

SAFETY STANDARDS GENERAL REGULATION ELECTRICAL WORK IN EMERGENCIES

This Directive is being issued by a provincial safety manager pursuant to section 30 of the Safety Standards Act.

Date of Issue: November 19, 2018

Directive No: D-EL- 2018-01

Scope

This directive provides guidance on the interpretation and application of the *Safety Standards General Regulation* with respect to electrical work performed in an emergency or when permit issuing offices are closed.

**SAFETY STANDARDS GENERAL REGULATION, S. 12 PERMIT REQUIRED UNLESS EXEMPTED
OR IN AN EMERGENCY**

- **Section 12(2):**

In an emergency or if required to perform regulated work when the permit issuing office is closed, a person is not required to obtain a permit before performing regulated work if the person

- (a) is authorized under the Act to perform the regulated work, and
- (b) applies for a permit from the regulatory authority on the first business day following the emergency or the next day that the permit issuing office is open.

Interpretation:

Section 12(2)(a) applies to electrical work, under emergencies. For the purpose of this Section, a person is deemed to be in compliance with this regulation when the work is performed:

1. In order to prevent or reduce an imminent or immediate risk of injury or damage;
2. Following an incident, as defined in the Act, and the work is only performed to restore power and lighting to facilitate safety during demolition or restoration activities;
3. To restore fire alarm or life safety systems; or
4. As required by law.

A homeowner, as defined in the *Electrical Safety Regulation (ESR)*, may only perform work in accordance with ESR, s. 4(1)(d) and the provisions of *Safety Standards General Regulation*, s. 12(2) do not apply to a homeowner.

BC Safety Authority is now Technical Safety BC.

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For the purposes of Section 12(2)(b):

“the first business day following the emergency or the next day that the permit issuing office is open” is interpreted as meaning: during business hours of the permit issuing office, and by the end of the next business day during which a permit issuing office is open.

Provincial Safety Manager - Electrical

References:

Bill 19 – 2003	Safety Standards Act
B.C. Reg. 105/2004	Safety Standards General Regulation
B.C. Reg. 100/2004	Electrical Safety Regulation

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