

National Electrical Safety Code Clearance Violations Fact Sheet for Governmental Entities

As your electric provider, ComEd has an obligation to meet all state and federal requirements for maintaining minimum clearances around and beneath its distribution and transmission lines to prevent power outages and also ensure quick access to electrical equipment. The Illinois Commerce Commission, which regulates local utilities, has increased its focus on ensuring that utilities are meeting these requirements, known as the National Electrical Safety Code.

ComEd is committed to maintaining safe and reliable electric service. This commitment includes maintaining minimum clearances around distribution and transmission lines.

Citizens can do their part to help in this endeavor. Power lines, underground cables, poles and ground-level equipment need space. To maintain and operate equipment, and to avoid damage to customer's property, ComEd needs the cooperation of citizens with the placement of infrastructure and landscaping additions.

In fact, property owners are responsible for providing proper electrical service clearance and may face termination of their electric service if code guidelines are not followed.

Driveways, roofs, porches, gardens, swimming pools and other home features all require varying, specific minimum clearances. Individuals may reference ComEd's Residential Electric Service Installation Guide for this information. The Guide, currently in its fifth edition, can be found at www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/Construction.aspx.

It's important to remember:

- Minimum clearance regulations are set by the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).
- The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) requires ComEd to discontinue electric service to customers who violate clearances under the NESC.
- Properly maintained clearances ensure safety to the public, help to prevent power outages and also enhance restoration when the power goes out.
- Improper barriers constructed in clearance areas create potential safety issues and make it difficult for ComEd to access areas in need of repairs and/or maintenance.
- Property owners are responsible for providing proper electrical service clearance.

For more information, please visit:

www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/Construction.aspx