

TO: ALL BUILDING DIVISION PERSONNEL

FROM: DOUG WISE
BUILDING DIVISION DIRECTOR

PREPARED BY: BUILDING DIVISION

SUBJECT: ELECTRICAL POWER RELEASE

PPM #: PB-O-008

ISSUE DATE
January 7, 2020

EFFECTIVE DATE
January 7, 2020

PURPOSE:

To establish a uniform policy for release of electrical power prior to Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion, when such release is for circumstances other than temporary power for construction or temporary underground service.

UPDATES:

Future updates to this PPM are the responsibility of the Building Division Director, or the Deputy Building Official or Assistant Deputy Building Official under the authority of the Director of the Building Division.

AUTHORITY:

- Sections 110.3 and 112, Chapter 1 – Administration, Palm Beach County Amendments to the Florida Building Code, as may be amended.

SCOPE:

Temporary Underground (TUG) Service are only subject to procedural steps 4, 5, and 6. For TUG service requests, refer to PB-O-130.

POLICY:

Electrical power may be released for the purpose of testing electrical components, devices, equipment, fixtures, and systems prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Completion or Occupancy, provided all the requirements and conditions of this policy are satisfied. However, the release of electrical power remains solely at the discretion of the Building Division.

Requirements and Conditions:

- Request for early power release shall be accepted only from the property owner, primary qualifier or electrical contractor;
- All required permits/sub-permits must be issued, unless specifically authorized by the inspector;
- All underground and rough inspections have been scheduled and passed, unless specifically authorized by the inspector;
- A completed Early Power Release request form has been submitted;
- The guidelines referenced in Article 120, "Lockout/Tagout Principles and Procedures," NFPA 70E Standards for Electrical Safety in the Workplace, are adhered to when applicable;
- Electrical safety inspection **201 Electrical Waiver** or **214 Residential Electric Power** has passed.

PROCEDURE:

1. A completed Early Power Release application (**Attachment A**), shall be submitted to the Electrical Inspector in the field for processing **201 Electrical Waiver** and **214 Residential Electric Power** inspections. The application and request shall be reviewed, and if found to be justified and complete, the subsequent actions shall be taken.
2. A **201 Electrical Waiver** inspection shall be scheduled and passed prior to final electric inspections.
3. For 1 & 2 family dwellings, fee simple townhouses, and residential accessory structures, a **214 Residential Electric Power** inspection must be scheduled and passed prior to final electric inspections.
4. Upon notification of passed **201 Electrical Waiver**, **214 Residential Electric Power**, or **220 Rough Electric with TUG** inspection, as applicable, Inspections Scheduling staff shall forward power release request to the applicable utility company.
5. Fees are assessed in accordance with the approved Palm Beach County Building Division Fee schedule. Inspection Scheduling staff shall assess the appropriate electrical waiver power release inspection fee, including fees for additional meters, when power is released. No fees are required for 1 & 2 family dwellings, fee simple townhouses, and residential accessory structures unless the request requires additional electric inspections.
6. Inspections Scheduling staff shall schedule an **814 Internal Audit** inspection at 90 days following power release for SFD permits and 180 days for all other permits to confirm the status of the Early Power Release:
 - a. If the permit is not complete and a Certificate of Completion or Occupancy has not been issued, at time of internal audit review, staff shall review the inspection history.
 - b. In cases where the inspection history is dormant, inspection staff shall schedule another **814 Internal Audit** inspection (see step 6) and refer the permit to the Chief Building Inspector. The Chief Building Inspector will review and schedule an **805 Status** inspection, if warranted.
 - c. If the status inspection exposes any violation of the terms and conditions of the completed Early Power Release, or violation of other code provisions are noted, the inspector shall obtain the meter number and notify the Chief Inspector. Disconnection of power may be recommended with a letter of notification to the owner.

Note: All actions to release or terminate power requires the approval of the Building Official or designee.



DOUG WISE
BUILDING DIVISION DIRECTOR

Supersession History

1. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 03/87
2. PPM# PB-O-008, effective 03/87
3. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 02/10/88
4. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 01/89
5. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 7/89
6. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 01/90
7. PPM# PB-O-008, effective 03/91
8. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 10/92
9. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 08/00
10. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 04/24/12
11. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 01/29/19
12. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 02/11/19
13. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 5/9/19
14. PPM# PB-O-008, issued 1/7/20

