

Encountering Non-Compliant Installations of Communications Attachments in the Field



1. Scope

This work practice provides direction on the steps to take when non-compliant installations of communications attachments are encountered in the field.

2. Application

This work practice is for Seattle City Light (SCL) crews or its agents who encounter non-compliant installations of communications attachments when performing work in the field.

3. Discussion

SCL crews regularly encounter communications attachments that have been installed in a non-compliant manner by third-party vendors. These installations can present significant hazards to crews and the public, as well impact the reliability of our electric system.

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Examples of the types of improper installations that may be encountered includes, but is not limited to:


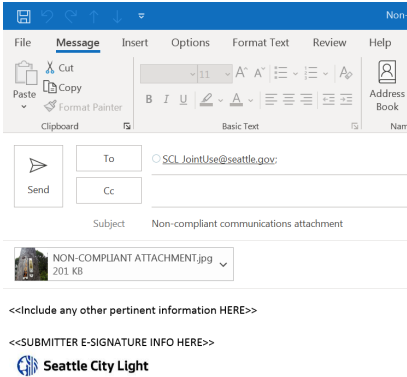
- Communications risers installed on the wrong side of the pole
- Communications attachments installed without guys and anchors
- Communications cables hanging too low over the roadway/driveway/alley/parking lot
- Missing guy markers or insulators
- Unauthorized attachments (private cameras, signage, etc.)
- Slack communications cables not in snowshoe or dead ended
- Broken communications risers
- Lashing wire that has become loose or tangled

Recommended steps for crews to take when such installations are encountered are covered in Section 4.

4. Steps for Reporting Non-Compliant Installations

When incorrectly installed communications attachments are encountered in the field, crews are encouraged to take the following steps:

Steps	Description	Example
Step 1	Take a close-up photo of the non-compliant attachment. The example shown is of a broken riser base.	 A close-up photograph showing a dark wooden utility pole on the left and a white metal riser base on the right. The riser base is severely damaged, with a large section missing and the remaining part hanging off the pole. Debris is scattered on the ground at the base of the riser.
Step 2	Take a full-length photo of the pole	 A full-length photograph of a wooden utility pole. The pole is tall and has several cross-arms with wires. A street light is attached to one of the cross-arms. In the background, there is a parking lot with several cars and a building.
Step 3	Take a photo of the pole tag.	 A close-up photograph of a wooden utility pole. Two metal tags are attached to the pole. The left tag is white with the number '1502' in orange. The right tag is white with the number '1508' in orange. A small white tag is also visible below the right tag.

Steps	Description	Example
Step 4	Take a close-up photo of a 3-digit renter identification (ID) tag. ID tags are required to be applied by the organization/renter of such equipment at every location to which the equipment is attached including all cables, risers, handholes, equipment boxes, etc. See SCL 0093.12.	
Step 5	Email photos to Joint Use at SCL_JointUse@seattle.gov . Include in the header of the email the phrase, “Non-compliant communications attachment”. In the body of the email, include any other pertinent information as submitter sees fit, such as the specific location of the attachment(s) on the pole.	

From this point forward, Joint Use will coordinate next steps with customer, such as issuing a Violation Notice for the customer to complete and coordinating all aspects of a corrective installation if necessary.

Joint Use will notify the originator (person who submitted email) upon completion of work.

5. References

SCL Construction Standard 0093.12; “Pole Attachment Identification and Tagging”

6. Sources

Munyao, Manfred; Joint Use Engineer and subject matter expert for 0093.23

National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), C2-2017 Edition, Rule 264

SCL Construction Standard 0199.01; “Guy Assemblies”

SCL Construction Standards series 0093, 0094, and 0095

SCL Master Pole Attachment Agreement (MPAA)

SCL Design Standard 9190.01; “Guying and Anchoring Requirements”

SCL Design Standard 9190.03; “Guy Selection”

Vanderpool, Laura; Standards Engineering Technical Writer and originator of 0093.23