

City of Newport Beach - Building Department

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ELECTRICAL CODE POLICY

Effective Date	Subject	Policy No.
May 16, 2001	Unfused Conductors within a Building	N.E.C. 230-70(a)

The National Electric Code states in article 230-70(a) that "The service disconnecting means shall be installed at a readily accessible location either outside of a building or structure, or inside nearest the point of entrance of the service conductors." Also in article 230-91(a), the N.E.C. states that "The service overcurrent device shall be an integral part of the service disconnecting means or shall be located immediately adjacent thereto." Another article that must be considered is 230-6. It states that "Conductors shall be considered outside of the building or other structure under any of the following conditions: (1) where installed under not less than 2" of concrete beneath a building; (2) where encased in concrete or brick not less than 2" thick; and (3) where installed in a transformer vault conforming to the requirements of article 450, Part C."

In consideration of the above, it shall be the City of Newport Beach Building Department's policy that all unfused conductors within a building or structure must be kept to a minimum length. Horizontal runs of unfused conductors inside of a building will not be permitted unless it complies with article 230-6. A residential service drop shall be permitted without encasement in a vertical conduit, which runs between studs and directly into a service panel equipped with a disconnecting means.

Jay Elbetta, Building Director