

NOVA SCOTIA POWER INC.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

FOR INSPECTION OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

AS APPROVED BY THE

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD



Effective: January 01, 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Preamble
2. Approval of Equipment
3. Utility Approval
4. Electrical Rooms
5. Plans and Specifications
6. Eligibility for Permits
7. Permit Fees and Inspections
8. Responsibilities

1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1 The requirements governing the installation of electrical equipment, wiring, alterations, upgrading, repairs, in, upon or on land, buildings or structures shall be the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act and its Regulations, the latest edition of the Canadian Electrical Code Part I, and all applicable bulletins, newsletters and standards issued by Nova Scotia Power Incorporated and the Department of Labour and Workforce Development.
- 1.2 The Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector or NSPI Inspection Department may cause the utility supply service wires to be disconnected should they deem any part of an electrical installation to constitute a danger to life or property.
- 1.3 The Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector or NSPI Inspection Department may enter at any reasonable hour on any property or building to inspect the electrical installation (equipment) or to carry out any of the provisions of the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.
- 1.4 The Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector or NSPI Inspection Department shall make a ruling on any question or dispute that may arise pertaining to the rules regarding the installation or maintenance of any electrical equipment designated to control or carry electrical energy. The decision of the Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector shall be final.
- 1.5 The Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector or NSPI Inspection Department, when inspecting any electrical installation, may require the owner or occupant of the premises to remove any obstructions in order to allow inspection of electrical equipment.
- 1.6 The Inspection Department, after inspection of any electrical installation, upon request and payment of fee set out in Schedule "A", issue a certificate of acceptance for the said inspection.
- 1.7 No person shall install electrical equipment or alter or add to any existing electrical installation unless a permit has been issued for such installation, alteration or addition by the Electrical Inspection Department.
- 1.8 No person shall cut, damage, alter, or interfere in any way with any electric wiring that has been inspected and approved by the Electrical Inspection Department.
- 1.9 No person shall cover up from view with lathing, boarding, insulation or other material, any electrical installation that has not been authorized by the Electrical Inspection Department.
- 1.10 No person shall install electrical equipment or connect same to any source of supply or turn on or use any electric energy in violation of any of the provisions contained in the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.

- 1.11 No person shall use the electrical equipment which has been condemned until the condemnation has been remedied to the satisfaction of the Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector or NSPI Inspection Department.
- 1.12 In multiple occupancy buildings, each tenant shall have direct access to the over-current devices protecting their portion of the electrical distribution, and in the event that any tenant does not have such access, a separate accessible electrical room shall be provided for this purpose.
- 1.13 No person shall disconnect or cause to have disconnected the utility supply conductor or utility metering device without first having obtained the approval of the Supply authority. Except for utility personnel, no person shall connect or re-connect utility supply conductor or utility metering device.

2. APPROVAL OF EQUIPMENT

No persons shall use or install any electrical equipment that is not approved for its intended use by a recognized certification agency and/or the Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector.

Recognized Certification Agencies for electrical equipment in Nova Scotia Power's inspection area are listed in Electrical Inspection Bulletin B-2-024.1.

3. UTILITY APPROVAL

Service entrance locations, the method of supplying service (overhead, underground, etc.) metering arrangements, etc. shall be approved by the supply utility and the inspection authority prior to commencing an installation.

4. ELECTRICAL ROOMS

An electrical room shall be required for all commercial, industrial and institutional installations where the service entrance operates at 250 V or greater or having a main overcurrent device rated or set at 250 amperes or greater. Requirements for electrical rooms shall be in compliance with Department of Labour and Advanced Education Electrical Bulletin 2000-02.

5. **PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS**

Plans and Specifications shall be submitted to, and accepted by, the inspection authority for all commercial, industrial and institutional installations in excess of 250 amperes or 250 volts prior to obtaining a wiring permit and in compliance with Nova Scotia Power's Electrical Inspection Bulletin B-2-014.

