June 21, 2017

To: Managers, Electrical Services,  
   Electrical Maintenance Contractors,  
   Major & Minor Works Contractors.

From: Electrical Engineering Services

Re: Use of Plastic Underground Electrical Junction Boxes

Plastic underground electrical junction boxes specified for use on Ministry right of way are not CSA approved. In order to pass inspection by British Columbia Safety Authority (BCSA) a variance must be requested when completing the Electrical Installation Permit. The procedure for applying for the permit and variance are as follows:

Procedure

1. The installation contractor must apply for a permit for each job site where plastic underground electrical junction boxes are to be installed.
2. On the application form under “Description of Work”, the contractor must indicate that a variance is requested and provide the following information:
   a. The variance being requested is with respect to BC Electrical Code, Rule 2-024 Use of Approved Equipment, for use of junction boxes as identified in:
      i. Lab Test Report No. SI-2367 for junction boxes manufactured by Nova Pole, or
      ii. P. Eng Letter: AER T204 VWCE for junction boxes manufactured by Valmont West Coast Engineering.
   b. The manufacturer name and model number of the junction boxes that will be installed;
   c. Confirmation that the junction boxes are similar in construction to the boxes identified in Lab Test Report No. SI-2367 or P. Eng Letter AER T204 VWCE.
3. The contractor must attach design drawings showing the location of junction boxes to the application.
4. Issuance of the permit will signify acceptance of the variance.

Notes

- This procedure applies to Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure right of way only, and is not applicable to any other municipality, city, township, or jurisdiction.
- Additional fees will be applied where variance requests are made after permit issuance.
The following junction boxes are approved:

- **Nova Pole International:**
  - Large - Round, Polypropylene, Model No. P28-JB-B00-01
  - Small - Round, Polypropylene, Model No. P28-JB-A00-01

- **Valmont West Coast Engineering:**
  - Large – Round, Model No. 25010
  - Small – Round, Model No. 25020
  - Rectangular, Model No. 25110

The Ministry will provide notification when additional manufacturers meet the requirements.

Contact:

Steve Drew, AScT  
Sr. Electrical Standards Technologist  
MoT&I Engineering  
Mobile:(250) 889-4722  
Office:(250) 387-7688  
Steve.Drew@gov.bc.ca