

TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Line Extension Policy Summary

Effective February 11, 2011

The following is a summary of the requirements and costs associated with line extensions to new services. The Cooperative may have additional requirements.

I. Pre-Design

Applicant required to:

- a) Complete application and agreement for electric service
- b) Pay in advance a non-refundable application fee of \$100.00
- c) Complete and sign a membership agreement

After applicant meets the above requirements, a meeting at the site will be scheduled with the Applicant and Cooperative personnel.

II. Pre-Construction

Applicant required to:

- a) Sign right-of-way agreement and provide legal property description
- b) Pay all fees and charges
- c) Provide a building/zoning permit and proof of property ownership
- d) Provide wiring affidavit
- e) Prepare site as follows:
 1. Clear right-of-way in accordance with Cooperative's specifications
 2. Have grade within six inches of final grade

If a return design trip is required, there will be a re-design charge of \$100.00. Upon release by the Design Technician, the project will be scheduled.

III. General Construction Requirements

Cooperative has exclusive right to determine route and method of construction. Cooperative will determine whether underground installation is possible after freeze-up. Electric service lines and equipment installed by the Cooperative remain the property of the Cooperative.

Applicant required to:

- a) Obtain easements or permits from other property owners, if required
- b) Pay additional fees for underground installation after freeze-up
- c) Pay additional costs if applicant requests and the cooperative approves an alternate method or route of construction
- d) Pay relocation costs if applicant requests relocation of existing facilities
- e) Sign security light agreement, if applicable
- f) Reapply if the project does not proceed within 12 months

The Cooperative will not be liable for damage to the applicant's crops, trees, shrubs, fences, sidewalks, driveways, or other obstructions incident to the installation, maintenance, or repair of its facilities if such damage was not caused by its own negligence. The monthly basic charge begins at the time the service transformer is energized or two months after the start of construction.

IV. Construction Requirements for Service Extensions

▶ **Temporary Construction – New Line Extension / Service**

A temporary line extension shall meet electric code requirements and be acceptable to the Cooperative for location and installation.

Applicant required to:

- a) Pay actual construction costs and actual retirement costs less salvage material, plus electric usage and other associated costs

▶ **Temporary Service / Metering**

Temporary metered service may be constructed and installed at the request of the applicant or contractor.

Applicant required to:

- a) Prepay a \$100.00 fee for a temporary meter connection that meets the electrical code and TEC requirements (installation next to transformer)
- b) If a third trip is required to complete the permanent connection, an additional \$100.00 trip charge shall apply.

Temporary service will be terminated after 12 months unless an extension is granted by the Cooperative.

▶ **Permanent Construction – Service Extensions**

The Cooperative will extend electric service based on the total footage cost under the following conditions and charges:

- 1) Single Phase The following charges apply for extending service (tap off point to meter)

- a) Both overhead and underground service extension costs will be based on the estimated cost to extend service. The applicant will then contribute 40% of the calculated estimate. Underground extensions under 500 ft. will be billed with a mobilization fee of \$500 in addition to the applicant's 40% estimate. If the service extension only requires secondary service wire, there will be no cost to the member.

- 2) Multi-Phase

- a) Overhead service will be extended up to 400 feet at a cost of \$500 to the applicant. The Design Technician shall calculate the estimated cost of extensions in excess of 400 feet. The applicant will then contribute 40% of the calculated estimate.

- b) Underground service extensions cost will be based on the estimated cost to extend the service. The applicant will then contribute 40% of the calculated estimate.

- 3) Additional Construction Costs The applicant will be required to pay for additional construction costs incurred as a result of obstacles, weather conditions, or extraordinary situations.

- 4) 12-Month Requirement If the permanent structure is not in place 12 months after the line extension, the applicant may be required to pay an indeterminate extension charge. Tri-County Electric Cooperative reserves the right to review all line extensions annually. If the applicant has not met the requirements, TEC shall bill or credit the necessary adjustments.

- 5) Pole Installation At the same time its construction crew is onsite for either overhead or underground installation, TEC will install a pole (whether TEC owned or member owned) for \$400 for a 35-5 pole; additional charges will apply for a taller pole. If the pole is member-owned, only member-owned equipment can be installed on it.
- 6) Distributed Generation All charges associated to distributed generation projects will be charged to the member.

► **Secondary Service Requirements**

1) Single Phase Underground

Tri-County Provides:

- a) Single phase underground secondary cable and conduit up to 125 feet to the metering point

Applicant required to:

- a) Provide a trench 30 to 36 inches in depth for the secondary wire in accordance with Cooperative specifications
- b) Provide secondary service cable and conduit if the service capacity exceeds 400 amp

2) Multi-Phase Underground

Tri-County Provides:

- a) Multi-phase underground secondary cable and conduit up to 125 feet to the metering point

Applicant required to:

- a) Provide a trench 30 to 36 inches in depth for the wire in accordance with Cooperative specifications
- b) Provide secondary service cable and conduit if the service capacity exceeds 400 amp

3) Single Phase Overhead

Tri-County Provides:

- a) Single phase overhead secondary wire up to 100 feet to the point of attachment

Applicant required to:

- a) Provide secondary service wire and attachment if the service capacity exceeds 400 amp

4) Multi-Phase Overhead

Tri-County Provides:

- a) Multi-phase overhead secondary wire up to 100 feet to the point of attachment

Applicant required to:

- a) Provide secondary service wire if the service capacity exceeds 400 amp; the Cooperative will provide the attachment to the TEC pole.

- 5) Air Conditioning & Heat Pumps All air conditioning and heat pump units shall have a maximum locked rotor amp of 111 amps per unit. This will limit the voltage flicker to less than 3%, which is acceptable to RUS (REA).

Applicant requirements:

On all new construction, the applicant must provide TEC with a copy of the nameplate information to show the locked rotor amps (LRA).

If there's a voltage flicker on an electrical service and TEC has not received any nameplate information (LRA), TEC will determine the cause of the voltage flicker by testing. If the cause is the member's air conditioning or heat pump unit, TEC will bill the member for the cost of the testing and for any associated change to TEC's electrical distribution system.

► **Platted Subdivisions, Industrial Parks and Manufactured Home Parks**

Applicant required to pay:

- a) Line extension charge to the subdivision boundary
- b) secondary wire footage may vary (up to 300 feet permitted) depending on service location and number of members served off the transformer
- c) \$500 deposit per lot
(One-half of deposit returned if development is 75% occupied within 5 years)
- d) Additional charges for street lighting, water trusts, etc.

V. Additional Loads on Line Extension

If an additional permanent load is added within a 3-year period beginning from the original service extension, a portion of the line extension charge will be refunded to the original owners (as long as they continue to reside at that location). The following refund shall then be made to the original owners:

- a) Load Added – One-third of original primary extension charge

VI. Taxes

Taxes may be applicable to some fees and will be applied as required.

**Revised: January 13, 2006
July 14, 2006
January 11, 2007
February 15, 2008
January 20, 2009
January 26, 2010
February 17, 2011**