



Ontario Electrical Safety Code Backgrounder & Consultation Instructions

Introduction to the OESC 27th Edition, Ontario Amendment Process

The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) is currently reviewing the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) requirements to ensure the regulatory framework provides the appropriate balance between the need to ensure safety and supporting modernization and eliminating unnecessary encumbrance on industry.

ESA will hold public consultation from Tuesday March 6 to Friday April 20, 2018 regarding amendments to the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) that is planned for enforcement in May 2019.

Public Consultation Instructions

ESA is seeking the views of contractors, consumers, businesses and other stakeholders on all proposed amendments to the Ontario Electrical Safety Code. **The consultation runs from Tuesday March 6 to Friday April 20, 2018.**

The proposed amendments can be found on the ESA website at www.esasafe.com/about-esa/stakeholder-engagement/consultations

To assist stakeholders, ESA has provided a template for comments. Stakeholders may answer any of the questions provided in the template and/or provide other comments/feedback. The template is available on the ESA website at <http://www.esasafe.com/about-esa/stakeholder-engagement/consultations>

Please provide comments or questions to ESA by **Friday April 20, 2018** by e-mail, mail or fax to the following:

Email: OESC2018.PublicConsultation@electricalsafety.on.ca

FAX: (905) 507-4572

Mail: Proposed Amendments to OESC Consultations
c/o Dianna Thomas
Electrical Safety Authority
155A Matheson Blvd. West – Suite 201
Mississauga, ON L5R 3L5

Background on Electrical Safety Codes

The Canadian Electrical Code (CECode) is developed by the Canadian Standards Association. It has been developed on a 3 and 4-year cycle since 1927. The CECode is a voluntary document and its requirements can only become mandatory when adopted into legislation or regulation by a government entity. Ontario adopts the CECode as one part of the OESC. The other part of the OESC consists of a series of Ontario-specific amendments, which include a set of Ontario-specific administrative rules. In some cases, Ontario amendments exceed those found in the CECode, in other cases they differ depending on specific circumstances within the Ontario context.

ESA is designated by Ontario Regulation 89/99 as the responsible authority for the purposes of administering and enforcing Part VIII of the Electricity Act, 1998 and regulations made there under, including Ontario Regulation 164/99, which adopts, by reference, the Canadian Electrical Code together with specific Ontario amendments and is referred to as the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC).

ESA provides recommendations to the provincial government regarding potential amendments to OESC for provincial government approval and maintains participation on a number of Canadian and national committees to identify electrical safety standards and requirements that should be incorporated into the OESC in response to reported incidents and changing technology.

The OESC is law in Ontario, and as such defines the legal requirements for safe electrical installations and products/equipment. The OESC consists of the Canadian Electrical Code with Ontario-specific amendments that are developed by ESA and its stakeholders. The OESC is primarily a technical document and it is prescriptive in approach. The OESC describes the standards for electrical installations in detail.

ESA Consultation Principles

- ESA encourages all affected stakeholders to participate in our consultation to provide meaningful input to ESA decision-making processes.
- ESA ensures that we are transparent and open about our decision making
- ESA endeavours to ensure that stakeholders have an understanding of the drivers and factors that lead to fee adjustments
- Comments from stakeholders, including industry stakeholder groups, will be solicited for a period of 45days

Stakeholder Consultation Process

ESA reaches out proactively to as many stakeholders as possible to make them aware of our consultation process. This includes via our standing Advisory Councils, industry and consumer associations, and through public posting on our website at www.esasafe.com.

Following the conclusion of the consultation process and review and assessment of the feedback, ESA will post on our web site the received feedback and our responses to it.

Background on the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA)

The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) is administrative authority acting on behalf of the Government of Ontario with specific responsibilities under the Electricity Act and the Safety and Consumer Statutes Administration Act. As part of its mandate, ESA is responsible for administering regulation in four key areas: the Ontario Electrical Safety Code; licensing of Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians; electrical distribution safety; and electrical product safety.

ESA's activities include: identifying and targeting leading causes of electrical risk; promoting awareness, education and training on electrical safety; ensuring compliance with regulations; investigating fatalities, injuries and fire losses associated with electricity; and engaging with a broad range of stakeholders to improve safety.

Privacy and Personal Information

Any personal information you might provide in this consultation process is subject to ESA's Privacy Policy. The information will be used to assist us in conducting and evaluating the results of the consultation, which may involve disclosing your comments to other participants, institutions and interested parties during and after the consultation. Your name will not be disclosed without your consent.

If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of this information, please contact:

Chief Privacy Officer
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