



Clearance To Electrical Conductors

The Building Standards Department issues Builder Tips as part of our customer service program. They are designed to provide an improved understanding of the Building Code and to reduce the costs associated with correcting infractions. Please contact your area building inspector for further information or call the Building Standards Department at 905.475.4848 extension 2189

3.1.19. Above Ground Electrical Conductors

3.1.20.1. Clearance to Buildings

(1) A building shall not be located beneath existing above ground electrical conductors.

(2) The horizontal clearance measured from the maximum conductor swing to the building, including balconies, fire escapes, flat roofs or other accessible projections beyond the face of the building, shall

(a) be not less than 1m, for electrical conductors carrying voltages 750 V or less, except where necessary to connect to the electrical wiring of the building,

(b) be not less than 3 m, for electrical conductors carrying voltages greater than 750 V but not exceeding 46 kV,

(c) be not less than 3.7 m for electrical conductors carrying voltages greater than 46 kV but not exceeding 69 kV, or

(d) conform to the requirements of CAN/CSA-C22.3 No.1, "Overhead Systems", for electrical conductors carrying voltages greater than 69 kV.

(3) Where the swing of an above ground electrical conductor not owned or operated by an electrical supply authority is not known, a swing of not less than 1.8 m shall be used.

(4) Sentences (1) to (3) do not apply to a building containing electrical equipment and electrical installation used exclusively in the generation, transformation, transmission of electrical power or energy intended for sale or distribution to the public.

9.1.1.5. Proximity to Existing Above Ground Electrical Conductors

(1) Where a building is constructed in close proximity to existing above ground electrical conductors, the requirements of subsection 3.1.20. shall apply.

3.15.5.2. Clearance for Exterior Signs

(4) A sign shall not be located in proximity to existing above ground electrical conductors, unless the sign meets the clearance requirements of Article 3.1.20.1.



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OBJECTIVE

Clearance requirements are provided by the Building Code when a building is situated in close proximity to above ground electrical conductors. These clearance requirements are to make certain that occupant safety is maintained and to ensure that new buildings or additions to buildings are not constructed in close proximity to conductors that are of a voltage more than 46 KV.

These requirements are in the code to make sure designers and permit applicants are aware of the clearance requirements. The requirements also include projections beyond the building face such as balconies, patios, and fire escapes.

These clearance requirements are also applicable to signs constructed on a building under section 3.15 of the Building Code.

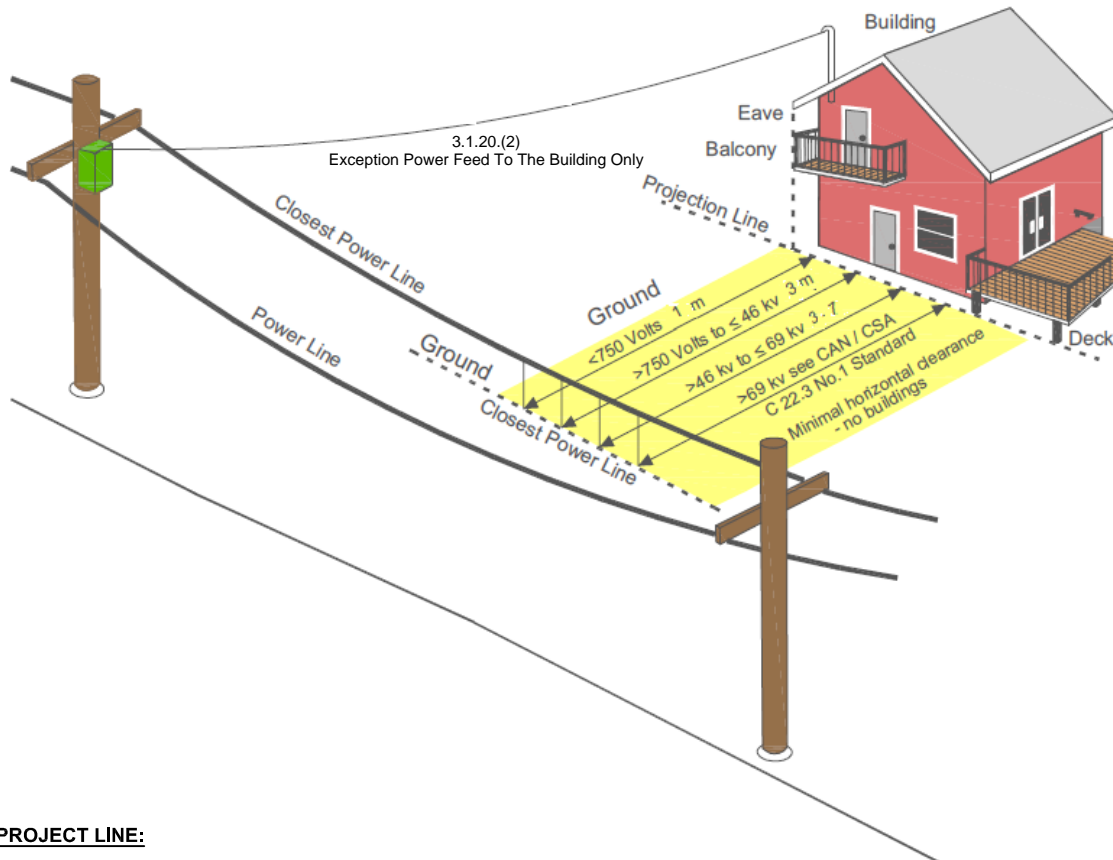
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OVERHEAD POWER LINE CLEARANCE



PROJECT LINE:

ANY BALCONY, FIRE ESCAPE, FLAT ROOF, DECK OR OTHER ACCESSIBLE PROJECTION ETC. FROM BUILDING.

SEE 9.1.1.5. AND 3.1.20. ONTARIO BUILDING CODE. MINIMUM HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE TO CLOSEST POWER LINE.

NO BUILDING SHALL BE LOCATED BELOW AN ELECTRICAL CONDUCTOR.

PLEASE NOTE THESE MINIMUM ABOVE CLEARANCES INCLUDES AN ADDITIONAL 1.8m WIRE SWING IF THE SWING IS NOT KNOWN. PLEASE CHECK WITH THE P.U.C. CONCERNING VOLTAGE OF WIRE AND WHAT SWING WOULD APPLY.

ILLUSTRATION CREDIT TO THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE