The National Electrical Safety Code® (NESC®)

RULE 011, SCOPE
The NESC covers:

1. Supply and communication facilities (including metering) and associated work practices employed by a public or private electric supply, communications, railway, trolley, street and area lighting, traffic signal (or other signal), irrigation district or other community owned utility, or a similar utility in the exercise of its function as a utility.

2. The generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity, luminers, communication signals, and communication data through public and private utility systems that are installed and maintained under the exclusive control of utilities or their authorized representatives.

3. Utility facilities and functions of utilities that either (a) generate energy by conversion from some other form of energy such as, but not limited to, fossil fuel, chemical, nuclear, solar, mechanical, wind or hydraulic or communication signals, or accept energy or communication signals from another entity, or (b) provide that energy or communication signals through a delivery point to another entity.

4. Street and area lights that provide a supply of lumens and luminaires that are not controlled exclusively by utilities and serves the exclusive control of qualified persons and authorized by a regulating or controlling body, including those associated with an industrial complex or utility interactive system.

NESC rules do not cover:

1. Utilization equipment or premises wiring located beyond utility service points to buildings or outdoor installations, or

2. Underground mine wiring or installations in ships, railway rolling equipment, aircraft, or automotive equipment, or

3. Luminaires not installed or maintained under exclusive control by utilities, or

4. Industrial complex or utility interactive systems that are not controlled exclusively under utilities or qualified persons or are located on the premises wiring side of the service point.

NOTE: The National Electrical Code® (NFPA®) (NFPA 70®, 2011 Edition) covers utilization wiring requirements beyond the service point and luminaries that are not controlled exclusively by utilities and serves as the appropriate reference standard.

Figure 011-1 – Service point – General illustration of what is covered and not covered by the NESC

Illustration
Utility Electric Supply and Premises Wiring

- Utility Electric Supply System
  - Line Side (covered by the NESC®)
  - Load Side (covered by the NEC)
  - Utility Premises Wiring
  - Service Conduitors
  - Service Equipment
  - Main Disconnect & Overcurrent Protective Device
  - Utilization Equipment

HOW THE NESC DIFFERS FROM THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC CODE® (NEC®)
The NEC® (also referred to as NFPA®-70®) is issued by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA®), and addresses proper installation and use of electrical systems and equipment in buildings and structures so as to help protect people and property from potential hazards. The main types of systems and equipment addressed include:

- Installations of electric conductors and equipment within or on public and private buildings or other structures, including mobile homes, recreational vehicles, floating buildings, and other premises such as yards, carnivals, parking lots, and industrial substations.

- Installations of conductors and equipment that connect to the supply of electricity.

- Installations of other outside conductors and equipment on the premises.

- Installations of optical fiber cable. Installations in buildings used by the electric utility, such as office buildings, warehouses, garages, machine shops, and recreational buildings that are part of an integral part of a generating plant, substation, or control center.

To learn more about the NESC and related products, visit www.standards.ieee.org/nesc

NOTE: Agreements to locate utility facilities on property may be required where easements are either

(a) not obtainable (such as locating utility facilities on existing rights-of-way of railroads or other entities, military bases, federal lands, Native American reservations, lands controlled by a port authority, or other governmental agency), or (b) not necessary (such as locating facilities necessary for requested service to a site).