6. **ELIGIBILITY FOR PERMITS**

6.1 Regular and Special Permits shall only be issued to an electrician who holds a valid certificate of qualification in the electrical construction trade issued under the authority of the Apprenticeship and Tradesman Qualification Act.

Communication Wiring Permits shall only be issued to a Communication Cabling Specialist who holds a valid certificate issued under the authority of the Apprenticeship and Tradesmen Qualification Act.

Electricians and Communication Cabling Specialists are required to provide the Inspection Authority with a copy of their new or renewed certification certificate or Contractor's License Number prior to being approved to obtain permits.

6.2 Annual maintenance permits may be issued to electricians who hold a valid certificate of qualification in the electrical construction and electrical industrial trade.

6.3 Applications for inspections shall be filed with the Inspection Department a minimum of five working days prior to wanting the inspection.

6.4 Electrical contractors and Communication Cabling Specialists shall apply for and obtain a Wiring Permit from the Inspection Department before commencing work with respect to installation, alteration, repair, upgrade or extension of any electrical equipment/system as required by the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act and regulations pursuant to the Act.

7. **PERMIT FEES AND INSPECTIONS**

7.1 Permits and inspections will normally be of three types:

- a) Regular Permits and Inspections
- b) Annual Permits and Inspections
- c) Special Permits and Inspections

a) **Regular Permits and Inspections**

All persons, firms or corporations within Nova Scotia Power's inspection authority who are eligible to install electrical installations for the use of electrical energy shall, before commencing or doing any electrical installation of new equipment, or repairs, or altering or adding to any electrical installation or equipment already installed, submit and obtain approval in a manner prescribed by the inspection authority.

Individual permits shall be required for temporary and individual miscellaneous services and each dwelling unit of a single, duplex or row type housing, etc., whether supplied via an individual or multi-position metering devices.

Apartment type buildings, multi-tenant industrial and commercial installations shall be performed under one permit.

Permits are not transferable.

Permits shall be issued only to the firm or persons performing the work described on the Permit and in compliance with Section 8 and 9, "Electrical Permit" of the regulations made by the Fire Marshal pursuant to the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.

Permit holders shall immediately notify the Electrical Inspection Authority upon the completion of an electrical installation requesting a FINAL inspection.

The fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection will be based on the Installed Value, including labour, material and sundries of the electrical installation, alteration, upgrade, repair or extension.

When a dispute arises regarding the cost of an electrical installation the permit applicant may be required, at the Inspection Authority discretion, to supply a letter from the owner indicating the value of the contract and/or a bill of materials for the project.

The fees for a Regular Permit and Inspection, including the number of Inspection Visits, shall be based on the Installed Value of the installation as shown in the Inspection Fee Schedule.

b) **Annual Permits and Inspections**

An annual maintenance permit shall be issued for an establishment to cover all minor repairs as required under sections 8(1), (a), (b), (2) and (3) of the regulations made by the Fire Marshal pursuant to the Electrical Installation Act.

Such a permit does not entitle the holder to effect major electrical alterations or additions.

The number of inspection visits shall be at the discretion of the Inspection Authority. Notwithstanding the above, at least one inspection visit shall be made in the year for which the permit is issued.

c) **Special Permits and Inspections**

Where the fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection are inappropriate the special permit and inspection fee shall apply. (Ex. carnivals and travelling shows).

7.2 **Late Application Fee**

Where an electrical contractor fails to obtain an electrical wiring permit prior to commencing the electrical work, an additional fee shall be payable in the amount of fifty (50) percent of the regular fee, up to a maximum additional fee of \$100.00.

7.3 **Payment of Fees**

Fees for permits and inspections shall be paid at the time of requesting the permit unless otherwise indicated by the inspection authority. Permits having fees in arrears in excess of 120 days shall be subject to cancellation and at the discretion of the inspection authority, no additional permits shall be issued to the holder of the unpaid permits until such time the outstanding fees have been adequately dealt with.

