



**City of Austin
Planning & Development Review Department**

To: Electrical Customers
From: Jose Roig, C.B.O., Acting Division Manager/Deputy Building Official
Planning and Development Review Department
Date: January 28, 2015
File: Code Interpretation

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2015-0001

TITLE: Enforcement of the 2014 Electrical Code, Ordinance No. 20141211-199

CODE EDITION: 2014

SECTIONS: Entire Ordinance

PURPOSE: To provide an enforcement date for the 2014 Electric Code

QUESTION: What is the enforcement date for the 2014 City Electrical Code?

ANSWER: the above referenced ordinance was passed by City Council and Mayor on December 11, 2014, with an effective date of seven business days from the date of approval. Historically an ordinance effective date has been sixty to ninety days from the date of approval.

Adopted Code language, as follows, provides allowance for the authority having jurisdiction to administer and enforce.

§ 25-12-111 ELECTRICAL CODE.

(A) The National Electrical Code, 2014 edition, of the National Fire Protection Association (~~2011~~ 2014 Electrical Code) is adopted and incorporated into this Electrical Code, including Annex H, with deletions and amendments in Sections 25-12-113 (*Local Amendments to the Electrical Code - Administration*) and 25-12-114

(*Local Amendments to the Electrical Code - Technical*).

Section 80.2 Chief Electrical Inspector. (in part, definitions 2014 Electrical Code) An electrical inspector designated by the building official to administer the requirements of this Code;

Section 80.13 Authority. (in part, adopted from the National Electrical Code Annex H) Where used in this article, the term authority having jurisdiction shall include the chief electrical inspector or other individuals designated by the governing body. This Code shall be administered and enforced by the authority having jurisdiction designated by the governing authority as follows.

(1) The authority having jurisdiction shall be permitted to render interpretations of this Code in order to provide clarification to its requirements, as permitted by 90.4.

[Section 90.4 Enforcement, is adopted from the 2014 National Electrical Code]

Article 90.4 Enforcement. This *Code* is intended to be suitable for mandatory application by governmental bodies that exercise legal jurisdiction over electrical installations, including signaling and communications systems, communications systems, and for use by insurance inspectors. The authority having jurisdiction for enforcement of the *Code* has the responsibility for making interpretations of the rules, for deciding on the approval of equipment and materials, and for granting the special permission contemplated in a number of the rules.

By special permission, the authority having jurisdiction may waive specific requirements in this *Code* or permit alternative methods where it is assured that equivalent objectives can be achieved by establishing and maintaining effective safety.

This *Code* may require new products, constructions, or materials that may not yet be available at the time the *Code* is adopted. In such event, the authority having jurisdiction may permit the use of the products, constructions, or materials that comply with the most recent previous edition of this *Code* adopted by the jurisdiction.

This code interpretation constitutes special permission under section 90.4 and delays the date of enforcement for the 2014 Electrical Code, Ordinance No. 20141211-199, to April 1, 2015.



Jose G. Roig
Acting Division Manager Building Inspections/
Deputy Building Official
Planning & Development Review Department