



Informal Interpretation Report Number 9576



Date August 18, 2026

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Section R322.1.6

Question:

Is it the intent of Section R322.1.6 that, for new construction and substantial improvements in flood hazard areas, all electrical systems, equipment, and components serving the structure, including utility-owned and property-owner-owned components of the electrical service, specifically the electric meter and all applicable components, be located at or above the elevation required by Sections R322.2 or R322.3, unless the specific component qualifies for the exception in R322.1.6?

Does the term “electrical systems, equipment and components” in R322.1.6 include the utility-owned electric meter and associated service equipment when the meter is an integral component of the electrical service supplying the structure?

Answer

The electric meter is not governed by the National Electrical Code. The meter itself is owned and maintained by the utility. While the meter enclosure is provided by the customer, it falls under the utility company standards and must be one that is acceptable and compatible with the utility standards. The meter must be located in an area acceptable to the utility and is not governed by the electrical code, which includes local flood regulations. Other electrical equipment/components, not under the authority of the utility, do need to meet the requirements of R322.1.6 or the exception.

Commentary:

None.

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.