

**PART V****EXTENSIONS OF THE SYSTEM**

The Cooperative will supply permanent electric service to each structure through one service connection for each class of service allowed. Exceptions may be granted where permitted by the National Electrical Safety Code or National Electric Code and where, in the judgment of the Cooperative, the installation of more than one service connection is justified. Multiple service connections to a multiple-occupancy building will be allowed only upon verification by Authorities of adequate firewall separation between dwelling units.

Where the required service is in excess of that regularly installed by the Cooperative, the Applicant shall contribute the Cooperative's estimated additional construction costs. This is in addition to any Contribution in Aid of Construction that may be required by the Cooperative or by Authorities. Information regarding the amount to be contributed will be provided by the Cooperative and must be paid prior to construction. The Cooperative will own, operate, maintain, and control all installed equipment regardless of any contributions to the cost thereof made by the Applicant.

To ensure that service connection will be made promptly, cooperation is necessary between the Consumer Member, engineer, architect, builder or electrical contractor and the Cooperative. Timely application should be made at the nearest Cooperative office well before construction is started.

**A. UNDERGROUND SERVICE EXTENSIONS**

Upon receipt of a proper application, the Cooperative will install, own, operate, and maintain an underground electric distribution system or underground electric service line to serve the Applicant. The Cooperative will build this underground system or service line with sufficient capacity and suitable material which, in its judgment, will assure that the Applicant will receive safe, adequate, and reasonable electric service for the foreseeable future.

Underground extensions will not be made for electric lines of nominal 33,000 volts and higher.

Underground extensions shall not be mandatory where they would serve no aesthetic purpose because of the nature of the Applicant's business. Applicants of this nature might include those with gravel pits and/or other mining operations, junkyards, or steel mills. Underground service conductors will terminate at the Cooperative's metering equipment in the case of individual meters, at the service main where more than six meters are grouped, or in the wiring trough where multiple installations are served from a common point.

The design and construction of the underground extension shall conform to accepted good engineering practice in the electric industry to provide an installation at reasonable cost.

Underground waterlines, oil tanks, Applicant's wiring and/or sewage facilities, etc. on the Applicant's premises will not be allowed in the same trench or space provided for the Cooperative's electric cable and equipment.

In all cases, the Cooperative must approve where underground electric service lines are to attach to the building, including the meter location. The Cooperative will also designate where the underground service conductors or overhead service drop attaches to or enters the building or structure.

**B. INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED BY APPLICANTS**

If an underground distribution system is to be installed, the Applicant shall furnish the Cooperative, as required and at no charge, easements necessary for utility construction, property plats, property corner locations, utility plans, grading plans, grade certification, roadway profile, load breakdown on equipment to be served, and other items showing details of proposed construction.

This information shall be furnished in reasonable time to allow the Cooperative to engineer, design, and construct its facilities in a safe and efficient manner to meet service requirements and to comply with applicable laws, codes, rules, and regulations.

For commercial or industrial service, the Applicant shall also supply the following information:

1. Drawing of the proposed conduit system or raceways within the building to the load side of the meter or current transformer compartment.
2. Architectural drawings showing details of equipment and facilities.
3. Tabulation of the electrical loads to be utilized in the building.

**C. COSTS INCLUDED IN CALCULATION OF CHARGES TO THE APPLICANT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF UNDERGROUND EXTENSIONS**

The specific charges for the construction of underground service lines and extensions, as further listed in Sections D and E, are composed of the following costs:

1. Cost of installation more costly than normally furnished by the Cooperative.
2. Cost of rearranging or modifying the existing overhead or underground system to connect to the underground extension, whether on or off the Applicant's property.
3. Installed cost of cable.
4. Cost of trenching, backfilling and restoring surface.
5. Cost of breaking and replacing paving, curbing, and sidewalks.
6. Cost of transformer pads, foundations, fences, and submersible and padmounted enclosures.
7. Installed cost of switching and protective equipment.

The estimated cost of construction shall not include the installed cost of transformers or meters.

**D. CHARGES FOR UNDERGROUND SERVICE LINE****1. Residential Service**

Charges shall be made by the Cooperative for installation of underground extensions to new residential buildings or mobile homes as follows:

(NOTE: all non-residential underground service extensions will be classified as “commercial” and will therefore be administered as such.)

Detached Single Family Home

A standard service connection is one of 220 feet or less in which the nearest corner of the building is used as the service connection point and the service extension uses the shortest distance from the service connection point to the point where the electric service extension enters the property to be served. For this type of service connection, the Applicant shall pay the standard service extension charge specified below.

