



**City of Santa Monica  
Building and Safety Division**

## Temporary Power Pole Guide

***This list is to be used as a general guide.***

***It is not inclusive of all code requirements and inspection criteria.***

***Based on the 2016 California Electrical Code (CEC) and  
Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC)***

California Codes available at [www.bsc.ca.gov](http://www.bsc.ca.gov)

- Minimum size of a pressure treated wood pole to support service equipment (6"x6" if square, or have top diameter of at least 5" if round). Sufficient length to maintain all required overhead clearances as per the [CEC 225.18], but in any case shall not be less than 20'. The lower end shall be embedded not less than 4 feet in to the ground. [SMMC 8.24.060]
- Identify neutral at both ends with white tape or paint. [CEC 200]
- Refer to CEC article 240 for overcurrent protection. See Table 310.16 for Allowable ampacities of insulated conductors.
- Refer to CEC article 250 for grounding and bonding requirements.
- Minimum two 20 amp GFCI protected receptacles, one 220 volt receptacle with handle tie (30, 40 or 50 amp breaker, also GFCI protected).
- Identification of Disconnecting Means (All circuit breakers labeled). [CEC 110.22 ]
- Grounding Electrode conductor shall be copper, aluminum, or copper-clad aluminum. The material shall be resistant to corrosive condition existing at the installation or shall be suitably protected against corrosion. The conductor shall be installed in one continuous length without a splice or joint. [CEC 250-62&64]
- The Grounding Electrode Conductor shall be protected. [CEC 250.64(B)]
- The Grounding Electrode Conductor shall be connected to the grounding electrode by a listed clamp. [CEC 250.70]
- Weatherproof enclosures for overcurrent devices in damp or wet locations shall be so placed or equipped as to prevent moisture or water from entering the enclosure. [CEC 312.2(A)]
- Receptacles in Damp or Wet locations shall have a heavy duty rated enclosure that is weatherproof when the receptacle is in use. [CEC 406.9(B)]
- Temporary wiring shall be removed immediately upon completion of construction or purpose for which the wiring was installed. [CEC 590.3]
- See Southern Calif. Edison temporary service requirements ESR-2, figure 2-13, overhead service connections 0-600 volts.
- Separate single trade permit required for TPP (Temp Power Pole)