

Early Release of Power – Guidelines

Revised February 2024

GENERAL:

The Building Official acknowledges that certain finishes and materials are affected by climatic conditions, that a security system is an important and vital building component, and the need to test equipment prior to obtaining a final building inspection are valid requests. The Early Release of Power is distinct from Temporary Power and Power from a Saw-pole, as defined herein. Energizing the electrical power to a building is potentially hazardous, as such, the authority to make such a request is a responsibility borne onto the permit applicant.

DEFINITIONS:

Contractor: The permit applicant that applied for and obtained the electrical permit for the building of which an Early Release of Power has been requested.

Early Release of Power: A process granting authorization to Duke Energy Co, the power company, from the Building Official or his designee, to energize electrical services of a building prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

Sawpole: An energized panel board attached to a pole, stand or other type of structure that provides electrical power to a construction site for the purpose of providing construction trades sufficient electrical power to energize their respective tools. A sawpole is for the sole application of providing power for use during the construction of a building or structure. A sawpole is not an approved means of energizing a building, structure or vacant property.

Temporary Power: Use of electricity for a temporary use including, but not limited to weekend events, holiday associated sales and uses approved through the Temporary Use process.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

In granting Early Release of Power, the contractor must agree to the following:

- Contractor will not allow use of early released power on the current project other than for those items requested on the Early Release of Power Request Form. Any person or contractor violating this agreement or using early released Power in a hazardous or unauthorized manner, will result in a violation complaint filed against the person or contractor.
- Contractor will lock off access to uncompleted areas/or lock service to areas where exposed wiring has not been safely protected. Contractor will maintain all early released power in a safe manner until the Certificate of Occupancy is issued; or when a Certificate of Occupancy is not required, a final electrical inspection is conducted.
- Contractor will protect all construction outlets by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).
- Violation will result immediate shut-off of power and contractor further agrees that violation may prohibit contractor from applying for Early Release of Power for a period of not less than two (2) years from date of violation.
- The use of the Early Release of Power Request (form) is for NEW structures, buildouts, and sawpoles on lots as defined in the Temporary Power section above.

EARLY RELEASE OF POWER GUIDELINES

Therefore, the following procedure is hereby established to allow the Early Release of Power:

1. Electrical Contractor must **complete the Early Release of Power Request (form)** & e-mail the completed **notarized** form to InspectionReports@stpete.org
2. **Schedule 0294 Temporary for Test inspection**

Once the inspection has been Approved:

You will need to contact Duke Energy Service Installation at 866-372-4663, as the inspections are received from the Municipalities by that department. The electric service will begin in your name in approximately 1 to 3 working days from the receipt of the inspection release (weather and workload permitting) and/or any other obligation that may hold your order. For any further questions about the power release - please contact Duke Energy Service Installation.

Note: The Building Official may consider granting variations of this policy/procedure, yet variation from this policy/procedure will not be interpreted as setting precedence.



Construction Services & Permitting Early Release of Power Request Form

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I respectfully request the 0294 Early Release of Power for a structure constructed on Permit No. _____ located at _____, Saint Petersburg, Florida. Unless authorized by the Building Official, this Early Release of Power may not exceed 30-days from date of release to Duke Energy Co. This Early Release of Power **does not** authorize occupancy of the structure.

The 0294 Early Release of Power is requested for:

- Energize for 0296 Final Electric inspection (hot check).
- Interior lighting for commercial buildings or structures only. All construction outlets will be protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).
- Testing of HVAC equipment including air handler and compressor.
- Interior finish materials requiring a climatic conditioned building.
- House meter or identification of Unit No.
- Testing and maintenance of a security alarm system.

As the Electrical Contractor, I, _____ of _____, agree that:

Print Name *Print Name of Company*

- I will not allow use of Early Release of Power on this project other than for those items requested above. Any person or contractor violating this Agreement or using Early Release of Power in a hazardous manner, will result in a violation complaint filed against this person or contractor.
- I will **lock off access to uncompleted areas and/or lock service areas** where exposed wiring has not been safely protected. I will maintain all Early Release of Power in a safe manner until the Certificate of Occupancy is issued, or when a Certificate of Occupancy is not required, a final electrical inspection is conducted. All construction outlets will be protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).
- Violation of this Agreement will justify immediate **shut off** from Early Release of Power and I further agree that **violation** of this Agreement may prohibit me from applying for Early Release of Power for a period of not less than two (2) years from the date of violation.
- This Early Release of Power does not authorize occupancy of the building or structure.

Notarized Signature

Signature of Electrical Contractor: _____ Date: _____

State of _____ County of _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of _____ physical presence or _____ online notarization this _____ day of _____, 20____, by _____ (printed name of Electrical Contractor or qualifier). Such person(s) (*Notary to check applicable box.*):

are personally known to me;

has produced a current driver's license _____

has produced _____ as identification.

Notary Signature _____

Must comply with Notarial Law - Notary Seal

YOUR ELECTRICAL WORK MUST BE READY FOR AN INSPECTION UPON RECEIPT OF REQUEST.