If, however, the Applicant requests that the service connection point be at a location other than the nearest corner, or the Applicant’s property design precludes the installation of Cooperative facilities along the shortest route to the service connection point, then the Cooperative shall select the route for the service extension. The Applicant shall pay:

- a. The standard service extension charge specified below, plus
- b. Any and all additional service extension costs due to the alternate service connection design at the specified rate below.

All alternative service connection designs must be approved by the Cooperative.

For Service extensions where the distance from the nearest corner of the building to the point where the electric service extension enters the property to be served is greater than 220 feet, the Applicant will pay:

- a. The standard service extension charge specified below, plus
- b. Any and all additional service extension costs due to the alternate service connection design at the specified rate below.
- c. An excess footage charge for the service extension distance above 220 feet at the specified rate below.

Schedule of charges:

Standard service extension.....	\$1,342
Additional costs for alternative service connection designs .....	\$11.49 per foot
Excess footage charge .....	\$11.49 per foot

Townhouse or Multi-Family Structure

With individual meter bases.....	\$1,090/unit
With dual-ganged meter bases .....	\$727/unit
With multiple ganged meter bases, containing 3 or more meters.....	\$382/meter
Single family homes converted to multi-family structures.....	

..... estimated cost of construction on the property  
Residences added to existing non-residential structures.....  
..... estimated cost of construction on the property

Provision for these charges are based on the premise that each Applicant will cooperate with the Cooperative in an effort to keep the cost of construction and installation of the underground distribution system or service line as low as possible. Additional cost as a result of going around obstacles, changes in grade, or failure to maintain grade shall be borne by the Applicant.

Where the Applicant requests that the Cooperative install facilities that are more costly than those normally furnished by the Cooperative, then the Applicant shall pay the Cooperative the difference in cost between the required installation and that deemed by the Cooperative to be adequate and consistent with the requirements of safety and good practice.

Where an existing residential consumer requests the relocation of a line, the conversion of an overhead line to underground service, or the installation of conductor and equipment necessary to increase capacity to a residence, the consumer shall pay the full estimated cost of such construction.

The charges resulting from the application of these rules may not be waived or refunded. Additional charges may be made for connection to the supply system, as covered in Part V, Section E of this Tariff.

2. Commercial and Industrial Service

The Applicant must pay the estimated total installed cost of the underground extension less the estimated cost of transformers and meters to furnish permanent electric service to a commercial or industrial building, garage, barn, shed, boat slip, or any other non-residential building or structure.

Where the Applicant requests that the Cooperative install facilities that are more costly than those normally furnished by the Cooperative, then the Applicant shall pay the Cooperative the difference in cost between the required installation and that deemed by the Cooperative to be adequate and consistent with the requirements of safety and good practice.

The charges resulting from the application of these rules may not be waived or refunded. Additional charges may be made for connection to the supply system, as covered in Part V, Section E of this Tariff.

E. CONNECTION TO SUPPLY SYSTEM FOR RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERGROUND EXTENSIONS

1. Residential

For underground electric distribution systems installed in subdivisions, the Cooperative will install an underground line along or adjacent to a dedicated public road right-of-way. The construction from the boundary of the Applicant's lot along or adjacent to a dedicated public right-of-way to existing supply facilities will be constructed at no charge to the Applicant.

Subdivision Developers and Builders shall be responsible for the installation of ALL conduit that may be required for SMECO's proposed underground electrical system anywhere within the subdivision. This conduit shall be supplied by the Developer/Builder and shall be installed per SMECO's specifications and requirements.

Townhouse or Multi-family structure Developers and Builders shall be responsible for the installation of ALL conduit that may be required for SMECO's electrical system anywhere within the Townhouse or Multi-family structure development. This conduit shall be supplied by the Developer/Builder and shall be installed per SMECO's specifications and requirements.

If the subdivision is designed to include large open areas that would result in an abnormal increase in the investment per consumer required to construct the underground system, then the Cooperative may refer the matter to the Commission for a ruling as to whether a charge should be assessed against the Applicant, and the amount of such charge, if any.

For a non-subdivision line extension for residential service, the Cooperative will construct at no charge an underground line from the lot line of the Applicant's property to the existing underground or overhead line on either side of the street or road in front of the lot. If there are no facilities along the road, the charges will then be \$1.00/foot of line extension not on the Applicant's property, subject to appeal to the Commission under COMAR 20.85.03.10.

## 2. Commercial and Industrial

Single-phase and three-phase underground lines constructed from the boundary of the Applicant's owned or leased property along a dedicated public road or across private right-of-way will require the Applicant to:

- a. Pay in advance the total estimated cost of the line necessary for connection plus the estimated cost for retirement; or
- b. Only for Applicants who made application prior to February 1, 2006, guarantee for five years a monthly minimum bill equal to 1.5 percent of the estimated cost of the line necessary for connection; or
- c. Only for Applicants who made application prior to February 1, 2006, pay in advance the total estimated cost of the line necessary for connection plus the estimated cost for retirement less estimated salvage value. This advance payment or connection charge will be refunded at the rate of 10 percent of each monthly billing until (a) the entire charge has been refunded, or (b) service is terminated, in which case the Cooperative will retain the un-refunded balance.

