Seattle City Light
CONSTRUCTION STANDARD

Standard Number: **0130.14**
Superseding: New
Effective Date: November 18, 2025

Overhead Service to Metered Pole, Vacant Property

1. Scope

This standard provides the requirements for Seattle City Light (SCL) overhead (OH) 120/240 V service to a vacant property and its metered pole.

The metered pole is the customer's point of service and includes an SCL meter mounted at the base of the pole.

Equipment owned and maintained by others (non-SCL equipment owners) is outside the scope of this standard.

Physical protection devices (e.g., bollards) may be required. Requirements for such devices are outside the scope of this standard.

2. Application

This standard is intended for use by vacant property owners and SCL personnel when installing overhead power to a vacant property.

Power is typically needed on vacant property for lighting, security, or other maintenance purposes.

3. Requirements

3.1 General

All system-related work to enable service to the vacant property, including the installation of the metered pole, will be performed by SCL at the customer's expense. The customer will own and maintain the pole once it is in service. The upfront cost will vary and depend on the existing system. This could include the cost of new pole(s), a transformer, and other related work, including a one-time removal cost. The customer will be billed at the appropriate rate schedule per the SCL Departmental Policy and Procedure document DPP 500 P III-417.

3.2 Approvals

Applications for electric service for all proposed work, which include its installation, modifications, and/or relocations, shall first be reviewed and then approved by SCL personnel, such as Electric Service Representatives (ESRs) or Engineer.

Standard Coordinator
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Standards Engineering Supervisor
Brett Hanson

Division Director
Bob Risch

3.3 Responsibilities

3.3.1. SCL Responsibilities

SCL shall be responsible for:

- Furnishing and installing the wood pole (metered pole).
- All system related work necessary for service connection, up to the metered pole.

3.3.2. Customer Responsibilities

The customer shall be responsible for:

- Coordination with SCL on the location of the metered pole before installation.
- Maintenance of the metered pole after installation.
- Management of all vegetation on the property to ensure the safe construction, operation, and maintenance of the overhead service facilities.
- Ensuring that the pole is accessible and climbable. SCL will not perform work on, or make a service connection to, a metered pole until this requirement is met.
- Maintenance of a 3-ft minimum clearance in all directions from the overhead service conductor.
- Installation of the meter socket, meter enclosure, and grounding and bonding. See Section 3.6.
- Installation of conduit risers and the weatherhead up the pole from the meter enclosure
- Installation of National Electrical Code (NEC) service conductors from the meter base to the weatherhead.

3.4 Location of Metered Pole

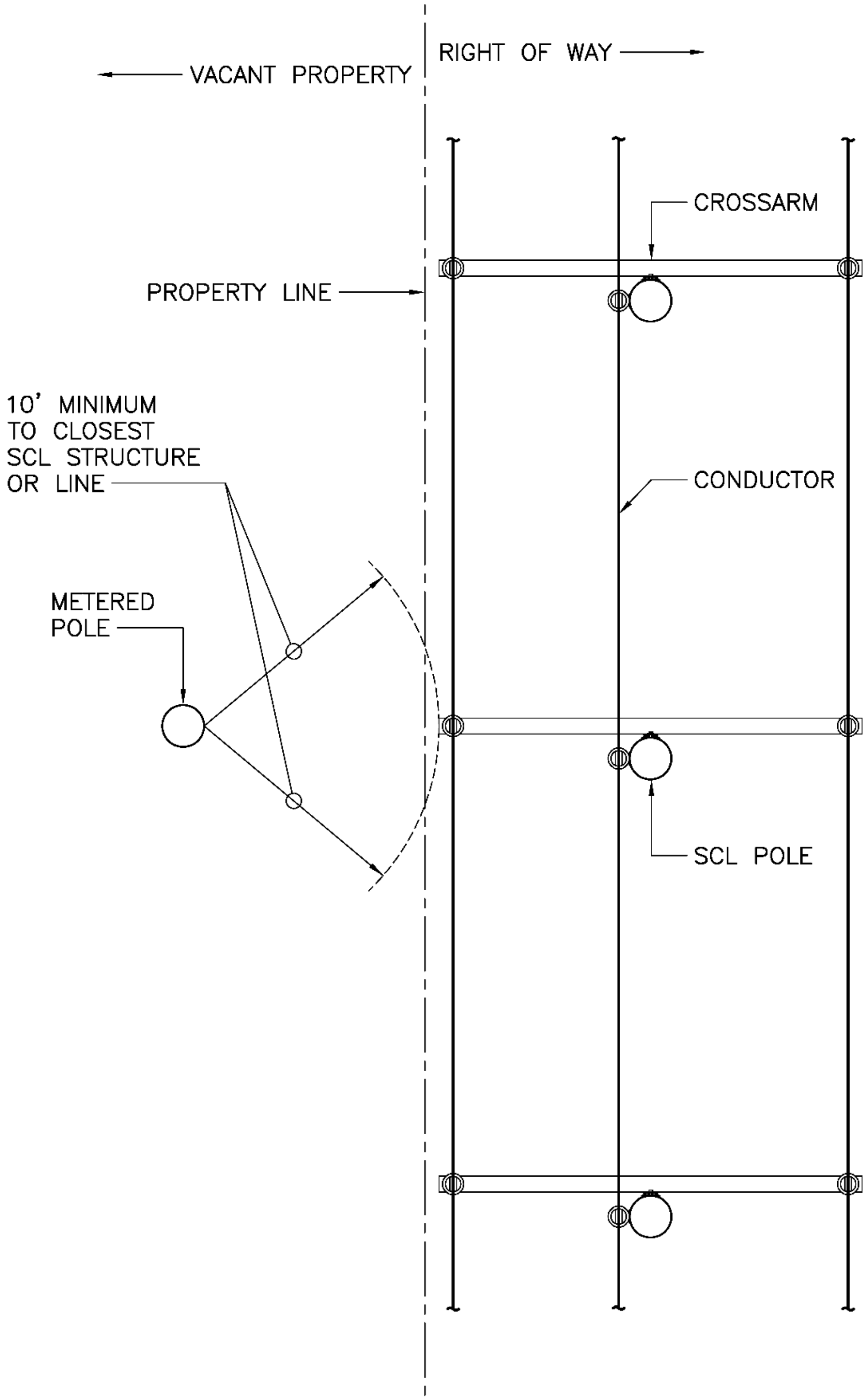
The metered pole shall be located:

