

Section 3: Overhead Service Installation

BASIC & LARGE BASIC SERVICE

- All entrance wiring must be completed before NHEC extends service drop conductors to the building.
- Only one service of the same characteristics will be run to a single building except as otherwise permitted by the NEC, or local authority having jurisdiction.
- The point of attachment of a service to a Member's building shall not be less than 12 feet, and no more than 20 feet above permanent ground level. The ground shall be reasonably level to permit the use of a ladder by NHEC employees to attach the service. Service attachments shall be so installed as to permit the service connections to be directly reached from a ladder placed securely on the ground, and as to permit the maintenance of the following minimum clearances as per the National Electrical Code. Refer to Specification SP-3, located in the back of the book
 - Point of attachment must be located 3 ½ feet from a window.
 - Twelve feet above finished grade, sidewalks, residential driveways, and commercial areas not subject to truck traffic.
 - Sixteen feet above roads, streets, alleys, residential driveways, cultivated fields, and areas subject to truck traffic.
 - State Highway requires 18 feet clearance.
- The maximum length of service drop which NHEC will install is determined by the characteristics of the load to be served and the terrain over which the service drop passes. If necessary to maintain minimum clearances, additional pole(s) will be installed by NHEC on the Members property.
- Where a building is too low to provide minimum clearance, the Member shall install a service mast of suitable height and strength, guyed if deemed necessary. When such a service mast is installed, the Member shall assume full responsibility for the installation, including roof leaks and shall have adequate strength to support the required service drop. Per NEC requirements, only power service drop conductors may be attached to such mast. Refer to Specification SE-4, located in the back of the book.
- When **temporary service** is required, the installation shall be in accordance with Construction Standard TS 1, located in the back of the book (alternative supporting structures may be used as approved by NHEC). The process and costs of obtaining temporary Overhead service varies, depending upon the location of existing facilities. After contacting NHEC and meeting a Line Design Technician in the field, the Member installs the temporary service equipment and structure, has it inspected (when required by the town), and calls NHEC. Service will be connected once the required documentation, prepayments, and permits have been completed. "Temporary" is installed to provide power during the construction phase of a project and is defined as less than one year by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. To continue service beyond one year, the service must be converted to a permanent service and meet all pertinent requirements of this handbook.

- For all overhead service entrances, NHEC will furnish and install the service drop to the point of attachment located on the building or other location, and connectors to connect the service drop to the Member's service entrance conductors. The Member shall furnish and install all necessary service entrance equipment beyond the service drop attachment.
- Where it is considered necessary by NHEC for the proper installation of large capacity overhead services conductors, the Member shall supply a suitable attachment in the building's exterior wall to support the service drop(s).
- For services to semi-permanent mobile homes, the Member shall install the meter socket with integral main breaker on a suitable service entrance structure separated from the mobile home. Refer to Construction Standards SE 2, SE 3 and USE4 located in the back of the book.