



State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Electrical Board

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Minutes of 07/31/2024
College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls

Division Staff: Amy Lorenzo, Executive Officer
Steve Greene, Electrical Program Manager
Krissy Veseth, Administration Bureau Chief
Megan Taylor, Management Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Executive Officer Amy Lorenzo at 3:00 PM MT.

Negotiated Rulemaking 24.39.10

This is a public meeting to receive comments on IDAPA 24.39.10 Temporary Rules of the Idaho Electrical Board. Executive Officer (EO) Amy Lorenzo reviewed the negotiated rulemaking process with the attendees and stated that comments received during the scheduled public hearings, as well as submitted written comments, will be gathered and presented to the Idaho Electrical Board. EO Lorenzo added that the hearing is not limited to the Temporary Rules and that questions and comments about topics not included in the Temporary Rules can be brought forward as well.

Representative Lance Clow, Chairman of the House Business Committee, addressed the intentions of the legislators, highlighting that their attention has been focused on containing housing costs for the consumer and specifically are opposed to the 2023 NEC code requirements for the ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) and arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCI).

The following topics were discussed:

- **200.03 Supervision:** Erik Steer, College of Southern Idaho (CSI) Industry Manager, asked what the ratio of apprentice to supervisor is. EO Lorenzo confirmed that the ratio of one to six for residential electricians is set in statute through [House Bill 337](#).

Ryan Molsee, CSI Construction Industry Manager, asked if the residential electrician license is a two-year program. EO Lorenzo clarified that the Residential Electrician License education program has not been standardized. Post Secondary Institutions are required to first develop and coordinate their Residential Electrician License programs and then present the programs to the Idaho Electrical Board and to the Idaho Division of Career Technical Education (CTE) for approval.

EO Lorenzo shared that CTE is currently reviewing the standards for the Idaho four-year electrical education program to determine if any updates need to be made. Additionally, audience members

may have received an invitation to participate in the criticality survey. EO Lorenzo added that there have been preliminary discussions with secondary institutions about the residential electrician education program, but they have not developed anything yet. Mr. Molsee advised that it would be a disservice to electricians if two separate programs were created for residential and commercial electricians. Mr. Molsee elaborated that if the residential and journeyman education programs have separate pathways, a residential electrician who decides to become a journeyman, would have to start again from the beginning. Mr. Molsee suggested that having one singular pathway would be in the best interest of electricians. EO Lorenzo agreed and noted that the framework for the curriculum has not been created yet.

Raub Owens, Electrical Inspector for the City of Twin Falls, asked when the industry could expect to see residential electricians working in Idaho. EO Lorenzo explained that it is dependent on when the curriculum for the program is approved by CTE and the Idaho Electrical Board. EO Lorenzo added that Idaho has reciprocity with other states and that once the standards for the residential electrician have been approved, potential applicants from out of state would be evaluated.

Jared Fisher, Electrical Inspector for the City of Twin Falls, asked if “residential electrician” could be removed from the rules until the standards and education program have been approved. EO Lorenzo stated that the goal is to include “residential electrician” in the rules now as a placeholder as they develop the program and noted that residential electrician has been defined in [House Bill 337](#).

600 Idaho Electrical Code: Reviewing the temporary rules, EO Lorenzo explained that the National Electrical Code (NEC) 2023 edition was adopted and then the Idaho Electrical Code exceptions to the 2023 NEC are listed in the temporary rules. EO Lorenzo added that exemptions were added to the temporary rules in as many places as possible unless there was direct access to water. EO Lorenzo encouraged the attendees to review the 2023 NEC code and temporary rules after the public hearing, and if they identify any additional areas of concern, to please email them.

600.01(f-g): Article 210.8(B) Mr. Fisher asked for clarification on the temporary rule 600.01(f) that deleted 210.8(B)(3), (4) and (5). EO Lorenzo noted that deleting 210.8(B)(3) removed “sinks”, however “sinks” are addressed in 600.01(g). Mr. Fisher noted that 210.8(B)(3) and (4) also address food preparation and buffet serving areas, but those are not addressed in the temporary rules. Mr. Owens pointed out that “kitchens” are covered under 210.8(B)(2). Mr. Fisher noted that exposure to liquids is still a threat even without a sink. Mr. Owens added that beyond water exposure, there are multiple pieces of equipment used in food prep and buffet areas.

600.01(h): Article 210.8(H) Mr. Owens asked for clarification with regards to the measurement point. EO Lorenzo shared that she has received feedback that the language in this section is confusing and that it has been suggested that the language should be focused on the location of the vacuum and not the receptacle.

600.01(i): Article 210.8(D) It was noted that in the 2023 NEC code book, items (1) – (5) were moved from 2017 NEC Article 422.5. The items not exempted in 2017 but were exempted in the temporary rules are (4) Tire Inflation Machines and (5) Vending Machines.

600.01(m): Article 230.67 Mr. Fisher asked why surge protections were deleted but were not deleted on feeders (Article 215.18).

600.01(k): Article 210.12(B) Matt Lancaster of the Magic Valley Builders Association asked if EO Lorenzo had received the letter from Ken Burgess addressing the Builders Association new position to remove all AFCI requirements from one- and two-family residences. EO Lorenzo confirmed that the letter was received. Mr. Lancaster indicated that AFCI requirements could cost anywhere between \$4500 to \$6000 per home. Mr. Owens offered a counter argument that as an electrical inspector he usually finds between 1 – 3 AFCIs installed per home with a cost of approximately \$50 per AFCI. EO Lorenzo added that the letter received from the Idaho Home Builders Association (IHBA) says “an exemption for residential dwelling” and does not say “one- and two-family dwellings” and that she would follow up with IHBA to determine if that was intentional. Matthew Long, Building Official for Twin Falls, and Mr. Owens both voiced their opposition. Representative Clow added that his understanding was that one- and two-family dwellings were exempted except for the bedrooms and that this letter is different from his recollection.

- **Additional Comments:**

Mr. Molsee asked if DOPL could share the pass/fail testing data so that colleges can track the success of their programs. EO Lorenzo will connect with the licensing team and review the data sharing agreements with testing vendors and will reconnect with Mr. Molsee.

Mr. Owens requested that Idaho Electrical Board Stakeholders receive the packets prior to the meeting again. Mr. Owens shared that without the opportunity to research the topics being discussed ahead of the meeting, it limits the ability to be involved and have an opinion about the topics being discussed. EO Lorenzo shared that DOPL has changed their process. Documents for the Board to review are now posted on SharePoint and DOPL is no longer creating board or industry packets. Additionally, Board members have requested the opportunity to review documents before they are shared with the public. EO Lorenzo emphasized that DOPL wants public members to continue to attend and be invested in Board meetings. EO Lorenzo suggested that Mr. Owens email a list of items that have been helpful to review in preparation for board meetings and she would bring that request before the Board.

Representative Clow voiced concern that Zero-Based Regulation and removing Statute from Rules has created rules that are confusing and difficult to follow. Representative Clow added that he recognized that Idaho has greatly reduced the size of their administrative code, but that if it makes reading the rules more difficult for the user, he is not sure that it is a benefit.

Comments and suggestions made by the public will be provided to the Electrical Board.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.