ORDINANCE	42-1990	

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8, "CONSTRUCTION REGULATIONS," ARTICLE IV, "UNIFORM CODES AND OTHER REGULATIONS," DIVISION 3, "ELECTRICAL CODE," OF THE ABILENE MUNICIPAL CODE, BY AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS AS SET OUT BELOW; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND DECLARING A PENALTY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:

PART 1: That Chapter 8, Article IV, Division 3, "Electrical Code," of the Abilene Municipal Code be amended as set out in Exhibit "A," attached hereto and made a part of this ordinance for all purposes.

PART 2: That if any provision or any section of this ordinance shall be held to be void or unconstitutional, such holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining provisions or sections of this ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

PART 3: That any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Two housand dollars (\$2,000.00). Each day such violation shall continue or be permitted to continue, shall be deemed a separate offense. Said Ordinance, being a penal ordinance, becomes effective ten (10) days after its publication in the newspaper, as provided by Section 19 of the Charter of the City of Abilene.

PASSED ON FIRST READING this 27

PASSED ON FIRST READING this 2/ day of September, A.D.	
PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING this 11 day of October A.D. 19 90 .	
ATTEST:	
CITY SECRETARY MAYOR APPROVED: CITY ATTORNEY	-

day of

September

ELECTRICAL CODE

TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE

This pamphlet is to be used in conjunction with the National Electrical Code as published by the National Fire Protection Association. All electrical installations in the City shall be done in accordance with the latest edition of the National Electrical Code as it is adopted by the City of Abilene. In the event of any conflict between the code and this pamphlet, the stricter provision shall apply. This pamphlet and the 1990 National Electrical Code comprise the Electrical Code for the City of Abilene, Texas.

This code was Ordinance No.	adopted by 42-1990	y the Cit	ty Council the Munici	on 10/1 ipal Code	11/90 •	as
Building Inspec 555 Walnut, Roc			• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	676-6271	
Electrical Insp	pectors		• • • • • • • • •	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	676-6276	

The following provisions are Administrative provisions extracted from the Uniform Administrative Code that have been tailored to code enforcement and are specifically geared to electrical code enforcement and are published by the International Conference of Building Officials. The amendments are specific provisions for the City of Abilene and together with the published Administrative Provisions comprise this portion of the electrical code.

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CHAPTER 1

TITLE AND GENERAL

Title

Sec. 101. These regulations shall be known as the "Electrical Code," may be cited as such and will be referred to herein as "this code."

Application to Existing Electrical Systems and Equipment

Sec. 102. (a) Additions, Alterations or Repairs. Additions, alterations or repairs may be made to an electrical system and equipment to comply with all the requirements of this code, provided the addition, alteration or repair conforms to that required for a new electrical system and equipment and provided further that no hazard to life, health or safety will be created by such additions, alterations or repairs.

Minor additions, alterations and repairs to existing electrical system and equipment may be made in accordance with the law in effect at the time the original installation was made, when approved by the building official.

- (b) Existing Installations. Electrical systems and equipment lawfully in existence at the time of the adoption of this code may have their use, maintenance or repair continued if the use, maintenance or repair is in accordance with the original design and no hazard to life, health or property has been created by such electrical system and equipment.
- (c) Changes in Building Occupancy. Electrical systems and equipment which are a part of any building or structure undergoing a change in use or occupancy, as defined in the Building Code, shall comply with the requirements of this code which are applicable to the new use or occupancy.
- (d) Maintenance. All electrical systems and equipments, both existing and new, and all parts thereof shall be maintained in a proper operating condition in accordance with the original design and in a safe and hazard-free condition. All devices or safeguards which are required by this code shall be maintained in conformance with this code. The owner or designated agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of the electrical system. To determine compliance with this subsection, the building official may cause any electrical system to be reinspected.
- (e) Moved Building. Electrical systems and equipment which are a part of buildings or structures moved into or within this jurisdiction shall comply with the provisions of this code for new installations.

Add the following:

- (f) Residental Rehabilitated and Condemned Buildings. Existing buildings which have been condemned may have existing serviceable electrical systems left in place, provided these systems were installed in accordance with the standards applicable at the time the building was built, and further provided that the following minimum provisions are met:
 - (1) Services:
- a. All exterior service equipment shall be of weather-proof materials, fittings and devices.
- b. Latest approved service mast heights and points of attachment to structures shall be maintained.
- c. Services shall be of a capacity large enough to carry anticipated load. No service conductor shall be less than 100 amps.
 - (2) Circuits:
- a. Existing two conductor non-metallic sheathed cable, if in safe condition, shall be allowed to remain with the addition of a single grounding conductor run separately to all outlets located in bathroom, kitchen and laundry room areas.
- b. Other conforming wiring methods, not presently approved by the City of Abilene Electrical Code, may remain if in safe condition and not disturbed in any manner other than reconnection to an electrical panel, provided also that these systems were legal at the time of original installation.
- c. Receptacles shall be sufficient in numbers to serve the desired space in a practical manner, but not less than one for each 20' of wall area.
- d. These Code requirements shall not be necessary:
 - 1. exterior plugs for residences,
 - 2. GFCI circuit breakers.

Where there is a question regarding the safety of any installed electrical system in a building which is being rehabilitated, the electrical inspector may require that the owner obtain the services of a licensed Master Electrician to completely examine and test the system and report on its safety. When systems are found to be unsafe, they must be replaced in accordance with the requirements of the National Electrical Code as adopted by the City of Abilene.

Definitions

SEC. 103. General. For the purpose of these provisions, certain terms, phrases, words and their derivatives shall be construed as specified in this section. Where terms are not defined, they shall have their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context with which they are used. Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged, copyright 1986, shall be considered as providing ordinarily ac-

cepted meanings. Words used in the singular include the plural and the plural the singular. Words used in the masculine gender include the feminine and the feminine the masculine.

APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN - Any person other than a Master Electrician or Journeyman Electrician who, as his principal occupation, is engaged in learning and assisting in the installation of electrical work under the personal, constant supervision of a Master or Journeyman Electrician.