- No less than 10 feet, horizontally, from the closest existing SCL structure, such as poles, crossarms, or conductors.
- No greater than 50 feet from the property line on the customer's side.
- In an area accessible to SCL personnel and service trucks. SCL requires a12-ft wide road access to set and perform work.

See Figure 3.4.

The service span length between the pole and the overhead service transformer shall not exceed 150 feet.

Figure 3.4. Location of Metered Pole



For clearances between wood poles and non-SCL structures and objects, see SCL 0214.00.

3.5 Pole Installation

The pole shall be furnished and installed by SCL.

A 40-ft, Class 1 wood pole shall be used.

The pole shall be set 8-ft deep and meet the applicable requirements of SCL 0100.07 for backfill and compaction.

An SCL pole number tag shall be installed on the pole per the requirements stated in SCL 0100.07.

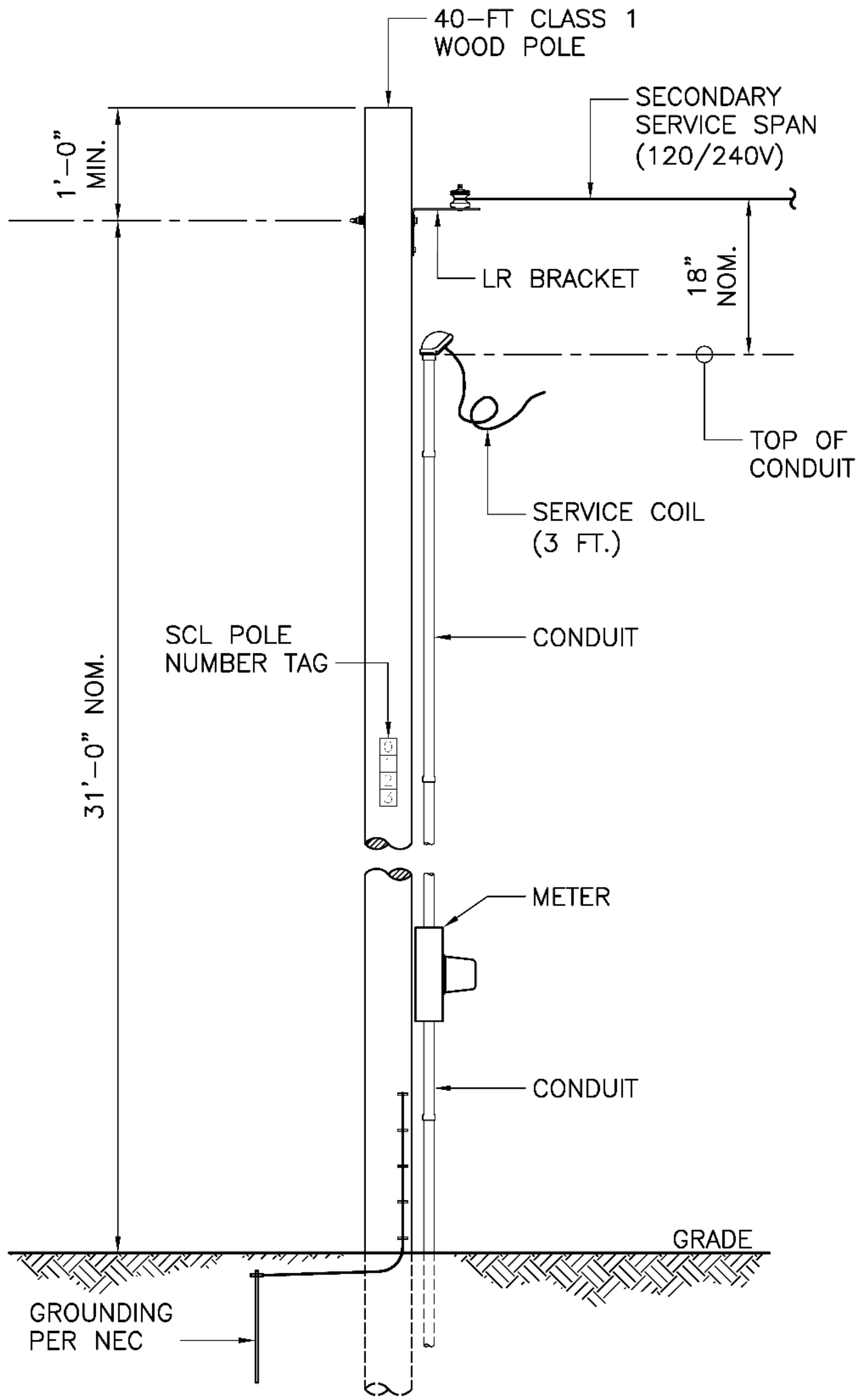
Guys shall be installed by SCL if deemed necessary. See the City Light Requirements for Electric Service Connection (RESC) for more information.

