

Question of the Month – If a dispute arises regarding the interpretation of adopted state electrical standards, rules, or policies, who is responsible for making the final determination? *See correct answer on Page 2.*

No L&I Electrical Inspections on January 9 – Statewide Electrical Inspector Training

Training for all electrical inspectors is happening on January 8 – 10, 2019. To relieve some of the impact, January 9 will be the only day attended by all L&I inspectors, no inspections will be performed that day. On January 8 & 10, inspectors will be available but at reduced capacity. We regret the inconvenience this causes, but we have found that a statewide approach improves consistency and is the most efficient use of our training budget. Please let your customers know and plan for inspections accordingly.

Invitation to a Stakeholder Meeting Near You

I am holding 19 electrical stakeholder meetings in various locations across the state between January and May, 2019. These meetings are an opportunity to talk in an informal setting. Check the schedule below and attend a meeting near you. I want to hear how we can better serve you, our customers and help you stay informed of any changes that might affect you and/or your business. Meetings are scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. at the locations listed below. Meeting dates and addresses will also be posted on our [Electrical Calendar](#) webpage and distributed on the program email list. If you are not on the email list, you may join at our [Electrical Email List](#) webpage.

Safety Tip of the Month

According to [OSHA](#), an average of 14 workers are killed on the job every day. Excluding highway collisions, the four leading causes of construction worker fatalities are:

- Falls
- Struck by an object
- Electrocutions
- Caught in or between objects

Please watch for and eliminate these “Fatal Four” hazards in your workplace.

| 2018 Stakeholder Meetings 6 – 8 p.m. | | |
|---|--|--|
| January 22 – Tumwater – L&I Building Auditorium - 7273 Linderson Way SW | January 23 – Aberdeen – L&I Building 415 W Wishkah St, Suite B, Rm 112 | February 5 – Vancouver – L&I Building – 312 E Stonemill Dr. Suite 120, Room C49 |
| February 6 – White Salmon – White Salmon Valley Library – 77 NE Wauna Ave | February 7 – Kelso – L&I Building , 711 Vine St. Room R11 | February 26 – Tacoma – L&I Building 950 Broadway, Orcas Room, 5 th floor |
| February 27 – Sequim – Clallam County PUD , 104 Hooker Rd, Lake Crescent Room. | February 28 – Silverdale – L&I Building 10049 Kitsap Mall Blvd NW Suite 100 | March 6 – Tukwila – L&I Building 12806 Gateway Dr. South, Rm C30 |
| April 10 – Everett – Snohomish County PUD – 2320 California St, Commission Rm | April 11 – Mount Vernon – NW WA Research and Ext Center , 16650 SR 536 | April 23 – Okanogan – Location yet to be determined |
| April 24 – Wenatchee – Location yet to be determined | April 25 – Yakima – Location yet to be determined | May 14 – Spokane – Spokane Falls Community College , 3410 W. Fort George Wright Drive, Bldg 17, Sub Lounges |
| May 15 – Colville – Spokane Community College , 985 S Elm St., Room TBA | May 16 – Pullman – Location yet to be determined | May 21 – Kennewick – Benton PUD Auditorium – 2721 West 10th Avenue |
| May 22 – Moses Lake – L&I Building 3001 West Broadway Avenue | | |

New – Rapid Shutdown of PV Systems Inside the Array Boundary Effective January 1, 2019

Effective January 1, 2019, requirements in NEC 690.12(B)(2) for rapid shutdown of conductors and/or equipment inside the array boundary will be enforced. If you install or inspect PV systems, review NEC 690.12(B)(2) for three options to comply with the rapid shutdown requirements within the array boundary.

This document may contain hyperlinks to internet web pages. To access this PDF document online, go to:

<http://www.ElectricalCurrents.lni.wa.gov>

Rule Update – WAC 296-46B Revisions

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is scheduled to meet December 5 in Tacoma in the Orcas Room of the [Rhodes Center](#), 949 Market St. at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be open to anyone, but input on proposals is limited to committee members. After considering advice from the TAC and Electrical Board, a public comment period and public hearing will be announced, providing further opportunities for comment on proposed rules.

Visit the Rule Development page of our website to view rule proposals, the TAC member roster, and other information.

Two new laws made rulemaking necessary. The new laws are:

- [Substitute Senate Bill 6126](#) requires completion of an apprenticeship to qualify for the journey-level electrician exam beginning July 1, 2023.
- [Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1952](#) allows city electrical inspection jurisdictions to enforce electrical licensing, certification, and trainee supervision laws.

If you have any questions, please contact Alicia Curry, at 360-902-6244 or Alicia.Curry@Lni.wa.gov.

Exceptions Offered for Untimely Affidavits of Experience

We have seen too many affidavits of experience denied because they were turned in later than allowed. We have heard you we understand the impacts. We are improving our communication about requirements and offering a one-time exception as follows:

- Affidavits for legally obtained hours worked on or after June 30, 2014 are eligible for consideration if received before July 1, 2019. Hours worked before June 30, 2014, are not eligible.
This exception applies to all affidavits received through June 30, 2019. We are reviewing untimely affidavits and crediting hours accordingly.
- Beginning July 1, 2019, trainees must turn in affidavits of experience for the prior 2 years within 180 days from the date when their certificate expires. Untimely affidavits will be denied.

The requirements above do not apply to hours worked while a registered apprentice is in a recognized electrical construction trade apprenticeship program.

Recently, we sent a letter to all active trainees and electrical contractors about the exceptions offered for untimely affidavits of experience. If you are one of those, and did not receive a letter, please update your address at:

<https://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/LicensingReg/Legal.asp>

For questions about this opportunity, please email us at ElectricalProgram@lni.wa.gov, or give us a call 360-902-5269.

Key Picture If viewing this document online, click on the picture to open a larger image. A dangerous double-ended male cord was used to provide power to this juice bar across the parking lot from a store. In the lower right picture you can see the crude splice where two cords with male ends were connected together. While a mom was buying a drink, her toddler pulled the cord out and was shocked. Fortunately, the toddler survived, but had severe burns. The electrical inspector disconnected the installation, destroyed the cord and issued the installer, (not an electrician) three citations for the very dangerous installation.

Answer to Question of the Month RCW 19.28.321 – The chief electrical inspector, subject to the review of the director shall provide the final interpretation of the disputed standard, rule, or policy.



This document may contain hyperlinks to internet web pages. To access this PDF document online, go to:

<http://www.ElectricalCurrents.lni.wa.gov>

Electrical Section Internet Address: <http://www.ElectricalProgram.Lni.wa.gov/>

This document is available in alternative formats to accommodate persons with disabilities. For assistance, call 1-800-547-8367. (TDD/TTY users, please call 360-902-5797.) Labor & Industries is an Equal Opportunity employer.