APPROVED, as to materials, equipment and method of construction, refers to approval by the building official as the result of investigation and tests conducted by the building official, or by reason of accepted principles or tests by recognized authorities, technical or scientific organizations.

APPROVED AGENCY is an established and recognized agency regularly engaged in conducting tests or furnishing inspection services, when the agency has been approved by the building official.

BUILDING CODE is the Uniform Building Code promulgated by the International Conference of Building Officials, as adopted by this jurisdiction.

BUILDING OFFICIAL is the officer charged with the administration and enforcement of this code, or a duly authorized representative, and is the authority having jurisdiction for this code.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR shall be the person providing expertise for the building official in the area of electrical regulations.

CODE ENFORCEMENT AGENCY is the department, division or agency of this jurisdiction charged with the function of code enforcement and shall be under the administration and operational control of the building official.

ELECTRICAL CODE is the National Electrical Code promulgated by the National Fire Protection Association, as adopted by this jurisdiction.

ELECTRICAL WORK Any work related to or involving the furnishing of labor, equipment, appliances or materials or the performance of any operation in connection with electrical installations. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

(1) Power and lighting systems, secondary services, distribution panels, lighting panels, conduits, junction boxes, pull boxes, outlets, feeders, sub-feeders wiring devices, service fittings, lighting fixtures, lamps, etc.

(2) All power and control wiring and any other electrical installations incidental to any equipment furnished by any other contractors, owners or their agents.

FIREWALL is the same as an area separation wall as used in the Building Code.

INSTALLATION Any electrical work of any nature performed on, in or near any premises.

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN Any person other than a master electrician who engages in or works at the actual installation, alteration, repair and renovation of electrical work and who has successfully fulfilled the examination and requirements of this code.

LEGAL ENTITY Legal entity shall be an electrical business meeting the requirements for a licensed Master Electrician.

LISTED and LISTING are terms referring to equipment and materials which are shown in a list published by an approved testing agency, qualified and equipped for experimental testing and maintaining an adequate periodic inspection of current productions and which listing states that the material or equipment complies with accepted national standards which are approved or standards which have been evaluated for conformity with approved standards.

MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIAN One who is employed by a person to maintain and repair electrical installation in a particular building and who does not otherwise engage himself as either a master or journeyman electrician.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN An electrician having a regular place of business who, by himself or through a person in his employ, performs electrical work, and who has successfully fulfilled the examination and requirements as set out in this code.

MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY BUILDING is a building having more than one tenant and may be of single or mixed use groups as classified by the building code.

OCCUPANCY is the purpose for which a building, or part thereof, is used or intended to be used.

SIGN ELECTRICIAN A person who manufactures or installs luminous gas or electric discharge signs or other electrical signs of any type.

Conflicting Provisions

Sec. 104. Where, in any specific case, different sections of this code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

Alternate Materials and Methods of Construction

Sec, 105. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the use of any material or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided any alternate has been approved and its use authorized by the building official.

The building official may approve any alternate, provided that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the provisions of this code and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in suitability, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety.

The building official shall require that sufficient evidence or proof be submitted to substantiate any claims regarding the use of alternates. The details of an action granting approval of an alternate shall be recorded and entered in the files of the code enforcement agency.

Modifications

Sec. 106. Whenever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the building official may grant modifications for individual cases, provided that a special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in conformity with the intent and purpose of this code, and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of actions granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the code enforcement agency.

Tests

Sec. 107. Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with any of the provisions of this code or evidence that materials or construction do not conform to the requirements of this code, the building official may require tests as evidence of compliance to be made at no expense to this jurisdiction.

Test methods shall be as specified by this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods for the proposed alternate, the building official shall determine test procedures.

All tests shall be made by an approved agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the building official for the period required for the retention of public records.

CHAPTER 2

ORGANIZATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Powers and Duties of Building Official

Sec. 201. (a) General. The building official is hereby authorized and directed to enforce all the provisions of this code. For such purposes, the building official shall have the powers of a law enforcement officer.

(b) Deputies. In accordance with prescribed procedures and with the approval of the appointing authority, the building official may appoint electrical inspectors and other related technical officers and inspectors and other employees as shall be authorized from time to time.

The electrical inspector shall be a competent person of good moral character; he shall have had at least four years experience as a current Journeyman Electrician; he shall have adequate knowledge of current and approved methods and practices relating to electrical installations; and he shall have passed the examination for Journeyman Electricians.

The electrical inspector and his assistants shall, when in the performance of their duties, carry a badge to be furnished by the city.

The electrical inspector shall not engage in the occupation of electrical wiring, nor have any financial or other interest in any electrical business doing electrical wiring within the jurisdiction.

Whenever necessary to make an inspec-(c) Right of Entry. tion to enforce the provisions of this code, or whenever the building official or an authorized representative has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in a building or upon a premises a condition or code violation which makes such building or premises unsafe, dangerous or hazardous, the building official or an authorized representative may enter such building or premises at all reasonable times to inspect the same or to perform any duty imposed upon the building official by such codes, provided that if such building or premises be occupied, the building official shall first present proper credentials and re-If such building or premise is unoccupied, the quest entry. building official shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other persons having charge or control of the build-If entry be refused, the ing or premises and request entry. building official or an authorized representative shall have recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure entry.

When the building official or an authorized representative shall have first obtained a proper inspection warrant or other remedy provided by law to secure entry, an owner or occupant or other persons having charge, care or control of the building or premises shall not fail or neglect, after proper request is made as herein provided, to promptly permit entry therein by the building official or authorized representative for the purpose of inspection and examination pursuant to this code.

