



Interpretation

Section 1. Introduction to the National Electrical Safety Code®

Rule 014C

Waiver for emergency and temporary installations – Temporary installations

(2023 Edition, page 5)
(13 March 2023) IR598

Question: Does the revised language of Rule 014C in the 2023 edition of the NESC require temporary installations meet the construction grade requirements of permanent facilities?

Discussion: In the previous 2017 edition of the NESC, our understanding of Rule 014C was that temporary installations must meet the same requirements as non-temporary installations except construction grade, which was required to meet Grade N at a minimum, regardless of the grade of construction required for a permanent installation.

The 2023 edition of the NESC revised the language of this rule, which now reads as requiring temporary installations to meet the same requirements as non-temporary construction, including construction grade. Additionally, the construction grade for temporary structures must be Grade N or higher.

For example, if our understanding of the 2017 language is correct, then a temporary structure could be designed to meet Grade N strength requirements, even if a higher construction grade (Grade B or C) was mandated by Section 24. However, under the wording of the 2023 NESC, the temporary structure would be required to be designed to meet the construction grade specified by Section 24.

Is our understanding correct, or are we misreading one of the Code editions?

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Interpretation

The answer to your question is no. The revision of Rule 014C in the 2023 Edition (Rule 014B in the 2017 Edition) was intended for the rule to also be applicable to temporary underground installations without changing the application of NESC requirements for temporary overhead installations.

A temporary overhead installation is allowed to meet lesser strength requirements than a permanent installation if the person responsible for an installation chooses to waive the rules as stated in Rule 014A but shall not be less than Grade N, as stated in Rule 014C.