



A NiSource Company

NIPSCO GUIDELINES FOR NEW SERVICE INSTALLATIONS

We would like to make you aware of information that will make your experience with NIPSCO more efficient.

-Call for service (1-800-4NIPSCO) when construction begins, an engineer will be assigned to your project. (If the home is not located within an existing subdivision, it is advised to call before beginning construction, to obtain an estimate for any extension of facilities that may be necessary to provide gas and /or electric service to the home)

- Many of our standards which are pertinent to new homes are available on our website www.nipSCO.com/ourservice/builders-and-developers. Important information which can be found in these standards includes:

Standard ER-13-230-B – Meter Location

Gas meters shall be located a minimum of 3-ft away from any electrical meter, window or A/C unit. (The customer will incur a relocation fee if a window or A/C unit is placed within the 3-ft of the meter after the riser is installed.) In addition the electric meter socket shall be located 5-ft above the permanent ground level. (Pedestal style meter sockets may be installed 3-5-ft above permanent ground level) Meters should be located in an area where the meter will not be damaged and will remain free of obstructions to permit access for meter reading and testing.

When possible meters, both gas and electric, should be located on the side of the house, preferably closest to the service stub. (Generally, the rear of the house becomes encumbered over time with decks, fences, etc. which hinder access to meters.)

Standard ER-19-270L – Service Entrance – Underground

Ground rods shall be installed a minimum of 24-inches away from meter box. Meter box, conduit and associated hardware must be properly sized for the service required at the site. (A meter box green tagged by the local electrical inspector will not be utilized if improperly sized for the requested service. For example, a meter box for underground service must be a minimum of 11-inches wide, and depending on wire size necessary, a larger meter box may be required.)

Standard ER-19-285 – Service General

The customer shall provide NIPSCO with load and demand characteristics of the requested service. This includes gas loads, considering natural gas generators, pool heaters, and instantaneous water heaters. (The meter and service will be sized for planned loads, and any upgrades required due to unplanned loads after installation may require a fee.)

Electric underground services – Conduit shall be used and provided by the customer under certain existing or planned conditions not limited to; paved areas, grade issues, or other areas where a free and clear path can not be provided. Any fittings required shall be long radius elbows. In addition, conduit should be provided for gas and electric service installations where there may be a change in grade at a later time. For example, a planned retaining wall or raised landscaping bed. (If the grade is changed and utilities are buried deeper or shallower than standard, a relocation fee will be charged to re-locate utilities to their proper depth.) If conduit is not utilized, the site must be within 6-inches of final grade before services can be installed.

When building a new home in a new subdivision there are several items you should be aware of as a new home builder.

- The route for utilities at the Site must be clear
- The easement and lot lines at the site must be staked
- The responsible party shall reimburse NIPSCO for all costs associated with the relocation of gas and/or electric facilities deemed necessary due to alterations to final grade after the company's facilities have been installed. (This includes buried transformers, primary pedestals, and secondary pedestals.)
- Final grade must be maintained, especially in right-of-ways and easements where mains and primary lines are present.
- Each lot is provided service stubs. These stubs should be protected from damage, and not buried during construction of the home.

It is the customers responsibility to make NIPSCO personnel aware of any buried utilities or other hazards that may be in the dig area, (i.e. water lines, sewer lines, septic tanks/fields, sprinkling systems, geo-thermal piping, yard lighting, etc.)

Be aware that any changes to meters, depth of service or equipment, etc that require relocation/upgrade after the initial installation will be billed to the customer at current company rates

These are general guidelines for new service installations (gas/electric) to make your experience with NIPSCO more efficient. NIPSCO engineering standards are available on our website at www.nipsco.com/ourservice/builders-and-developers. If you have any specific questions regarding your project, please contact the builder and developer line at 1-866-728-4533.

Thank you