Verifying Pole Depth of Customer Owned Poles

SUMMARY

This bulletin provides requirements for applicants who plan to install a new customer-owned service pole prior to inspection by PG&E personnel. The requirements in this document are an alternate method for PG&E inspectors to verify the setting depth of newly installed poles that have already been set in the ground. Additionally, applicant installed customer-owned service poles must meet all of the requirements listed in Engineering Document 025055 Requirements for Customer-Owned Poles and will be approved at the discretion of the PG&E Electrical inspector.

Level of Use: Informational Use

AFFECTED DOCUMENT

025055 Requirements for Customer-Owned Poles

TARGET AUDIENCE

Utility employees in Inspection, Maintenance and Construction, Restoration, and Customer Service Delivery that are involved with customer-owned service poles.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Applicants must follow the requirements below to install a PG&E approved pole prior to inspection. PG&E Inspectors may use the inspection method described below to verify that the pole has been set to the proper depth.

NOTE

Installations that do not meet all of the applicable requirements in document 025055 Requirements for Customer-Owned Poles will need to be corrected. This may include the removal and reinstallation of the pole and materials.

Applicants:

1. Install 3/4-inch diameter PVC Schedule 40 conduit from the bottom of the pole to 12 inches above grade level. See Figure 1, “Pole Depth Verification”, on page 3.

2. Place a removable cap on the top of the conduit and a permanent cap on the bottom of the conduit.
3. Attach the conduit to the pole using three heavy duty pipe straps and 10D galvanized nails. Place one pipe strap towards the top of the conduit below the removable cap. Place the second strap in the middle of the conduit and the third strap at the bottom of the conduit just above the permanent cap.

4. Install a PG&E approved pole to, at least, the minimum required setting depth. Refer to Table 3 Pole Setting Depths in Document 025055 Requirements for Customer-Owned Poles.

5. Ensure the PVC conduit is not broken and remains free of soil, equipment, or other obstacles, throughout the conduit. The conduit will be used to verify the pole setting depth.

6. Backfill and compact the soil around the pole to 90% of maximum density. Determine the maximum density and the in-place density by the California Test Method No. 216-6, Parts I and II respectively, or by ASTM D-1556 and D-1557 respectively. A copy of the test results may be required by PG&E.

7. Call for inspection after the installation of the customer owned pole is complete.

PG&E Inspectors:

1. Extend a wooden tape measure, fiberglass rod, or other measuring device, into the PVC conduit, to verify the depth meets the minimum pole setting depth listed in Table 3 of Document 025055 Requirements for Customer-Owned Poles.

2. See Figure 1, “Pole Depth Verification”, on page 3 for additional reference.

3. Continue pole inspection as required.

DOCUMENT APPROVER

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INCLUSION PLAN

The information contained in this bulletin will be included in the next revision of Numbered Document 025055 “Requirements for Customer-Owned Poles”.
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PG&E Approved Pole As Required in Document 025055

Removable Cap on the Top of the Conduit

12” Above Grade

Secure the Conduit to the Pole Using Three Heavy Duty Pipe Straps and 10D Galvanized Nails. One at the Top, One in the Middle, and One at the Bottom of the Conduit.

Grade Level

3/4 - inch Schedule 40 PVC Conduit with Caps

Backfill and Compact to 90% of Maximum Density

Bottom of Pole

Permanent Cap on the Bottom of the Conduit

See Table 3 in Document 025055 for Minimum Pole Setting Depths

Figure 1
Pole Depth Verification