

JCP&L Guidance for Electrical Meter Placement in a Designated Flood Zone

Whenever an electric meter is located higher than six feet above grade, whether to comply with FEMA flood level or other requirements, permanently fixed stairs and a landing must be provided. This helps to ensure that meter readers and other personnel are able to access and safely maintain JCP&L meters. The landing must provide an adequately sized work area that is a minimum of 42 inches wide by 48 inches deep centered on the meter.

In consultation with a JCP&L representative, the electric meter installer also may locate the meter where fixed stairs already exist, including stairs that lead to a landing on a porch or deck serving either a front or rear entrance of the residence.

If the meter is going to be installed on the side of the residence, or on a part of the building not currently served by stairs, then stairs and a landing that comply with the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) and meet the minimum work area size requirements as specified above, must be constructed and maintained. The stairs and landing, including the specified work area and any necessary railings, must be maintained in good, sound condition and may not be removed. Either removal or failure to properly maintain the stairs, landing and work area could result in electric service being discontinued.

As explained in the *Guidance on Electrical Meter Placement in a Designated Flood Zone* issued by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the construction of the stairs and landing are subject to the UCC and must comply with the International Residential Code (IRC) for detached one- and two-family dwellings and attached single family townhouses. Construction also must conform to the International Building Code (IBC) Information is available at:

http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/codes/alerts/pdfs/guide_on_elect_meter_placement_in_designated_floodzone_oct_24_2014.pdf

The installation is subject to the UCC and must comply with applicable requirements of the National Electrical Code (NEC). Detailed drawings of meter landings are available at:

http://www.firstenergycorp.com/jersey_central_power_light/rebuilding-guidelines.html

If you have questions regarding meter placement, please contact JCP&L at 1-800-662-3115.

All construction activities should be conducted safely and in compliance with all applicable permits, laws and regulations, including the NEC, National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA).

Please contact the local building department or the DCA regarding any questions about applicable standards and requirements before commencing construction.