- (d) Stop Orders. Whenever work is being done contrary to the provisions of this code, the building official may order the work stopped by notice in writing served on persons engaged in doing the work to be done, and such person shall forthwith stop such work until authorized by the building official to proceed with the work.
- (e) Authority to Disconnect Utilities in Emergencies. The building official or authorized representative shall have the authority to disconnect electric power or energy service supplied to the building, structure or building service equipment therein regulated by this code in case of emergency where necessary to eliminate an immediate hazard to life or property. The building official shall whenever possible notify the serving utility, the owner and occupant of the building, structure or electrical system or equipment of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action, and shall notify the serving utility, owner and occupant of the building, structure or building service equipment, in writing, of the disconnection immediately thereafter.
- (f) Authority to Condemn Electrical System and Equipment. Whenever the building official ascertains that an electrical system or equipment regulated in this code has become hazardous to life, health or property, the building official shall order in writing that such electrical system or equipment either be removed or restored to a safe condition, whichever is appropriate. The written notice itself shall fix a time limit for compliance with such order. Persons shall not use or maintain defective electrical system or equipment after receiving notice.

When equipment or an installation is to be disconnected, a written notice of such disconnection and causes therefor shall be given within 24 hours of the order to disconnect to the serving utility, the owner and occupants of the building, structure or premises.

When an electrical system or equipment is maintained in violation of this code and in violation of a notice issued pursuant to the provisions of this section, the building official shall institute appropriate action to prevent, restrain, correct or abate the violation.

- (g) Connection after Order to Disconnect. Persons shall not make connections from an energy or power supply nor supply power to an electrical system equipment which has been disconnected or ordered to be disconnected by the building official or the use of which has been ordered to be discontinued by the building official until the building official authorizes the reconnection and use of the electrical system or equipment.
- (h) Liability. The building official, or an authorized representative charged with the enforcement of this code, acting in good faith and without malice in the discharge of duties, shall not thereby render the building official personally liable for

any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of an act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of duties. A suit brought against the building official or employee because of an act or omission performed by the building official in the enforcement of provisions of this code shall be defended by legal counsel provided by this jurisdiction until final termination of such proceedings.

This code shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility of a person owning, operating or controlling any building, structure or building service equipment therein for any damages to persons or property caused by defects, nor shall the code enforcement agency be held as assuming such liability by reason of the inspections authorized by this code or approvals issued under this code.

(i) Cooperation of Other Officials and Officers. The building official may request, and shall receive so far as is required in the discharge of duties, the assistance and cooperation of other officials of this jurisdiction.

Unsafe Electrical Systems or Equipment

Sec. 202. Electrical systems or equipment regulated by this code which are unsafe, or which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life are, for the purpose of this section, unsafe. Use of electrical systems or equipment regulated by this code constituting a hazard to safety, health or public welfare by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence, fire hazard, disaster, damage or abandonment is, for the purpose of this section, an unsafe use.

Unsafe electrical systems or equipment are hereby declared to be public nuisances and shall be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or removal in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings or an alternate procedure as may be adopted by this jurisdiction. As an alternative, the building official or other employee or official of this jurisdiction as designated by the governing body may institute other appropriate action to prevent, restrain, correct or abate the violation.

Board of Appeals

Sec. 203. (a) General. In order to determine the suitability of alternate materials and methods of installation and to provide for reasonable interpretations of this code, there shall be and is hereby created a board of appeals to be known as the Board of Electrical Examiners. This board shall consist of members who are qualified by experience and training to pass upon matters pertaining to design, construction, installation and maintenance of electrical systems and equipment. The building official shall be an ex-officio member but shall not have a vote upon matters before the board.

The Board of Electrical Examiners shall be appointed by the governing body and shall hold office at its pleasure. The board shall adopt rules of procedure for conducting its business and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the building official.

The board of electrical examiners shall consist of the following five members: A master electrician, a journeyman electrician, a licensed architect, a building contractor, and a licensed engineer.

Members of the board of electrical examiners shall be appointed by the city council for the terms of two years so that three appointments shall end on odd numbered years and two appointments shall end on even numbered years. Members of such board shall serve without compensation.

- (b) Limitations of Authority. The Board of Electrical Examiners shall have no authority relative to interpretation of the administrative provisions of this code nor shall the board be empowered to waive requirements of this code.
- (c) Meetings and Officers. The board of electrical examiners shall meet as soon after appointment as possible and select a chairman. The board shall meet monthly as deemed necessary. Three members of the board present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business or the carrying out of any duties; but any action taken at any meeting shall require the affirmative vote of at least three members. The chairman of any meeting of the board shall vote.

The electrical inspector shall serve as secretary of the board of electrical examiners but shall not at any time have any voice or vote in any findings or actions of the board.

- (d) Powers and Duties. The board of electrical examiners shall have the following powers and duties:
- (1) The adoption of rules and regulations for the examination and re-examination of applicants for electricians' certificates.
- (2) Submission to the city council of written recommendations and suggestions for the improvement, enforcement and administration of this code.
- (3) The issuance of appropriate certificates and licenses to successful applicants therefor.
- (4) To hear all appeals from rulings or actions of the building inspector or his authorized representatives relating to the electrical code.

Violations

Sec. 204. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, improve, remove, convert or demolish, equip, use of maintain an electrical system or equipment or cause or permit the same to be done in violation of this code.

Chapter 3

PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

Permits

- Sec. 301. (a) Permits Required. Except as specified in Subsection (b) of this section, no electrical system regulated by this code shall be installed, altered, repaired, replaced or remodeled unless a separate electrical permit for each building or structure has first been obtained from the building official. All wiring in the City shall be done under the supervision of a Master Electrician except as otherwise provided in Sec. 301. (c) 1.
- (b) Exempt Work. An electrical permit shall not be required for the following:
- 1. Portable motors or other portable appliances energized by means of a cord or cable having an attachment plug end to be connected to an approved receptacle when that cord or cable is permitted by this code.
- 2. Repair or replacement of fixed motors, transformers or fixed approved appliances of the same type and rating in the same location.
 - 3. Temporary decorative lighting.
- 4. Repair or replacement of current-carrying parts of any switch, contactor or control device.
- 5. Reinstallation of attachment plug receptacles, but not the outlets therefor.
- 6. Repair or replacement of any overcurrent device of the required capacity in the same location.
- 7. Repair or replacement of electrodes or transformers of the same size and capacity for signs or gas tube systems.
 - 8. Taping joints.
 - 9. Removal of electrical wiring.

