

**Section 1, Introduction to the National Electrical Safety Code**  
**Section 2, Definitions of Special Terms**  
**Section 3, References, and Appendix E, Bibliography**

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## 010. Purpose

- A. The purpose of the NESC is the practical safeguarding of persons, and utility facilities, ~~and affected property~~ during the installation, operation, and maintenance of electric supply and communication facilities, under specified conditions.

The present Note was combined with Rule 010C and added to Rule 010A as a Note.

Rule 010C contained no requirements



## 010. Purpose

B. NESC rules contain the basic provisions, under specified conditions, that are considered necessary for the safeguarding of:

1. The public,
2. Utility workers (employees and contractors) and,
3. Utility facilities,
4. ~~Electric supply and communication equipment connected to utility facilities, and~~
5. ~~Other facilities or premises adjacent to or containing utility facilities.~~



# 011. Scope

## C. Types of requirements

2. Utilities operating under the NESC are required to maintain control over the system up to the service point ~~to assure~~ such that:

- a. The system is ~~engineered~~ designed to meet the requirements of ~~expected~~ specified conditions, and
- b. The personnel installing, maintaining, and operating the system and its components are qualified to do so, are adequately supervised, ~~follow accepted engineering practices,~~ and use appropriate tools, and follow safe work procedures.



## 012 General Rules

- C. For all particulars not specified, but within the scope of these rules, as stated in Rule 011A, in these rules, construction and maintenance should be done in accordance with accepted good practice for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible for the construction or maintenance of the communication or supply lines and equipment.



## 013. Application

### B. Existing installations

3. Where conductors or equipment are added, altered, or replaced on an existing structure, the structure or the facilities on the structure need not be modified or replaced if the resulting installation will be in compliance with either (a) the rules that were in effect at the time of the original installation, or (b) the rules in effect in a subsequent edition to which the installation has been previously brought into compliance, or (c) the rules of this edition in accordance with Rule 13B1.



# 013. Application

## B. Existing installations

The following sentence was added to Rule 013B3 in the 2017 NESC.

When an existing installation is brought into compliance with a subsequent edition,  
earlier editions no longer apply.



# 013. Application

## B. Existing installations (NEW RULE)

4. For structures that currently do not comply with Rule 013B3, if adding a new item, or replacing or rearranging existing items would not in itself, either (1) create a structural, clearance, or grounding non-conformance, or (2) worsen an existing non-conformance, then the addition, replacement, or alteration may be performed prior to correcting existing non-compliance items.

For existing non-compliance items, see Rules 214A4 and A5.

(See IR 548)





## Section 2. Definitions of special terms

Definitions for supply space and communication space and a drawing depicting where these spaces are usually located on overhead line structures were added to this section. Also added to this section are definitions for communication equipment, wind spans and weight spans and drawings detailing the spans.

Definitions for “electric supply equipment” and “insulator” were modified for clarity.



## Section 2. Definitions of special terms

Definitions for sag, initial sag and final sag were revised and all of the other variations of sag (apparent sag, apparent sag at the midpoint of a span, etc. were deleted since they are no longer used in the Code.

Definitions rural districts, urban districts, and fireproofing were also deleted since they are no longer used in the code.

## Section 3. References and Appendix E Bibliography



Both Section 3 and Appendix E were updated.