

ENB-15.21 - Electrical Service Installation in Multi-Tenant Buildings - UBC/7/#4 & NEC/230/#1

ELECTRICAL SERVICE INSTALLATION IN MULTI-TENANT BUILDINGS

Administrative Rule Adopted by Bureau Pursuant to Rule-Making Authority

ARB-ENB-15.21

TOPIC: Fire Resistive Construction - UBC/7/#4 & NEC/230/#1

CODE: Structural Specialty Code: 1998 Edition

Electrical Specialty Code: 1998 Edition

REVISED: March 1, 1999

REFERENCE: Section 709: Structural Specialty Code

Article 230: Electrical Specialty Code

SUBJECT: Electrical Service Installation in Multi-Tenant Buildings

QUESTION: What are the construction requirements for the separation wall required when separate electrical services are provided to the same building?

RESPONSE: The electrical code requires that a two hour separation wall be provided where separate electrical service is being provided to different parts of a single building. Questions have been raised regarding the construction requirements for this wall. Does this wall need to be constructed to meet all the requirements for an area separation wall as described in the building code (Structural Specialty Code) or can it be constructed to a less restrictive standard such as the requirements described for an occupancy separation?

Where a two hour wall is installed to separate a building for the purposes of allowing the installation of more than one electrical service, the two hour wall shall be constructed to the standards of a two hour occupancy separation as provided in the building code. Such walls shall extend from the foundation or on-grade slab, up to the roof sheathing. In a fire situation, an occupancy separation wall will meet the intent of the electrical code by providing a sufficient barrier to allow for the disconnection of the electrical service to adjacent areas when deemed necessary by the Fire Bureau. While these walls do not need to be constructed to the standards for an area separation wall; a two hour area separation wall will also be acceptable.

HISTORY

Updates October 1997 edition

Revised March 1, 1999

Filed for inclusion in PPD September 29, 2004