- 10. Temporary wiring for experimental purposes in suitable experimental laboratories.
- 11. The wiring for temporary theater, motion picture or television stage sets.
- 12. Low-energy power, control and signal circuits of Classes II and III as defined in this code.
- 13. A permit shall not be required for the installation, alteration or repair of electrical wiring, apparatus or equipment or the generation, transmission, distribution or metering of electrical energy or in the operation of signals or the transmission of intelligence by a public or private utility in the exercise of its function as a serving utility.

Exemption from the permit requirements of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in violation of the provisions of this code or any other laws or ordinances of this jurisdiction.

(c) Permit - Required; exceptions; requirement of ownership of legal entity.

1. Any bonafide homeowner personally installing electrical conductors or equipment within his own home; provided, that the owner shall file with the electrical inspector approved plans and specifications, shall satisfy the electrical inspector as to his ability to install electrical wiring, shall apply for and secure a permit, shall pay the required fees, shall do work in accordance with this chapter and shall request the required inspections and obtain a certificate of approval.

Personal installation by an owner under this subsection shall be by himself, for himself, on his homestead premises.

No homeowner shall be issued a permit under the provisions of this subsection more frequently than once each two (2) calendar years, except for additions or repairs.

2. Each legal entity shall annually file an affidavit with the City of Abilene, Building Inspections Department, Electrical Inspector, clearly identifying the legal or equitable owners of the legal entity. The affidavit form to be filed in accordance with this code shall be provided by the City of Abilene. The properly completed affidavit shall be filed concurrently with the legal entity's annual bond renewal.

Application for Permit

Sec. 302. (a) Application. To obtain a permit, the applicant shall first file an application therefor in writing on a form furnished by the code enforcement agency for that purpose. Every such application shall:

1. Identify and describe the work to be covered by the permit for which application is made.

- 2. Describe the land on which the proposed work is to be done by legal description, street address or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed building or work.
- 3. Indicate the use or occupancy for which the proposed work is intended.
- 4. Be accompanied by plans, diagrams, computations and specifications and other data as required in Subsection (b) of this section.
 - 5. Be signed by permittee, or authorized agent.
- 6. Give such other data and information as may be required by the building official.
- (b) Plans and Specifications. Plans, engineering calculations, k diagrams and other data shall be submitted in one or more sets with each application for a permit. The building official may require plans, computations and specifications to be prepared and designed by an engineer or architect licensed by the state to practice as such.

EXCEPTION: The building official may waive the submission of plans, calculations, etc., if the building official finds that the nature of the work applied for is such that reviewing of plans is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

(c) Information on Plans and Specifications. Plans and specifications shall be drawn to scale upon substantial paper or cloth and shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of this code and all relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations.

Plans for buildings more than two stories in height of other than Groups R, Division 3 and M Occupancies shall indicate how required structural and fire-resistive integrity will be maintained where a penetration will be made for electrical and communication conduits, pipes and similar systems.

(d) Permit by Phone with Charge Account.

- l. A deposit of not less than one hundred fifty dollars shall be made with the City of Abilene by the applicant.
- 2. An account shall be kept for each applicant by the electrical inspector in an accounts receivable book, which book shall be subject to the approval of the accounting and auditing department.
- 3. No part of such deposit shall be applied to the account of any applicant.
- 4. Every applicant shall be billed each month for the total balance of his account and the official written permit shall be enclosed therein.

5. All accounts shall be payable within ten days after the billing date; any account not paid within ten days shall not be eligible for further issuance of permits pursuant to this section, and the applicant's deposit shall be forfeited to the city.

Permits Issuance

303. (a) Sec. Issuance. The application, plans and other data, filed by an applicant for perspecifications, and mit shall be reviewed by the building official. Such plans may be reviewed by other departments of this jurisdiction to verify compliance with any applicable laws under their jurisdiction. the building official finds that the work described in an application for a permit and the plans, specifications and other data filed therewith conform to the requirements of this code and other pertinent laws and ordinances, and that the fees specified in Section 304 have been paid, the building official shall issue a permit therefor to the applicant.

When the building official issues a permit, the plans and specifications shall be endorsed in writing or stamped "APPROVED." Such approved plans and specifications shall not be changed, modified or altered without authorizations from the building official, and all work regulated by this code shall be done in accordance with the approved plans.

The building official may issue a permit for the construction of part of an electrical system before the entire plans and specifications for the whole system have been submitted or approved, provided adequate information and detailed statements have been filed complying with all pertinent requirements of this code. The holders of such permits shall proceed at their own risk without assurance that the permit for the entire building, structure or building service will be granted.

- (b) Retention of Plans. One set of approved plans, specifications and computations shall be retained by the building official until final approval of the work covered therein. One set of approved plans and specifications shall be returned to the applicant and shall be kept on the site of the building or work at all time during which the work authorized thereby is in progress.
- (c) Validity of Permit. The issuance of a permit or approval of plans and specifications shall not be construed to be a permit for, or an approval of, any violation of any of the provisions of this code, or of any other ordinance of the jurisdiction. Permits presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code or other ordinances of the jurisdiction shall not be valid.

The issuance of a permit based upon plans, specifications and other data shall not prevent the building official from thereafter requiring the correction of errors in said plans,

specifications and other data, or from preventing building operations being carried on thereunder when in violation of these codes or of any other ordinances of this jurisdiction.

Every permit issued by the building offi-(d) Expiration. cial under the provisions of this code shall expire by limitation and become null and void, if the building or work authorized by such permit is not commenced within 180 days from the date of such permit, or if the building or work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned at any time after the work is commenced for a period of 180 days. Before such work can be recommenced, a new permit shall be first obtained so to do, and the fee therefor shall be one half the amount required for a new permit for such work, provided no changes have been made or will be made in the original plans and specifications for such work; and provided further that such suspension or abandonment has not exceeded one In order to renew action on a permit after expiration, the permittee shall pay a new full permit fee.

