

JCP&L Guidance for New Construction or Rebuilding Homes above Historic Flood Levels

JCP&L customers should be aware of potential clearance and access issues to be addressed before beginning new construction or rebuilding efforts. This includes customers who may raise their homes above historic flood levels in compliance with new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) standards.

Higher elevations of new or rebuilt homes can impinge on the required safe clearance distance between electric power lines and buildings. This can create serious safety concerns, including the risk of injury or death, and property damage.

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has issued guidance in the form of an *Elevation of Single Family Homes Notice and Guidance Document* to address these issues. This document is available at: http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/codes/alerts/pdfs/Elevation%20prior%20approval%208_15.pdf

The DCA has alerted all Uniform Construction Code (UCC) users, including building owners, design professionals, and code enforcement officials of the need to obtain a letter from their local electric utility company stating **that the local utility has informed the permit applicant of the required electrical safety area clearance distances so the elevation of the applicant's home can be planned or constructed in a way that doesn't impinge on these required clearances. The DCA guidance indicates that code enforcement officials will require this letter from permit applicants for all homes being elevated to meet the FEMA standards.**

In order to obtain this letter from JCP&L, and to initiate service, if necessary, before issuance of a building permit, JCP&L customers may visit https://www.firstenergycorp.com/jersey_central_power_light.html or call 1-800-662-3115 to apply. Upon notification of your construction project, a JCP&L representative may request the following:

- ❶ A complete, clean and up-to-date site plan indicating the location of any JCP&L-owned electrical facilities on, or adjacent to, the property and in relationship to the proposed structure, including, if available, the proposal for the relocation of such facilities;
- ❷ Updated architectural drawings, including the proposed elevations, doors, windows, decks, and awnings of the structure;
- ❸ A copy of the current recorded deed for the site; and
- ❹ Written notice of any deed, homeowner or township restrictions that might impact the design and placement of electrical facilities.

JCP&L requires a minimum of 30 days to review and process applications. The review process begins after all necessary documents have been received.

All construction activities should be conducted safely and in compliance with all applicable permits, laws and regulations governing such activity at the site. These include, but are not limited to, the National Electrical Code (NEC), National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA).

Please contact the local building department if you have any questions about applicable standards and requirements before commencing construction.