

Question of the Month

What electrical projects will be required to comply with the 2014 NEC when it becomes effective on July 1, 2014?

Note From The Chief

On March 4, in Longview, WA we have scheduled the first of 17 electrical stakeholder meetings to be held across the state. Check the schedule below and attend a meeting near you. I want to hear how the Electrical Program can better serve you, our customers. Attending a meeting will give you the opportunity to share information and help you stay up to date with any changes that might affect you and/or your business.

Meetings are scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. at the locations listed below. Meeting dates and addresses will also be posted on our [Electrical Calendar](#) webpage and distributed on the program email list. If you are not on the email list, you may join at our [Electrical Email List](#) webpage.

These meetings offer an opportunity for our customers to talk with Electrical Program representatives in an informal setting. We encourage all our customers to be involved and attend a meeting near you.

Safety Tip of the Month!

When installing or using listed or labeled electrical equipment it is very important to follow the manufacturer's instructions.

This holds true for something as simple as selecting a light bulb for a light fixture. A bulb that exceeds the rating of a light fixture will create excessive heat and may shorten the life of the fixture or worse, start a fire.

Spring 2014 Stakeholder Meetings	
March 4 – Longview – Cowlitz PUD meeting room 961 12th Avenue	March 25 – Mount Vernon – Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center, 16650 State Route 536
March 5 – White Salmon – White Salmon Valley Community Library – 77 NE Wauna Avenue	March 26 – Everett – Snohomish County PUD Board Room 2320 California Street
March 6 – Vancouver – L&I Building 312 Southeast Stonemill Drive	March 27 – Tukwila – L&I Building 12806 Gateway Drive South
March 11 – Wenatchee – Chelan County PUD Auditorium 327 North Wenatchee Avenue – Parking in back (east) side of building	April 1 – Pullman – Gladish Community and Cultural Center, 115 Northwest State Street
March 12 – Moses Lake – L&I Building 3001 West Broadway Avenue	April 2 – Spokane – Spokane Falls Community College 3410 W. Fort George Wright Drive, Bldg 17, Sub Lounges A & B
March 13 – Kennewick – Benton PUD Auditorium 2721 West 10th Avenue	April 3 – Yakima – Pacific Power Auditorium 500 Keys Road
March 18 – Bremerton – L&I Building, basement 500 Pacific Avenue	April 8 – Tumwater – L&I Auditorium 7273 Linderson Way Southwest
March 19 – Port Angeles – Elwha Klallam Heritage Center, 401 East First Street	April 9 – Aberdeen – L&I Building 415 West Wishkah Street, Suite B
March 20 – Tacoma – L&I Building 950 Broadway, Orcas Room, 5 th floor	

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<http://www.ElectricalCurrents.lni.wa.gov>

WAC Rule Revision Update

On January 30, 2014, during their [regular meeting](#), the [Electrical Board](#) reviewed the proposed changes to WAC 296-46B. The board did not recommend any modifications, confirming the excellent work the Technical Advisory Committee did with their review, debate, and edits. The draft of the revised 296-46B is posted on the [Rule Development](#) page of our website for everyone's review.

A public hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. on April 10, 2014 at the [Department of Labor & Industries](#), Room S119, 7273 Linderson Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501. This hearing is the final opportunity for the department to consider comments before the revised WAC 296-46B takes effect on July 1, 2014.

Legislative Updates

If you are in the electrical or telecommunications industries regulated by L&I, lawmakers are considering several bills during the 2014 legislative session that might affect you. This legislation is not sponsored by L&I. This is your opportunity to review the bills and comment if you desire. The comment button is located to the right of the bill number on each bill information webpage, all linked below.

- [House Bill 2146](#) – Changes appeal bonds fees, in most cases lowers the fees substantially.
- [House Bill 2213](#) and companion [Senate Bill 6019](#) – Creates a joint legislative task force to determine the most appropriate and effective delivery of electrical code adoption, rule-making, and inspection services.
- [House Bill 2253](#) and companion [Senate Bill 6206](#) - Modifies the definition of “Telecommunications Systems”, which would expand the work scope of the 09 Telecommunications specialty scope to include providing operational power to telecommunications devices.
- [House Bill 2254](#) and companion [Senate Bill 6277](#) - Creates a window of opportunity for some individuals with unsupervised telecommunications experience to apply one hour of every two hours of work experience towards eligibility for examination for an (06) limited energy system certificate of competency.
- [House Bill 2275](#) and companion [Senate Bill 6037](#) – Protects employees from workplace reprisal or retaliatory action occurring as a result of the employee making a whistleblower complaint about violations of the electrical laws and rules.
- [House Bill 2323](#) – Reverses the requirement individuals wear and visibly display his or her certificate while working in the electrical trade.
- [House Bill 2500](#) – Requires completion of an apprenticeship program to receive a journey level or residential specialty electrician certificate of competency.

You may also contact your legislator to share your opinion about any legislation by visiting the legislative website at: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/hotline.aspx>.

Ugly Installations: A dangerous double-ended male cord, used to power an isolated circuit segment from an energized receptacle. When I was an inspector, I investigated an accident caused by a similar installation used to provide power to a “smoothie” stand. While mom was making a purchase, her toddler pulled the energized male end out of the receptacle on the stand and stuck it in his mouth. Fortunately, the toddler survived a very dangerous electrical shock with only minor burns. This accident should have never happened. If you see something like this, take corrective action immediately or report it to someone who will.



Answer to Question of the Month: The 2014 NEC will be enforced on all projects where an electrical work permit was obtained on or after July 1, 2014. If the electrical work permit was obtained before July 1, 2014, the work must be done in conformance with the 2008 NEC, and the currently adopted WAC 296-46B.

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