A permittee holding an unexpired permit may apply for an extension of the time within which work may be commenced under that permit when the permittee is unable to commence work within the time required by this section for good and satisfactory reasons. The building official may extend the time for action by the permittee for a period not exceeding 180 days upon written request by the permittee showing that circumstances beyond the control of the permittee have prevented action from being taken.

If a building has not received a final inspection within sixty days after completion of the building, the permit shall expire, and may be renewed only after a fee amounting to the sum of the original permit fee has been paid; provided, however, the permit may be extended a reasonable length of time without charge if application for extension has been made to the office of the electrical inspector before the expiration of permit.

(e) Suspension or Revocation. The building official may, in writing, suspend or revoke a permit issued under the provisions of this code whenever the permit is issued in error or on the basis of incorrect information supplied, or in violation of any ordinance or regulation of the jurisdiction.

Fees

Sec. 304. (a) Permit Fees. Fees shall be set by the City Council by resolution.

(c) Expiration of Plan Review. Applications for which no permit is issued within 180 days following the date of application shall expire by limitation, and plans and other data submitted for review may thereafter be returned to the applicant or destroyed by the building official. The building official may extend the time for action by the applicant for a period not exceeding 180 days upon request by the applicant showing that cir-

cumstances beyond the control of the applicant have prevented action from being taken. No application shall be extended more than once. In order to renew action on an application after expiration, the applicant shall re-submit plans and pay a new plan review fee.

- (d) Investigation Fees: Work Without a Permit. 1. Investigation. Whenever any work for which a permit is required by this code has been commenced without first obtaining said permit, a special investigation shall be made before a permit may be issued for such work.
- 2. Fee. An investigation fee, in addition to the permit fee, shall be collected whether or not a permit is then or subsequently issued. The investigation fee shall be equal to the amount of the permit fee that would be required by this code if a permit were to be issued. The payment of such investigation fee shall not exempt any person from compliance with all other provisions of either this code nor from any penalty prescribed by law.
- (e) Fee Refunds. 1. The building official may authorize the refunding of any fee paid hereunder which was erroneously paid or collected.
- 2. The building official may authorize the refunding of not more than 80 percent of the permit fee paid when no work has been done under a permit issued in accordance with this code.
- 3. The building official may authorize the refunding of not more than 80 percent of the plan review fee paid when an application for a permit for which a plan review fee has been paid is withdrawn or canceled before any plan review effort has been expended.

The building official shall not authorize the refunding of any fee paid except upon written application filed by the original permittee not later than 180 days after the date of fee payment.

Inspections

Sec. 305. (a) General. All electrical systems and equipment for which a permit is required by this code shall be subject to inspection by the building official, and the electrical system shall remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes until approved by the building official.

It shall be the duty of the permit applicant to cause the electrical system to remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes. Neither the building official nor the jurisdiction shall be liable for the expense entailed in the removal or replacement of any material required to permit inspection. When the installation of an electrical system and equipment is complete, an additional and final inspection shall be made.

Electrical systems and equipment regulated by this code shall not be connected to the energy source until authorized by the building official.

Approval as a result of an inspection shall not be construed to be an approval of a violation of the provisions of this code or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction. Inspections presuming to give authority to violate or cancel provisions of this code or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction shall not be valid.

(b) Inspection Requests. It shall be the duty of the person doing the work authorized by a permit to notify the building official that such work is ready for inspection. The building official may require that every request for inspection be filed at least one working day before such inspection is desired. Such request may be in writing or by telephone at the option of the building official.

It shall be the duty of the person requesting inspections required by this code to provide access to and means for inspection of such work.

- (c) Operation of Electrical Equipment. The requirements of this section shall not be construed to prohibit the operation of any electrical system or equipment installed to replace existing equipment. The request for inspection of such equipment must have been filed with the building official not more than 48 hours after such replacement work is completed and before any portion of such electrical system is concealed by any permanent portion of the building.
- (d) Other Inspections. In addition to the called inspections required by this code, the building official may make or require other inspections of any work to ascertain compliance with the provisions of this code and other laws which are enforced by the code enforcement agency.
- (e) Reinspections. A reinspection fee may be assessed for each inspection or reinspection when such portion of work for which inspection is called is not complete or when corrections called for are not made.

This provision is not to be interpreted as requiring reinspection fees the first time a job is rejected for failure to comply with the requirements of this code, but as controlling the practice of calling for inspections before the job is ready for such inspection or reinspection.

Reinspection fees may be assessed when the approved plans are not readily available to the inspector, for failure to provide access on the date for which inspection is requested, or for deviating from plans requiring the approval of the building official.

To obtain a reinspection, the applicant shall file an application therefor in writing upon a form furnished for that purpose, and pay the reinspection fee in accordance with Table No. 3-A.

In instances where reinspection fees have been assessed, no additional inspection of the work will be performed until the required fees have been paid.

Connection Approval

Sec. 306. (a) Energy Connections. An electrical system or equipment regulated by this code for which a permit is required shall not be connected to a source of energy until approved by the building official.

(b) Temporary Connections. The building offical may authorize the temporary connection of electrical system or equipment to the source of energy or power for the purpose of testing equipment or for use under a temporary certificate of occupancy. Permits for temporary service shall be issued in the electrical contractor's name only, and shall be limited to ninety (90) days. Additional extensions for temporary services may be renewed for single periods of thirty (30) days each for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) for each renewal and for a maximum extension time of ninety (90) days.

CHAPTER 4

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

LICENSE

Sec. 401. (a) License Required. No person shall engage in the business of master, journeyman, sign, maintenance, or apprentice electrician unless he possesses a valid electrician's certificate of qualification issued in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(b) Application for License.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Applicants for master electrician licenses shall make applications to the secretary of the board of electrical examiners. Each applicant shall be required to furnish three (3) letters of recommendation specifically stating his qualifications in a recognized electrical field. In addition, he shall provide written proof of ten years' experience, at least four of which must be as a licensed journeyman and as follows:

- (1) Ten (10) year's experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician: or
- (2) Completion of five (5) years of technical training from a recognized electrical school, plus three (3) year's experience under a licensed master electrician; or
- (3) If applicant has not completed five (5) years of technical schooling, he shall be allowed one and one-half (1 1/2) years of practical training for each one (1) year of accredited schooling.

