

BC ELECTRICAL CODE SECTION 76 -TEMPORARY WIRING**Date of Issue: March 04, 2025,****No: IB-EL 2011-01
Revision 2**

This information bulletin supplements directive D-EL 2016-03.

The following bulletin provides guidance on the application of policy for Technical Safety BC. For work outside of Technical Safety BC jurisdiction, please check with the appropriate municipal authorities for their requirements.

Scope

As outlined in rule 76-000 of the BC Electrical Code, section 76 applies to temporary wiring installations for buildings under construction or demolition. It is the nature of the installation, not the use of that installation, that determines whether the installation is temporary. Receptacles that are connected to the permanent wiring system and therefore not within the scope of section 76 are subject to other applicable rules of the BC Electrical Code. Temporary distribution panels are not considered permanent and are subject to the rules in section 76.

Receptacles

Where construction sites use temporary wiring methods, this wiring is exposed to more severe duty and weather conditions than permanent installations. The use of extension cords may increase bonding conductor impedance. Additionally, site and environmental conditions may make grounding conditions unstable. These factors can result in an increased risk of electrical shock to workers. For this reason, rule 76-016 requires GFCI protection for 15 A (configuration 5-15R) and 20 A (configuration 5-20R) receptacles installed on temporary wiring installations.

Permanently installed receptacles that are not required to have GFCI protection under the BC Electrical Code are exempt from the requirements of Rule 76-016, even if they are energized for use during construction (see Appendix I of the BC Electrical Code). However, all receptacles in outdoor locations must be weather protected in accordance with Rule 26-708. Additionally, any outdoor receptacles with a CSA configuration of 5-15R or 5-20R, installed within 2.5 meters of finished grade, must be protected by a Class A type ground fault circuit interrupter, as required in Rule 26-704 2).

For information regarding temporary services, refer to Information Bulletin: IB-EL-2016-03 Temporary and Permanent Services for Construction Power.

Vicky Kang
Manager, Energy
Provincial Safety Manager, Electrical

References:

[Safety Standards Act](#)

[Electrical Safety Regulation](#)

[Safety Standards General Regulation](#)