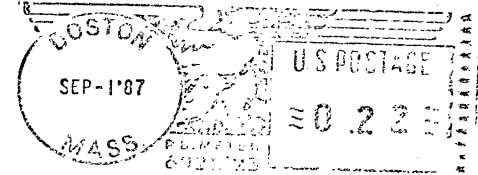
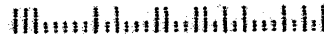


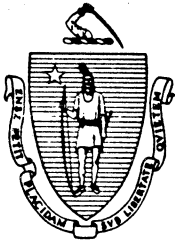
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**100 CAMBRIDGE ST., 12TH FLOOR
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02202**



City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass. 02139





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
1987 SEP -2 AM 11:40
August 26, 1987
CAMBRIDGE MA.

Request for Public Comments

Re: D.P.U. 87-146

Petition of the Inspector of Wires of the Town of Amherst, requesting that certain sections of the Department's Regulations be amended and clarified.

D.P.U. 87-147

Petition of the Inspector of Wires of the Town of Amherst, for an official interpretation by the Department as to the authority of the Inspector of Wires to interpret certain sections of the Department's Regulations.

The Department of Public Utilities ("Department") hereby requests comments from interested persons regarding the above-captioned petitions. This request is being circulated to Electric Utilities, Municipal Light Departments, Inspectors of Wires, and others identified by the Department.

Both petitions, copies of which are attached, concern certain provisions of the Department's Regulations, 220 C.M.R. 125.00, Installation and Maintenance of Electric Transmission Lines, and 220 C.M.R. 126.00, Safety Code for Underground Electric Supply and Communication Lines 50,000 Volts and Below. The specific provisions at issue are contained in Sections 220 C.M.R. 125.36(2) and 220 C.M.R. 126.36(1)(a). These sections of the Department's regulations address the mechanical protection of transmission cables and supply conductors which connect underground systems to overhead systems. The language of both sections is based on the wording of Section 239C of the National Electrical Safety Code, ANSI C2-1977.

The petition docketed as D.P.U. 87-146 requests that the Department determine whether the local Inspector of Wires may interpret the term "suitable mechanical protection," as used in 220 C.M.R. 125.36(2) and 220 C.M.R. 126.36(1)(a) to mean rigid metal, intermediate metal, or Schedule 80 rigid nonmetallic conduit, or the equivalent, for riser conductors which operate at over 600 volts, located on poles.

Request for Public Comments

D.P.U. 87-146

D.P.U. 87-147

Page 2

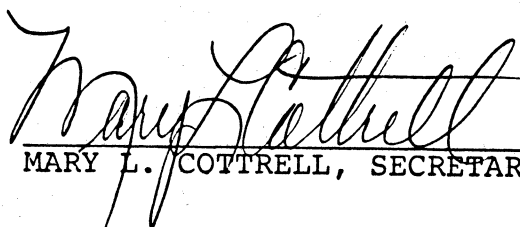
The petition docketed as D.P.U. 87-147 requests that the Department add certain wording to 220 C.M.R. 125.36(2) and 220 C.M.R. 126.36(1)(a), which would specify materials to be used to provide "suitable mechanical protection" for riser conductors on poles.

Comments regarding either petition may be directed to:

Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Public Utilities
100 Cambridge Street, 12th floor
Boston, MA 02202

Comments should be received no later than 30 days after the date of this Notice.

By Order of the Department,


MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY

Town of



AMHERST Massachusetts

TOWN HALL
4 BOLTWOOD AVENUE
AMHERST, MA 01002-2351

87 JUL 22

P 5: 40

INSPECTION SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Phone (413) 253-3453

Inspector of Wires
21 July 1987

Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Public Utilities
100 Cambridge Street
Boston, Mass. 02202

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

This is to request an official interpretation on the part of the Department of Public Utilities as to whether or not the word "suitable" as it appears in 220 CMR 126.36(1)(a) can be properly defined by the local Inspector of Wires as meaning rigid metal, intermediate metal, or Schedule 80 rigid nonmetallic conduit, or the equivalent, in regard to the lower eight feet of raceway on the side of a pole when the installation encloses conductors operating over 600 volts.

A favorable interpretation would allow consistency between this rule (taken from Section 239C of the National Electric Safety Code) and Section 710-3(b)(1) of the National (and Massachusetts) Electrical Code, thereby permitting in this situation a common approach to such enclosures, whether premises wiring or utility owned. Such an interpretation would also recognize that the supervisory powers granted to the Department in Chapter 164 §76 and §76C are to be used in concert with, and not to the exclusion of the supervisory powers conferred on the local inspector under Chapter 166 §32, although clearly any local action would have to be in accordance with Department regulations.

Very truly yours

Frederic P. Hartwell
Inspector of Wires

cc: Christopher Barnett, Senior Engineer

Town of



AMHERST Massachusetts

TOWN HALL
4 BOLTWOOD AVENUE
AMHERST, MA 01002-2351

87 JUL 22 P 5: 40
INSPECTION SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Phone (413) 253-3453

Inspector of Wires
21 July 1987

Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Public Utilities
100 Cambridge Street
Boston, Mass. 02202

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

This is intended to be a formal petition to the Department of Public Utilities under the provisions of 220 CMR 2.02(1) to clarify two regulations governing the transition between overhead and underground electric utility wiring systems operating over 600 volts.

It is proposed to add the following wording at the end of, and before the exceptions to, 220 CMR 125.36(2) and 220 CMR 126.36(1)(a):

Raceways installed on poles shall be of rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit, PVC Schedule 80 or equivalent extending from the ground line up to a point 8 feet (2.44 m) above finished grade.

This clarification will incorporate the wording in Section 710-3(b)(1) of the National Electrical Code in the rules governing utility practice. This wording, as part of the Massachusetts Electrical Code, already applies to premises wiring. The existing wording, taken from Section 239C of the National Electrical Safety Code, is vague and should be clarified. The utility in my jurisdiction has been using Schedule 40 PVC for their 13,800V/8000 volt distribution risers, which in the opinion of the petitioner does not meet acceptable standards of public safety. There is no good reason in this case why utility conductors should not meet a similar standard of safety as that required for premises wiring.

Very truly yours

Frederic P. Hartwell
Inspector of Wires

cc: Christopher Barnett, Senior Engineer

Comm. from the DPU requesting public comment on two petitions from the Inspector of Wires of the Town of Amherst requestng that certain sections of the DPU's regulations be amended & clarified & for an official interpretation on the authority of the Inspector of Wires to interpret certain sections of the DPU's regulations.

In City Council,

September 14, 1987

Placed on File