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN

Applicants for journeyman electrician's licenses shall make application to the secretary of the board of electrical examiners. Applicants must present written proof of four years experience as an electrician under the supervision of a master electrician before being allowed to take the journeyman electrician's examination.

MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIAN

Applicants for maintenance electrician's licenses shall make application to the secretary of the board of electrical examiners.

SIGN ELECTRICIANS

Applicants for sign electrician's certificates of qualification shall make application to the secretary of the board of electrical examiners.

APPRENTICE ELECTRICIANS

Applicants for apprentice electrician's license shall make application to the secretary of the board of electrical examiners.

(c) Application Fee. The application shall be presented to the secretary of the Board of Electrical Examiners and shall be accompanied by the required fee as follows.

Master Electrician 25.00 + cost for the Block Exam Journeyman Electrician 5.00 + cost for the Block Exam

(d) Examination. The Board of Electrical Examiners is hereby empowered to adopt rules and regulations consistent with the electrical code for the examination and re-examination of applicants for licensing as master and journeyman electricians. The Board shall fix reasonable times for the examination or reexamination of all applicants for licenses. Examinations shall be made available a minimum of three times in each calendar year. Date of examination shall be spaced at approximately equal intervals. The Board shall furnish all necessary forms to each applicant who wishes to be licensed in accordance with the terms of

the electrical code of the City of Abilene. At least one board member shall be present during the examination process to ensure that proper procedures are carried out.

Applications for examination must be filed with the Board 60 days before the date of examination. The application for examination must be accompanied by payment of all fees as established by resolution.

The Board shall prescribe the form, substance and length of the examination for licenses authorized by the Electrical Code. Subject matter of the examination may test the applicant on the following:

- (1) knowledge of any or all types of electrical installation authorized by law within the City of Abilene,
- (2) his knowledge of electricity and diagrams of any or all types of electrical installations authorized by law within the City of Abilene,
- (3) his knowledge and familiarity with the National Electrical Code as currently adopted by the City of Abilene,
- (4) his practical and working knowledge of electrical wiring and construction,
- (5) his knowledge and familiarity with the Electrical Code of the City of Abilene.

*The weight to be given by the Board to each question asked upon examination shall be at the sole discretion of the Board. The Board is further authorized to give more weight to a particular part of any examination given at its sole discretion.

*Not applicable to Block Exams.

Every examination given by the Board for all types of electrical licenses shall be structured by the Board so that a score of one hundred (100) percent shall be a perfect score. Every applicant taking an examination for any type of electrical license must receive a minimum score of seventy (70) percent to pass the examination and be eligible for licensing under the Electrical Code of the City of Abilene.

The Board may utilize any national testing firm, corporation or association to prepare and grade all examinations authorized by the Electrical Code of the City of Abilene. In every case where the Board utilizes the services of a national testing firm, corporation or association, the test so provided shall test each applicant in accordance with the above noted information.

Applicants for any type of license may be rejected by the Board and not examined upon a finding of any of the following:

- (1) That the application contains any false or misleading statements. When an application has been rejected for containing a false or misleading statement knowingly submitted by the applicant, no new application shall be considered from such individual for a period of one (1) year.
- (2) That the applicant fails or refuses to provide any information requested on the application form or forms by the Board.
- (3) That the applicant has had his license revoked or suspended and that the period of such suspension or revocation has not yet expired.
- (4) That the applicant has failed to pass a prior examination and that the period of time required by this Code between examinations has not yet expired.
- (5) That the applicant does not possess the qualifications required for the type of license for which he desires examination.
- (6) That the applicant, within the twelve(12) month period prior to application, while operating or working within the corporate limits of the city, had willfully failed to comply with provisions of this article or the Electrical Code or had failed to correct improper electrical installations.

In each case where an applicant has failed to receive a passing grade of at least seventy (70) percent on an examination taken by said applicant, he may apply for re-examination as follows:

- (1) The applicant must submit a new application to the Board and pay all fees for such examination.
- (2) In the case of an applicants first re-examination, the applicant may apply for re-examination immediately and, provided his application is approved by the Board in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance, shall be scheduled to take the next regularly scheduled examination set by this Board.
- (3) In the case of an applicant's second re-examination request, the applicant may apply for re-examination immediately and, provided this application is approved by the Board in accordance with this Ordinance, shall be scheduled to take the second regularly scheduled examination set by the Board after his application is received.
- (4) In the case of an applicant's third, or any subsequent re-examination request, the applicant shall file his application with the Board. However, the applicant shall not be re-examined until he has applied to the Board of Electrical Examiners for a

hearing to show cause why he shall be re-examined. In every case where the Board holds a hearing under this subsection, the burden of proof shall be upon the applicant to show cause why he should be re-examined.

(e) License Fees. The successful applicant shall also pay to the secretary of the board the required fee as follows:

Master Electrician 125.00
Journeyman Electrician 25.00
Apprentice Electrician 5.00
Maintenance Electrician 15.00
Sign Electrician 15.00

- (f) Issuance:Term. Qualified applicants who comply with the above provisions shall be issued a certificate of qualification to carry on the occupation of electrician that they are specifically licensed for. The certificate shall expire on December thirty-first of each year.
- (g) Renewal. The certificate of qualification may be renewed by paying to the secretary of the board the required fee within ten days after the expiration date of the old certificate. A certificate of qualification may be renewed within a period of ninety days after expiration by paying the required fee, plus a penalty fee. A certificate of qualification may be renewed within one (1) year after the expiration date by paying the required fee plus a penalty fee. Certificates which are more than one year past the expiration date may not be renewed. To obtain a new certificate, the applicant must pay an examination fee and retake the examination for the specific electrical license. Upon successful completion of the examination, the applicant shall pay to the secretary of the board the required sum outlined in section (e) License Fees, and the certificate of qualification shall then be issued. Fees and penalties are as follows:

TYPE OF LICENSE	RENEWAL FEE	90 DAY PENALTY	ONE YEAR PENALTY
Master	50.00	40.00	70.00
Journeyman	10.00	10.00	20.00
Sign	5.00	5.00	10.00
Apprentice	5.00	n/a	n/a
Maintenance	10.00	n/a	n/a

- (h) Transferability. A certificate of qualification shall be issued to an individual and shall not be assignable.
- (i) Proof of License. No person shall engage in the occupation of electrician of any type required by this code without having his current certificate of qualification in his possession.

