

## Chapter ILHR 16

## WISCONSIN STATE ELECTRICAL CODE, VOLUME 2

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Note: Chapters Ind 16 and the Electrical Code, Volume 2 as they existed on October 31, 1981, were repealed and a new chapter ILHR 16 was created effective November 1, 1981.

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## ILHR 16

**ILHR 16.001 Purpose.** (1) **PRACTICAL SAFEGUARDING.** Pursuant to ss. 101.02, 101.63 (1), 101.73 (2) and 167.16, Stats., the purpose of this code is the practical safeguarding of persons and property from hazards arising from the installation and use of electricity.

Note: Hazards often occur because of overloading of wiring systems by methods or usage not in conformity with the code. This occurs because initial wiring did not provide for increases in use of the electricity. An initial adequate installation and reasonable provision for system changes will provide for future increases in the use of electricity.

(2) **CODE INTENTION.** This code is not intended as a design specification nor an instruction manual.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.

**ILHR 16.002 Scope.** (1) **COVERED.** This code covers:

(a) Installations of electric and communication conductors and equipment in places of employment, within or on public and private buildings or other structures, including mobile homes, recreational vehicles, and floating dwelling units; and other premises such as yards, carnival, parking and other lots, mines, trenches and tunnels, and industrial substations.

(b) Installations of conductors that connect to the supply of electricity.

(c) Installations of other outside conductors on the premises.

(2) **NOT COVERED.** This code does not cover:

(a) Installations in ships, watercraft other than floating dwelling units, railway rolling stock, aircraft, or automotive vehicles other than mobile homes and recreational vehicles.

(b) Installations of railways for generation, transformation or distribution of power used exclusively for signaling and communication purposes.

(c) Installations of communication equipment under exclusive control of communication utilities, located outdoors or in building spaces used exclusively for such installations.

(d) Installations under the exclusive control of electric utilities for the purpose of communication or metering; or for the generation, control, transformation, transmission and distribution of electric energy located in buildings used exclusively by utilities for such purposes or located outdoors on property owned or leased by the utility or on public highways, streets, roads or similar public thoroughfares, or outdoors by established rights on private property.

Note: It is the intent of this section that this code covers all premises' wiring or wiring other than utility owned metering equipment, on the load side of the service point of buildings, structures, or any other premises not owned or leased by the utility. Also, it is the intent that this code cover installations in buildings used by the utility for purposes other than listed in this subsection, such as office buildings, warehouses, garages, machine shops, and recreational buildings which are not in an integral part of a generating plant, substation, or control center.

(e) Installations under the exclusive control of electric utilities or municipal electric departments for the purpose of street or area lighting.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.

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APPLICATION, ENFORCEMENT AND PETITION FOR  
VARIANCE

**ILHR 16.01 Application of rules. (1) TYPES OF INSTALLATIONS.** The provisions of this code shall apply to all new installations, reconstructions, alterations and extensions.

(2) **TESTING.** Rooms, which are used exclusively for routine or special electrical test work and are under the supervision of a qualified person, shall comply with the code insofar as is practicable for the character of the testing done.

(3) **EXISTING INSTALLATIONS.** Existing installations may be required to be brought into compliance with these rules by the department and within the time determined by the department.

**ILHR 16.02 Enforcement. (1) DEPARTMENT ENFORCEMENT.** The department shall have the responsibility for interpreting the rules, for deciding upon the approval of equipment and materials, and for granting special permission specified in the rules.

(2) **JOINT ENFORCEMENT.** The Wisconsin State Electrical Code is issued and administered by the department and the public service commission as part of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. The department has the responsibility for issuance and administration of Vol. 2, and the public service commission has the responsibility for issuance and administration of Vol. 1.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.

**ILHR 16.03 Petition for variance.** The department shall consider and may grant a variance to an administrative rule upon receipt of a fee and a completed petition for variance form from the owner, provided an equivalent degree of safety is established in the petition for variance which meets the intent of the rule being petitioned. The department may impose specific conditions in a petition for variance to promote the protection of the health, safety or welfare of the employes or the public. Violation of those conditions under which the petition is granted constitutes a violation of these rules.

Note: Copies of the petition for variance (form SB-8) are available from the Division of Safety and Buildings, P.O. Box 7969, Madison, Wisconsin 53707.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81; am. Register, September, 1984, No. 345, eff. 10-1-84.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**ILHR 16.04 Construction and operation. (1) GENERAL.** All electrical power and communication equipment and lines shall be constructed, installed, operated and maintained so as to minimize the life and fire hazard. All electrical installations shall conform to the NEC-1981, incorporated by reference in this code, and the requirements specified in this code.

(2) **INSTALLATIONS OVER 600 VOLTS.** Installations over 600 volts shall, in addition to the requirements of this code, comply with the Wis. Adm. Code, Electrical, Volume 1.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.

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**ILHR 16.05 Inspection and maintenance.** All construction and equipment shall be cleaned and inspected at intervals as experience has shown to be necessary. Any equipment or construction known to be defective so as to endanger life or property shall be promptly repaired, permanently disconnected, or isolated until repairs can be made. Construction, repairs, additions and changes to electrical equipment and conductors should be made by qualified persons only. (See Wis. Adm. Code, Electrical, Volume 1)

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.

**ILHR 16.06 Use of approved materials and construction methods.** (1) **MATERIALS.** Materials which do not comply with the requirements of this code shall not be used unless approved by the department. It is the policy of the administrative authority to approve materials, devices and systems which are listed as standard by the Underwriters' Laboratories or other nationally recognized testing laboratories if they do not conflict with the requirements of this or other state codes or the laws of the state.

(2) **METHODS OF INSTALLATION.** Methods of installation, which do not comply with the regulations of this code shall not be used unless approved by the department.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.

## ADOPTION OF STANDARDS

**ILHR 16.07 Adoption of standards by reference.** (1) **CONSENT TO INCORPORATE.** Pursuant to s. 227.05, Stats., the attorney general and the revisor of statutes have consented to the incorporation by reference of the National Electrical Code-1981 (NEC-1981), subject to those changes, additions, or omissions specified in s. ILHR 16.08.

(2) **INTERIM AMENDMENTS.** Interim amendments of the National Electrical Code will have no effect in the state, until such time as this section is correspondingly revised to reflect these changes.

(3) **AVAILABILITY OF STANDARDS.** Copies of the National Electrical Code-1981 can be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA, 02269.

**Note:** The public service commission has similarly adopted the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) with certain deletions, changes and additions which are found in ch. PSC 114, Wis. State Electrical Code. Copies of the Public Service Commission Code may be ordered from the Wis. Department of Administration, Document Sales and Distribution, 202 S. Thornton Ave., Madison, WI 53702. Copies of the NESC may be purchased from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017.

(4) **FILING OF CODES.** Copies of the standards in reference are on file in the offices of the department, the secretary of state and the revisor of statutes.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1981, No. 310, eff. 11-1-81.