7.4 **Refund of Fees**

The holder of a permit may apply to the inspection authority for a refund less a \$10.00 non-refundable portion of the permit fee with respect to a cancelled or unused permit. No refund shall be issued for a permit where an inspection call has been made at the request of the permit holder.

7.5 **Expiry of Permits**

A permit for electrical work is valid for 12 months from the date of issue in respect of residential and 24 months in respect of all others unless otherwise noted on the permit. Upon expiry, a renewal fee to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the original permit shall be charged.

7.6 **Review of Plans and Specifications**

The Inspection Authority may, prior to issuing a permit, request the submission of plans and specifications for any proposed electrical installation. Plans shall be submitted for all commercial, industrial institutional installations exceeding 250 volts or 250 amperes.

7.7 **Inspection Fee Schedule**

a) **Regular Permits and Inspection**

The fee for a regular permit and the maximum number of inspection visits, with respect to an installation will be calculated, as follows.

b) **Annual Permit and Inspection**

The fee for an annual permit and inspection for any one establishment shall be the appropriate hourly rate.

c) **Special Permit and Inspection**

The fee for a special permit and inspection for any one project shall be the appropriate hourly rate.

d) **Plans Examination**

The fees for the examination of electrical plans and specifications shall be per review.....\$ 115.00

e) **Primary Services**

The fees for the inspection of a primary service (padmount, vault, etc.) shall be per installation\$ 124.00

f) **Letter of Acceptance**

The fees for a Letter of Acceptance shall be\$ 32.00

INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE

INSTALLED VALUE OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION	INSPECTION VISITS	PERMIT FEE
\$0,000 to \$2,000	1	\$69.00
\$2,001 to \$4,000	2	\$138.00
\$4,001 to \$6,000	2	\$233.00
\$6,001 to \$8,000	2	\$284.00
\$8,001 to \$10,000	2	\$330.00
\$10,001 to \$15,000	3	\$462.00
\$15,001 to \$25,000	3	\$587.00
\$25,001 to \$50,000	3	\$850.00
\$50,001 to \$100,000	3	\$1,206.00
\$100,001 to \$300,000	4	\$1,893.00
\$300,001 to \$500,000	5	\$2,365.00
\$500,001 to \$750,000	6	\$2,839.00
\$750,001 to \$1,000,000	8	\$3,785.00
+ \$1,000,000	10	\$4,626.00
		+ 0.15% of cost in excess of \$1,000,000

New Installations are subject to the following minimum inspection fees:

RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS	\$138.00
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTIONAL	
Up to 100 AMPS	\$138.00
Over 100 to 400 AMPS	\$330.00
Over 400 to 800 AMPS	\$462.00
Over 800 to 1000 AMPS	\$587.00
Over 1000 AMPS	\$850.00

g) **Hourly Rate Inspections**

Note: All fees are per inspection visit.

Normal Working Hours:

- i) For the first hour or fraction thereof\$ 68.00
- ii) For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof.....\$ 28.00

Outside Normal Working Hours:

Extension of a regular work day (before or after)

- i) For the first hour or fraction thereof\$ 91.00
- ii) For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof.....\$ 39.00

Weekends and Statutory Holidays:

Scheduled inspections on weekends (Saturday, Sunday) and statutory holidays:

- i) For the first hour or fraction thereof\$ 151.00
- ii) For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof.....\$ 54.00

h) **Inspections in Excess of Maximum Number of Visits**

For an inspection visit, in excess of the maximum number of visits permitted under the Regular Permit and Inspection Fee the Special Permit and Inspection Fee shall apply.

8. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATIONS**

- 8.1 Nothing in this policy shall relieve any person, firm or corporation from liability for damage caused to property and injury or death to a person resulting from installation, alteration or modification of electrical equipment or wiring authorized by the provisions herein or by a Permit issued hereunder.
- 8.2 Nova Scotia Power Incorporated or any of its employee or agents shall not be liable for damage caused to property and injury or death resulting from installation, alteration or modification made by a person, firm or corporation to electrical equipment or wiring which have been authorized under the provisions of the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act or by Permit or Contract.