



# Safety Codes Council

## MINUTES OF THE FOURTH ELECTRICAL SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2022

**DATE:** October 3, 2022

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m. to 12:46 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Safety Codes Council Office

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Gerry Wiles, Chair  
Scott Basinger, Vice Chair North  
Patrick Conway  
Bert DeBruin (videoconference)  
Hussein Desouki  
Gerry Doan  
Tim Driscoll  
Glenn Hedderick  
Ken Hood (videoconference)  
Nicolas Leblanc  
Lori Martens  
Barry Voogd (videoconference)  
Ed Knaggs (videoconference)

**Safety Codes Council**  
Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach

**Alberta Municipal Affairs**  
Bob Hall, Kevin Glubrecht, Jon Elliott (videoconference)

**REGRETS:** Adam Ghani, Ken Forbes, Brad Dougherty

**GUESTS:** Jason Drenth, EUSC Liaison

**RECORDER:** Allison Karch

**2022 MEETINGS:** December 5 (virtual)

## **1. Meeting Opening**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and a round table introduction was held. Members were reminded that their primary duty is to act in the interest of safety in the built environment for the benefit of all Albertans and real or perceived conflicts of interest must be avoided.

### **1.1 Agenda Adoption**

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 4.2.5. Single Family Dwelling Definition Working Group Report
- 2.1.4. Reappointment of Nicolas Leblanc
- The year at the top of the agenda is incorrect and should read 2022.

**Tim Driscoll / Glenn Hedderick moved that the agenda be adopted, as amended; CARRIED**

### **1.2 Adoption of the June 6, 2022 Minutes**

**Gerry Doan / Patrick Conway moved to adopt the minutes of the June 6, 2022 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

## **2. Matters for Decision**

### **2.1. Closed Session**

**Scott Basinger / Nicolas Leblanc moved to enter into closed session; CARRIED**

**Gerry Doan / Scott Basinger moved to exit closed session; CARRIED**

#### **2.1.1. Matrix Review**

**Scott Basinger / Patrick Conway move that the Electrical Sub-Council has reviewed its matrix and finds it appropriate with no changes; CARRIED**

#### **2.1.2. Skills Matrix Review**

The nominating organizations for the Labour industry segment will be corrected.

[Council Administration]

The members representing the Solar industry segment and Accredited Corporations industry segment will submit their skills/experience points and a complete document will be brought to the next meeting.

[Knaggs, Doan]

#### **2.1.3. Reappointment of Gerry Doan to represent Accredited Corporations**

**Hussein Desouki / Glenn Hedderick moved to recommend to the Board reappointment of Gerry Doan to the Electrical Sub-Council to represent the Accredited Corporations industry segment for a term ending January 31, 2026, effective February 1, 2023; CARRIED**

### 2.1.3. Reappointment of Nicolas Leblanc to represent Oil & Gas Processing

Gerry Doan / Hussein Desouki moved to recommend to the Board reappointment of Nicolas Leblanc to the Electrical Sub-Council to represent the Oil & Gas Processing industry segment for a term ending January 31, 2026, effective February 1, 2023;  
**CARRIED**

### 3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	CE Code-072 Concrete Encasements	Consider drafting a Proposed Change to CE Code Part 1 <b>UPDATE:</b> Scott is working on a proposed change for the next code cycle (2024). This will be brought to the sub-council at a future meeting.	Feb. 6/17	Basinger	Submittal completed. Item will be kept open for updates on the proposal from CSA.
2.	Mast Couplers	A letter to the manufacturer will be drafted to request the rationale for this note in the product guide, and will be copied to the Standards Council of Canada so they are aware of this inconsistency.	Feb. 7/22	Ghani, Basinger, Wiles, Forbes	Members met with the major manufacturer and reported that they have an instructional diagram and guidance from the AJH's requirements but no installation instructions. Some end users will buy a kit but use rigid steel conduit rather than the mast. The entire system is certified and all the components in the kit must be used to be acceptable under the certification. The current CE Code requires either a certified kit or 2.5 inch rigid steel conduit, but there's no evaluation on using the rigid steel with the other kit components. There is also a variance STANDATA allowing smaller rigid conduit. Anecdotally, there are fall-downs of masts. Further info will be brought by the WG chair at a later meeting.
3.	BILD Alberta Letter	There was general agreement that there is a need for increased residential service capacity. Council staff will work with Barry Voogd, Scott Basinger, and Gerry Wiles to draft a response to BILD.	Feb. 7/22	Voogd, Basinger, Wiles, Council Administration	Gerry Wiles sits on an Alberta Utility Commission working group which will likely suggesting 200 amp services become industry standard. Closed; remove from action list.

