

600 VOLT SERVICES

Question:

How do we deal with B.C. Hydro's requirement to have meters placed on the first secondary pole for all new services? The 600 volt services are a problem because they require a switch ahead of the meter.

Answer:

To start with this is just a 600-volt service. The service switch has to precede the meter and has to be in the building being served. However that being said we have a few alternatives:

- A small electrical shed built (big enough to allow suitable working space in front of equipment) at the first pole then install the meter base after the main switch and run a sub-service down to the building.
- Another solution, the owner has the option to have Hydro install the service underground to the building and then B.C. Hydro will own and maintain the service line.
- Another solution would be to install CT'S in the building and run meter wiring only back to the pole, keeping in mind there are some limitations on the distance from the metering transformers.
- Another solution would be for B.C. Hydro to telemeter, if they want to as long as the equipment and the installation that are covered by the permit are approved and to code.