(j) Bond Requirements. Any successful applicant desiring to engage in the business of an electrical contractor, shall first file with the building official of the city, a surety bond in the penal sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to be approved by the city manager, payable to the City of Abilene and conditioned on a faithful performance of all of the provisions and regulations of the electrical code, this chapter, and all other ordinances of the city, and the surety on such bond shall be a company authorized to transact business in the state.

One thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) bonds on file and approved at the time of adoption of this ordinance may remain in effect until their expiration date or December 31, 1990, whichever comes first.

LIMITED LICENSES

Sec. 402. Specific Limitations.

- (a) Sign Electricians: No person shall manufacture or install luminous gas or electric discharge signs or other electrical signs of any type unless he or one member of his firm holds a certificate of qualification from the building inspection division. Necessary wiring shall be installed by a master electrician or under his supervision. A permit shall be secured for each electrical sign and all outline lighting installations for erection in the city.
- (b) Apprentice Electrician: Apprentice electricians must not work by themselves, but only under the supervision of a licensed master or journeyman electrician. Any unlicensed person found doing any electrical work will be subject to such penalties as provided by section 8-3 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Abilene. If the unlicensed person is working for a master electrician, the master is held equally responsible.

Suspension or Revocation of Certificate

- Sec. 403. (a) Any person holding any license or certificate of qualification under this chapter who violates any provision herein shall be subject to having his license or certificate of qualification suspended or revoked by the building official or his authorized representative in the manner hereinafter provided.
- (b) Upon receiving notice or evidence that a person licensed under this chapter has violated some provision of this chapter, the building official or his authorized representative shall investigate such alleged violation. After investigation the building official or his authorized representative may suspend, forfeit or revoke the license of such person if due cause is found. The decision of the Building official or his authorized representative shall be in writing and a copy of the

decision shall be sent to the alleged violator. The written decision shall contain the evidence, findings and the imposition of such penalties as allowed by this code.

- (c) When the suspension or revocation of a license as provided by this section results from violation of this code, the person shall be prohibited from correcting the deficiencies from which the suspension or revocation resulted. If, after the imposition of the suspension or revocation of the license of such person, the required corrections are made by an approved, qualified person, then upon presentation to the building official or authorized representatives that the corrections have been made, the building official or his authorized representative may withdraw the order suspending or revoking the license of such person.
- (d) A suspension of a license shall not be for a period exceeding eleven calendar months. Where the suspension period termination date is in the calendar year following the calendar year in which the suspension became effective, then at such time that the suspension ends, such person may renew his license as if the suspension had not occurred.

APPEALS

Sec. 404.(a) Electrician's Certificate. Any person dissatisfied with the denial of an electrician's certificate by the board of electrical examiners may appeal to the city council. The person desiring to appeal shall, within fifteen days of his denial of his electrician's certificate, file a written appeal with the city secretary, and said appeal shall include a brief statement of the reasons therefor and a detailed statement of facts supporting the appeal. Upon the expiration of the fifteen day period without a written appeal being filed with the city secretary as herein provided, the denial shall become final.

Any person dissatisfied with the denial of an electrician's certificate by the city council may appeal to any district court. This appeal shall not stay the effect of the decision appealed from unless the court from which the appeal is taken shall so order. Upon expiration of the fifteen day period without an appeal having been perfected as herein provided, the ruling of the city council shall become final.

(b) Investigation; stay of order appealed from. Upon filing of an appeal pursuant to the provisions of the preceding section, the building official, if he has not already done so, shall personally investigate the facts upon which the order or ruling appealed from is based. If, in his opinion based upon such personal investigation, the facts warrant a stay of the effect of the order or ruling appealed from, pending a determination of the appeal by the board of electrical examiners, the building official may so order.

- (c) Hearing by board or electrical examiners. Upon receipt of an appeal as provided in the preceding section, the building official shall notify the chairman of the board of electrical examiners. The appeal shall be heard no later than the next regular meeting of that board. Upon the filing of this appeal, the appellant shall be notified as to the time and place of the next regular meeting. Prior to the hearing, the building official shall furnish each member of the board with a copy of the written appeal, with a copy of the order or ruling appealed from, with a copy of the section of this order involved in the appeal and any other facts pertinent to the appeal.
- (d) Conduct. The board of electrical examiners shall try the appeal "de novo" and such hearings shall be public. representatives his and the building official/representatives shall be granted the opportunity to be Any other person whose interest may be affected may be granted the opportunity to be heard. Such evidence as is pertinent may be introduced by either party. The board may adopt such rules of procedures as it deems appropriate for the conduct The chairman of the board shall administer the of the hearing. oaths and shall compel the attendance of witnesses for the purposes of the hearing.
- (e) Decision of board; records. A concurring vote of the majority of the members of the board of electrical examiners present shall be necessary to reverse or modify rulings or orders of the authority appealed from. All decisions of the board shall be in writing. The board shall keep clear and detailed minutes of all proceedings, including its decisions and the reasons therefor and the vote of each member participating therein. Such record, immediately following the board's decision, shall be filed in the office of the building official and shall be a public record. Notice of the board's decision shall be properly furnished to the appellant, his representatives or to any other person who has filed a written entry of appearance and to the building official.
- (f) Appeal from decision of Board of Electrical Examiners. A person desiring to appeal a decision of the Board of Electrical Examiners shall follow the same appeal procedures as set forth in Sec. 404 (a).

