

Electrical Licensing and Inspection Requirements Applicable to Residential Siding Replacement Work

Questions arise when electrical equipment and devices that are mounted on the exterior of a home will be removed and re-installed and/or replaced as part of the installation of a new exterior finish. Examples of such items include luminaires, receptacle outlets, air conditioner disconnect switches, utility load-shedding devices, telephone and television utility boxes and cables, electrical meters and electrical service raceways and cables.

Electrical work is defined as the installing, altering, repairing, planning, or laying out of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for electrical light, heat, power, technology circuits or systems, or other purposes.

An individual performing electrical work must be either licensed or registered and the electrical work must be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, a licensed master or journeyman electrician who is an IRS W2-type employee of the same electrical contractor.

The exception to the licensing requirement above is for a homeowner who has the necessary knowledge and experience and who will personally and physically perform the associated electrical work. This allowance applies only to the owners of a single-family, detached dwelling that they own and occupy.

The removal of existing electrical wiring and equipment is not required to be performed by licensed individuals or electrical contractors. The removal of existing electrical wiring and equipment is not required to be inspected.

The re-installation of existing luminaires, devices, and equipment as well as the installation of new electrical wiring, junction boxes, new luminaires, devices and equipment shall be performed by properly licensed or registered and properly supervised employees of a licensed electrical contractor or the qualified homeowner.

Whether the electrical work is performed by the owner or by the employees of an electrical contractor, a valid request for electrical inspection shall be filed with the authority having jurisdiction at or before the commencement of the electrical work.

The above information is taken from the Minnesota Electrical Act, MN Stat. §326B, sections 326B.081 to 326B.085 and MN Stat. §326B, sections 326B.31 to 326B.399 and Minnesota Rules Chapters 3800 and 3801