



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7644**



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Edition 2014

Section 230.70 (A) (1) and 230.91

Question:

I have been told that I can not exceed 6 feet from my meter to my electrical panel with service conductors, but it is on the adjacent wall in the garage per their interpretation of the code. There does not appear to be a local technical amendment posted at www.floridabuilding.org either. Does the electrical code have a specific dimension? Would this be considered a local technical amendment that is only enforceable after proper adoption?

Answer

"Nearest point of entrance of the service conductors" are the words in the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70). If the AHJ determines the other side of the garage is not the nearest point, that is up to them, this is not an amendment to the code rather an interpretation of "nearest point of entrance".

The code does not have a limiting dimension because each installation is different. No, this does not need an amendment.

Commentary:

Interpretations are by request to the local officials, If you disagree with the interpretation of the code official, you should first discuss it the local building official and if you cannot find resolution go to Fl Statute 553.775 and follow the statutory procedures.

This is actually the AHJ being flexible in allowing you to go that far before installing a disconnect. Some areas may allow up to 6 feet, some up to 10 feet in an effort to be reasonable. See 90.2, (C) of the NEC, the disconnect must be located as near as practicable to where the conductors

enter the building. Otherwise it would need to be encased per 230.6.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.