The following provisions are amendments to the 1990 National Electric Code. $\,$

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ARTICLE 210 - BRANCH CIRCUITS

C. Required Outlets

210-63 Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Equipment Outlet.

Rewrite the second sentence as follows:

...The receptacle shall be located on the same level and within $\underline{25}$ $\underline{\text{feet}}$ of the heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration equipment.

*Refer. 1988 UMC Sec. 509.

ARTICLE 220 - Branch Circuit and Feeder Calculations

220-4 Branch Circuits Required

(b) Small Appliance Branch Circuits - Dwelling Unit Add the following provision

The small appliance circuits as called for in the National Electrical Code shall contain no more than four outlets per circuit; provided further, that the circuit conductors shall not be smaller than number twelve AWG.

B. Feeders

220-11. General Lighting

Add the following provision.

Lighting circuits for residential wiring shall contain no more than six outlets per circuit.

ARTICLE 230 - SERVICES

230-24 Clearances.

(a) Above Roofs.

Add the following provision.

Service masts shall have a maximum height above the roof of three feet.

230-28 Service Masts as Supports

Add the following provision.

The riser shall be a minimum of two (2) inch rigid steel conduit.

D. SERVICE ENTRANCE CONDUCTORS

- 230-54. Connections at Service Head.
 - (f) Drip Loops.

Add the following provision.

No minimum height is set, but there shall be a suitable distance to form a drip loop reasonably clear of the roof.

F. SERVICE EQUIPMENT - DISCONNECTING MEANS

230-70. General.

(a) Location.

Add the following provision.

Underground services shall have a disconnecting switch on the pole at the outer end of the service if the service extends twenty feet or more underground and is rated at four hundred amperes or smaller.

230-80. Combined Rating of Disconnects.

Add the following provision.

Service conductors from the meter to the service switch or panel shall be of the same carrying capacity as the buss bars in the switch or panel being used.

ARTICLE 240 - OVERCURRENT PROTECTION

B. LOCATION

240-24. Location in or on Premises.

Add the following section.

(e) Wet Areas. Lighting panels and disconnecting switches shall not be placed in any bathroom.

ARTICLE 310 - CONDUCTORS FOR GENERAL WIRING

310-14. Aluminum Conductor Material.

Delete in its entirety and add the following:

The use of aluminum wire is prohibited except for the following:

- (1) Aluminum wire may be used for main services, sizes three naught (3/0) and larger.
 - (2) Aerial conductors, (triplex) size (6) or larger.

Table 310-16. Ampacities of Insulated Conductors

Add the following footnote.

* Conductors for branch or feeder circuits shall not be smaller than number twelve AWG except that the last two openings on a branch circuit, and switch legs for single lights may be run in number fourteen wire; provided that such circuits are protected by fuses or circuit breakers no larger than fifteen amperes and when used for residential dwelling use.

ARTICLE 336 - NONMETALLIC-SHEATHED CABLE Types NM and NMC

A. General

336-3. Uses Permitted.

Delete first paragraph and insert the following.

Type NM and Type NMC cables shall be permitted to be used in oneand two-family dwellings and multi-family dwellings (apartments), except as prohibited in Section 336-4.

336-4. Uses Not Permitted.

Rewrite as follows.

- (a) Type NM or NMC. Types NM and NMC cables shall not be used;
- (1) in any dwelling or structure exceeding three floors above grade (2) as service entrance cable (3) as sub-feed from the main distribution panel to sub panels in apartment buildings (4) in any building or structure used for commercial or public purpose (5) any place of assembly (6) in storage battery rooms (7) in hoistways (8) in any building or structure being remodeled for a change of occupancy as defined in the Building Code (9) where exposed to corrosive fumes or vapors (10) where embedded in masonry, concrete, adobe, fill, or plaster and (11) in a shallow chase in masonry, concrete, or adobe and covered with plaster, adobe, or similar finish.

B. Installations

336-15. Supports.

Add the following provision.

Staples may not be used with non-metallic cable wiring.

ARTICLE 346 - RIGID METAL CONDUIT

A. Installation

346-14. Splices and Taps.

Add the following provision.

There shall be no splices or joints made in condulet conduit fittings.

348 - Electrical Metallic Tubing

- 348-1. Use. Add the following to the first paragraph:
- (5) All wiring in or under a concrete slab or permanent paving shall be rigid steel conduit and/or rigid, heavy wall PVC conduit as approved by a recognized testing laboratory. Electrical metallic tubing shall be used only in above ground wiring.

ARTICLE 370 - OUTLET, DEVICE, PULL AND JUNCTION BOXES, CONDUIT BODIES AND FITTINGS

A. Scope and General

370-3. Nonmetallic Boxes.

Add the following to the end of the first paragraph.

Non-metallic outlet boxes for use with non-metallic cable must have cable clamps.

B. Installation

370-19. Conduit Bodies, Junction, Pull and Outlet Boxes to be Accessible.

Add the following to the end of the first paragraph.

There shall be no splices or joints made in condulet conduit fittings.

ARTICLE 384 - SWITCHBOARDS AND PANELBOARDS

B. Panelboards

- 384-16. Overcurrent Protection.
 - (f) Back-Fed Devices.

Add the following provision.

No buss bars will be back-fed through circuit breakers.

ARTICLE 410 - LIGHTING FIXTURES, LAMPHOLDERS, LAMPS AND RECEPTACLES

B. Fixture Locations

- 410-4. Fixtures in Specific Locations.
 - (d) Pendants.

Add the following provision.

Pull chain switches shall not be installed over sinks or lavatories regardless of the wiring method used.

ARTICLE 680 - SWIMMING POOLS, FOUNTAINS, AND SIMILAR INSTALLATIONS

A. General

680-10. Underground Wiring Location.

Add the following provision.

Wiring in or around swimming pools shall not exceed a voltage higher than twelve volts.