Commercial and Industrial Developers and Builders shall be responsible for the installation of ALL conduit anywhere within their development that may be required by SMECO's proposed underground electrical system. This conduit shall be supplied by the Developer/Builder and shall be installed per SMECO's specifications and requirements.

New commercial and industrial service points that have circumstances that increase the cost or difficulty of meter reading and ALL new commercial and

industrial service points where the Cooperative estimates that the annual peak demand will be at least 500kW are required to have a dedicated telephone line available for the Cooperative's use as a communications medium for remote, automatic meter reading. It is the Developer/Builder's responsibility to provide this telephone line and dial tone.

#### F. OVERHEAD SERVICE

Where allowed under Commission regulations, the Cooperative will construct overhead lines necessary for permanent services. Costs for such services shall be paid in advance by the consumer at the full estimated engineered cost.

For other than residential Consumer Members who made application for service prior to February 1, 2006, the Cooperative will construct, at its own expense, up to 1,000 feet of single-phase overhead line, including transformer and service line. Where a line in excess of 1,000 feet is required to serve other than a permanent, year-round residence, the Consumer Member must:

1. Guarantee for five years a monthly minimum bill equal to 1.5 percent of the estimated cost of the line in excess of 1,000 feet; or
2. Pay in advance in a lump sum the estimated cost of the line in excess of 1,000 feet plus the cost of retirement less the salvage value. This advance payment or connection charge will be refunded at the rate of 10 percent of each monthly billing until (a) the entire charge has been refunded, or (b) service is terminated, in which case the Cooperative will retain the unrefunded balance.

#### G. RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS

When the Cooperative's electric lines or line equipment is to be installed, whether underground and overhead, on or across private property to supply a Consumer Member's premises, the Cooperative must be granted an easement or right-of-way to install its poles, wire, conduit, cables or other equipment.

The Cooperative will construct, own, operate, and maintain overhead and underground electric distribution lines only along public streets, roads, and highways that the Cooperative has the legal right to occupy, and on public lands and private property across which the Cooperative may obtain satisfactory rights-of-way and easements without cost.

The owner or Consumer Member must furnish rights-of-way and easements suitable to the Cooperative at no cost and in reasonable time to meet service requirements. It is also the responsibility of the owner or Consumer Member to fulfill the following obligations at no cost to the Cooperative:

1. Rights-of-way or easements for underground service, on or off the Consumer Member's property, shall be cleared of trees, stumps, and other obstructions and graded to within 6 inches of final grade before construction will begin.
2. Final grade must be maintained after construction by the Cooperative. Subsequent to construction, if the clearing or grade is changed in such a way as to require relocation of the facilities, the cost of such relocation shall be borne by the Applicant or his successor.

3. Rights-of-way for lines must be granted by the property owner as required by the Cooperative for the type of line constructed.
4. The right to keep easements clear of all trees, shrubbery, and other obstructions must be granted by the property owner to the Cooperative.

#### H. TEMPORARY SERVICE

Temporary electric service may be provided from existing lines to the temporary service point. Temporary electric service in an underground area will be provided only within 10 feet of a transformer vault or secondary connection point from the underground electric system, where practicable.

Normally, no service shall remain temporary for more than one year. However, service connections for carnivals, festivals, Christmas tree lighting, street decorations, construction purposes, etc, are considered temporary even though, in some cases, they may be used for a year or longer.

Temporary service will be provided only after payment by the Applicant of the total estimated cost of the installation and removal, less estimated salvage value of materials used for the installation. The Cooperative may also require in advance a deposit for the full amount of the estimated bill for service.

The Applicant's facilities at the point of attachment shall be approved by the Cooperative and the Inspection Authority. The Cooperative will not connect a service drop to mobile equipment.

Temporary construction service arrangements are shown on Drawing No. R-6 and R-7.

#### I. ENGINEERING ESTIMATES FOR LINE EXTENSIONS OR SYSTEM CHANGES

One estimate for line extensions or system changes will be provided at no charge. The costs developed by the estimate will remain in effect for 60 calendar days after the estimate is provided to the requesting party. Additional estimates for the same location and/or project, will be charged at the full engineering costs if requested within two years of the initial estimate. There is no charge if the original requesting party requests that the cost of the original estimate be recalculated because it is over 60 days since it was originally submitted.

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