the city shall be submitted to the committee for review.

§34-07 Electrical Code Advisory Committee. In accordance with section 27-3005(a)(7) of the Administrative Code the Commissioner shall appoint a special committee to be known as the “electrical code advisory committee”. The committee shall advise the Commissioner regarding the approval of local amendments to the NEC

proposed by the Electrical Code Revision and Interpretation Committee and the implementation of such amendments, and shall act as a conduit between the Department and the electrical industry regarding such proposed amendments and their implementation. The members of the committee shall be appointed annually and shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner. The number of members and their organizational affiliations shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. The Committee shall have a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary appointed annually by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall submit all local amendments to the edition of the National Fire Protection Association NFPA 70 NEC currently adopted or being considered for adoption by the city to the committee for review.

Statement of Basis and Purpose

The Department of Buildings (“DOB”) is authorized to promulgate rules to implement the New York City Electrical Code. NYC Administrative Code §27-3005(a)(7) allows the appointment by the DOB Commissioner, at her or his discretion, of special boards and committees to provide advice or assistance in the implementation, interpretation, variation or amendment of any provision of the Electrical Code or the Electrical Code Technical Standards or Departmental rules.

The purpose of the amendment of the Chapter 34 rules is to provide regulations for the establishment, jurisdiction and operation of an Advisory Board to advise the DOB Commissioner regarding the approval of the use of electrical appliances and materials not covered by the Electrical Code, to provide advice to the Commissioner’s granting of special permission to use wiring or appliances not covered by the Electrical Code, and for certain specified types of electrical installations, and regarding the submission of applications seeking such approval. The new rule also provides for two Electrical Code Committees, the Electrical Code Advisory Committee and the Electrical Code Revision and Interpretation Committee to provide advice and assistance to the Commissioner.