## 4. Matters for Discussion

### 4.1. Conflict with Utility in flood areas

Some jurisdictions are noticing a conflict between the utility's guidelines and the CE Code regarding the height of meters and moving them above floodplains. This is especially an issue in commercial applications as there can be a great deal of electrical equipment below grade. Discussions have been held in the City of Edmonton and EPCOR is taking the issue back to its management/engineering department. It is likely a more significant issue in the City of Calgary as they have a significant flood plain in the city centre

CE Code Section 6 says service equipment must be above the floodplain, but in many cases it's not feasible for the utility to put the equipment that high up. There is also reference to the equipment location being acceptable to utility.

The acting Provincial Electrical Administrators will bring forward any further feedback.

### 4.2. Working Group Reports

#### 4.2.1. Low Voltage Lighting

There is nothing to report as the working group chair is not in attendance.

#### 4.2.2. Colour Coding

There is nothing to report as the working group chair is not in attendance.

It was noted there is a current STANDATA that reminds users that using yellow/orange/brown is not allowed by the CE Code and gives guidance on how to address existing installations that do use these colours.

#### 4.2.3. Non-Metallic Outer Jacket Cables

At last meeting, the working group was asked to review feedback from ESC and make changes to their proposal. Revisions will be brought to a future meeting.

#### 4.2.4. Energy Storage

A completed variance STANDATA proposal was viewed on screen and reviewed. Background information was provided on the issues that the draft STANDATA content intends to address:

- Traditional lead acid systems are being treated similarly to lithium ion systems and are being required to adhere to rules they never had to before.
- "Electrical equipment vault" was changed to "service room" as this is better defined in the CE Code and NBC(AE) to match the intent of a 1-hour fire rating and smoke detection in that room.
- Clear limitations would apply if installing an energy storage system within a dwelling.

Editorial changes were suggested to clarify smoke alarm requirements in addition to those required by the NBC(AE). The member representing Solar will make the changes and circulated a revised draft. [Knaggs]

This proposed variance is based on changes that are believed to be forthcoming in the 2024 edition of the CE Code. It was asked whether there is any information from CSA committees about how these proposed code changes are progressing through balloting. Tim will bring this information to the next meeting. [Driscoll]

#### **4.2.5. Single Family Dwelling Definition**

This working group has been revived based on interest from other sub-councils, notably BSC. The group is looking for alignment across all disciplines and will meet in the future to define the root issues in each discipline that are arising from the way the definition is currently written.

### **4.3. Liaison Reports**

#### **4.3.1. Building**

The last meeting was September 22, 2022, and nothing relating to the electrical discipline was discussed.

#### **4.3.2. Electrical Utilities**

The last meeting was at the end of June and nothing relating to the Electrical Sub-Council was brought forward. The next meeting is October 21, 2022.

