

ORDINANCE NUMBER O- 18244 (NEW SERIES)
ADOPTED ON JAN 08 1995

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER IX, ARTICLE 2,
OF THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING
DIVISION 1, SECTIONS 92.0102, 92.0103,
92.0105, 92.0106 AND 92.0107; DIVISION 2,
SECTION 92.0202; DIVISION 5, SECTION 92.0510;
AND DIVISION 6, SECTIONS 92.0607 AND 92.0629,
RELATING TO THE ELECTRICAL CODE

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1. That Chapter IX, Article 2, of the San Diego Municipal Code be and the same is hereby amended by amending Division 1, Sections 92.0102, 92.0103, 92.0105, 92.0106 and 92.0107, Division 2, Section 92.0202, Division 5, Section 92.0510, and Division 6, Sections 92.0607 and 92.0629, to read as follows:

SEC. 92.0102 Standards for Installations

The National Electrical Code, 1993 Edition, (1993 NEC) published by the National Fire Protection Association, as amended by the California Department of Housing and Community Development, and adopted by the State Buildings Standards Commission, is hereby adopted by reference and, except as modified by this Article, is the standard for electrical installations regulated by this Article. A copy of the 1993 NEC is on file in the office of the City Clerk as Document No. 769822.

SEC. 92.0103 Interpretation

The language used in this Article and in the 1993 NEC,

which is made a part of this Article by reference, is intended to convey the common and accepted meaning familiar to the electrical industry. The Building Official is hereby authorized to determine the intent and meaning of any provision of this Article. The Building Official may utilize other codes, guides, or standards in making such determinations. These may include the National Fire and Life Safety Codes, published by NFPA; Standards for Safety, published by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL); American National Standards, published by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI); Manufacturing Standards, published by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA); General Order 95 and 128, published by the California Public Utilities Commission; the Electrical Service Guide, published by San Diego Gas and Electric Company; the San Diego Area Electrical Newsletters, published by the San Diego Chapter of the International Conference of Building Officials; and other references which the Building Official may deem appropriate. Such determination shall be made in writing and a record kept which shall be open to the public.

SEC. 92.0105 Board of Appeals and Advisors

When a question involving the interpretation of the intent and purpose of any provisions of this Article or the suitability of alternate materials and types of construction is presented to the Building Official, the Building Official may request the Board of Appeals and Advisors to investigate such matters under the procedure established in Chapter IX,

Article 1 of this Code.

SEC. 92.0106 Enforcement Authority and Duties

(a) The Building Official and the Director of the Neighborhood Code Compliance Department are authorized to administer and enforce the provisions of this Article by using the powers set forth in Chapter I and Chapter IX, Article 1 of the Municipal Code.

(b) through (e) [No changes to these subsections]

SEC. 92.0107 Enforcement Remedies

(a) Violations of this Article may be prosecuted as misdemeanors subject to the penalties and custody provided in Chapter I of the Municipal Code. The director of the Neighborhood Code Compliance Department or the Building Official may also seek injunctive relief and civil penalties in the Superior Court pursuant to Chapter I of the Municipal Code or may also pursue any administrative remedy provided in Chapter I of the Municipal Code.

(b) Violations of this Article shall be treated as strict liability offenses regardless of intent.

SEC. 92.0202 Permits - Exemptions

(a) No permit shall be required for minor work such as replacing fuses, replacing or repairing switches, circuit breakers, lampholders, ballasts or receptacles where the replacement is the same size and general type as the original equipment and the work is done in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

(b) No permit shall be required for the replacement of lamps or the connection of portable appliances to suitable

receptacles which have been permanently installed.

(c) No permit shall be required for the installation, alteration, or repair of wiring, devices, appliances or equipment operating at a voltage not exceeding 25 volts between conductors and not capable of supplying more than 50 watts of energy.

(d) No permit shall be required for installation made by a public service corporation acting as permitted in Section 90-2 of the 1993 NEC.

(e) No permit shall be required for the installation of remote-control switching devices on privately-owned appliances when such devices are installed by the San Diego Gas and Electric Company or their authorized agents as part of the "Peak-Shift" energy conservation program provided that the specifications for such installations are approved in writing by the City of San Diego Development Services Department.

SEC. 92.0510 Use of Nonmetallic Cables

(a) Nonmetallic cables are approved only for dwelling and residential accessory occupancies not exceeding three floors in height. Dwelling occupancies include hotels, motels, apartment houses, convents, monasteries, lodging houses and one and two family houses. Residential accessory occupancies will neither exceed a total of 1,000 square feet nor exceed 700 square feet of concentrated use assembly areas such as auditoriums, chapels, meeting rooms, exercise rooms and dance floors. In mixed occupancies (commercial/dwelling) where there is a required firewall

separation, the appropriate wiring method may be used on each side of the firewall. Where there is no required firewall, the most restrictive wiring method shall be used throughout the entire building.

(b) This limitation does not apply to nonmetallic cables installed in accordance with Articles 725, 760 and 800 of the 1993 NEC.

SEC. 92.0607 Services

The provisions of Article 230 of the 1993 NEC are adopted, except as modified as follows:

(a) The provisions of Section 230-43, subsections (1) "Open Wiring on Insulators" and (5) "Service-entrance Cables" are deleted.

(b) The provisions of Sections 230-50, 230-51 and 230-52 relating to protection and mounting of open wiring on insulators and service-entrance conductors are deleted.

(c) The provisions of Section 230-70(a) "Location of Service Disconnects," are modified to read as follows:

A means to disconnect service shall be installed in a readily accessible location either outside or inside of the building served.

Any service disconnect installed outside must be on, or immediately adjacent to, the building served.

Any service disconnect installed inside must be at, or immediately adjacent to, the point where the service conductors enter the building.

Except by special permission, the length of service conductors inside the building may not exceed

10 feet.

SEC. 92.0629 Switchboards and Panelboards

The provisions of Article 384 of the 1993 NEC are adopted in their entirety, except the provisions of Section 384-3, which shall read as follows:

(a) Section 384-3(f) "Phase Arrangement." The phase arrangement on three phase buses shall be A, B, C, from front to back, top to bottom, or left to right, as viewed from the front of the switchboard or panelboard. The C phase shall be that phase having the higher voltage to ground on three-phase (3-phase), four-wire (4-wire) delta connected systems. Other busbar arrangements may be permitted for additions to existing installations.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force the thirtieth day from and after its passage.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By Prescilla Dugard
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Deputy City Attorney

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Or.Dept.Dev.Svcs.
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