Spool insulators (LR brackets) shall be installed 31 feet above grade on the pole, 1 ft minimum from top of pole. See SCL 0100.11.

The top of the conduit shall be installed 18 inches (nominal) below the spool insulator.

See Figure 3.5.

Figure 3.5. Metered Pole Installation and Overhead Service



3.6 Meter and Electrical Equipment Installation

Only one electricity meter shall be allowed per vacant property.

Metered-pole installations shall meet all clearance and working space requirements stated in SCL 1554.33.

The customer shall install the meter socket and enclosure per NEC. The meter socket shall be rated 200 A and meet the requirements of SCL 1553.03.

The customer shall install grounding and bonding, per NEC or AHJ.

A main disconnect switch on the pole, integrated or separate from the meter enclosure, is allowed on the pole when required per the NEC or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

The customer shall install service conductors from the meter base to the weatherhead, including a 3-ft service coil beyond the weatherhead.

Only one set of NEC service conductors shall be allowed to the weatherhead. NEC service conductors shall not be larger than 500 kcmil.

3.7 SCL Overhead Service Span and Connections

SCL shall install 1/0 triplex secondary overhead service from the overhead service transformer to the metered-pole per the requirements of SCL 0130.10 and Figure 3.3.

SCL shall make the final connection at the metered-pole drip loop (point of service).

Service span must avoid crossing property lines.

3.8 Customers' Additional Equipment and Responsibility

Customer equipment, such as enclosures and conduits, on the pole should be constructed in such a way to allow SCL crews and other utilities to safely access and climb the pole to perform work, such as inspection and maintenance.

Customer-owned non-service equipment, such as floodlights, cameras, or signage are allowed on the metered pole. If powered, the feed shall come from the meter.

All equipment on the pole shall be mounted with lag screws or through-bolts.

4. References

SCL Construction Standard 0100.07; "Wood Pole Installation"

SCL Construction Standard 0100.11; "LR Bracket Installation"

SCL Construction Standard 0130.10; "Overhead Secondary Spans"

SCL Construction Standard 1554.33; "Meter Mounting Configurations, Height, Working Space, and Clearances, Exterior (Outdoor)"

SCL Construction Standard 1553.03; "Meter Base and Socket Configurations"

SCL Department Policy & Procedure (DPP) 500 P III-417; "Service Installations"

5. Sources

National Electrical Code (NEC), NFPA-70; 2023 Edition, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA, 2010

National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), C2-2022 Edition; Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Inc., New York, NY, 2021

Neuansourinh, Ponet; SCL Standards Engineer and originator of 0130.14

Nyhuis, Johnathan; SCL Pole Engineer Supervisor and subject matter expert for 0130.14

SCL Construction Standard 0451.01; “Grounding Electrodes for Distribution Poles”

Seattle Electrical Code (SEC); 2023 edition; Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)