### **4.4. Administrator/AMA Report**

The acting Administrator reported on the following:

- Clarence Cormier has resigned as the Provincial Electrical Administrator and accepted a position with Nova Scotia Power. The vacancy is expected to be filled permanently in the coming months. Kevin Glubrecht will be acting Administrator for the month of October.
- Recently published STANDATA:
  - 21-ECB-002 (REV1) – Section 2 : General rules
    - Information added regarding the use of replacement breakers in panelboards
  - 21-ECB-004 (REV1) – Section 4 : Conductors
    - Added information on how to deal with installations using orange/yellow/brown (OYB) conductors to differentiate between different voltages.
  - 21-ECB-010 (REV1) – Grounding and Bonding
    - Added information related to the bonding of fuel tanks and reference to the NFC(AE).
- STANDATA currently being updated:
  - 18-LEG-ECR-002 - Section 2 : electrical systems equipment
    - 3rd hyperlink added to Standards Council Website showing images of updated certification markings
  - Certification and Permit Regulation – Legislation
    - Update broken links, and change Alberta Queens Printer to Alberta Kings Printer
  - Permit Regulation – Legislation
    - Update references to Alberta Kings Printer
- The Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act has been repealed and replaced with the Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act. Regulations under this act have also

been adjusted. The member representing Education and Training reported there have been substantive changes to the act that are being adjusted to.

#### 4.5. Council Updates

A written report was included in the portal and updates were provided on the following:

- Members were reminded of the recent update to the Council's communications policy which now is applicable to members.
- The Council's AGM and volunteer appreciation event is being held in Edmonton on October 21, 2022.
  - Council staff will arrange hotel rooms—please include your hotel needs in the registration form if applicable.
- Member Training dates—two virtual half-day sessions for each course, you must attend both days to complete the course:
  - Appeals Training: November 15 & 16, 2022
  - Effective Meetings: October 31 & November 1, 2022
  - Contact [gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca](mailto:gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca) to register.
- Clarification was provided about the approach to in-person and virtual sub-council meetings.
  - The Council's overall approach is a hybrid of some meetings held in person and some held virtually.
  - All members are asked to make an effort to attend in-person meetings in person, but there will be the option to attend virtually if they're not able to attend because of illness, etc.
- Please notify Council staff as soon as possible of any contact info changes for yourself or your nominating organization.
- The Council has a [career opportunity for an Electrical Safety Code Auditor](#). Please feel free to forward to your contacts.

### 5. Meeting Finalization

#### 5.1. Round Table

- Contractors are seeing solar panels that don't appear to be CSA approved. The member representing Solar will assist other members with this.
- A recent fatality, believed to be due to electrical shock, in a hot tub in Canmore was brought up. It was clarified that ASCA was not involved in the fatality investigation but did send an Electrical SCO to ensure that the site was safe. It's unknown what further action may result because the investigation is not yet complete.
- Changes to Standard 0, the product standard that applies to all Part 2 products, were published in April. There is now the option for any manufacturer to test any product and mark it for above 75 degrees. There is also the option to use QR codes or websites for non-required information/markings. There will be an awareness component to these changes and the member representing Manufacturers will assist with this.
- Discussions continue at CSA technical committees regarding a proposal to Section 0 allowing ingress protection marking only, which is a significant issue for hazardous locations. Energy management systems and appliances with only ingress protection markings are being installed.

**5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for December 5, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference.

**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

**2.1.2. Skills Matrix Review**

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[Council Administration]

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**– MOTIONS –**

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**– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –**

<b>WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (Chair)</b>
Single Family Residential Dwellings (Joint with GSC and BSC)	ESC: Barry Voogd, Bert DeBruin GSC: Roy Herrington, Mark Guderjan, Larry Miller BSC:
Colour Coding of Conductors	<b><u>Adam Ghani</u></b> Bert DeBruin, Gerry Doan, Ken Hood
Non-metallic outer jacket cables re. gap in CE Code Rule 12-500	<b><u>Bert de Bruin</u></b> Ken Hood, Gerry Doan, Adam Ghani
Extra Low Voltage Lighting	<b><u>Adam Ghani</u></b> Ken Forbes, Ken Hood, Gerry Doan
Energy Storage	<b><u>Ed Knaggs</u></b> Gerry Doan, Nicolas Leblanc Municipal Affairs : Bob Hall