

Service Location

Question: I'm building a new house on a currently vacant lot. The previous owners have installed a 200A meter base on a private pole, then have run underground via a 3" PVC conduit to the eventual building site (Approx. 60 meters total run). By code, my understanding is that when these conductors enter the house (Either via the foundation or through the wall, that the run to the service box has to be 'as short as possible' or run in 2" of concrete to be 'outside the building'). I'd like to locate the service box at the other end on the house (The 'back').

Can I run the conduit to the back corner of the house to enter in a place I would like to mount the service entrance box (Thus keeping the internal run as short as possible), or do I have to mount it on the front corner of the house? It seems that Hydro's concern is met, given that the meter is on a pole, but is there any code requirement to locate the service in the front part of the house?

Answer: It is not a code requirement to keep the service at the front of the house. Proceed by keeping the service conduit outside the house, then you are allowed to locate the service panel at the back of the building. Ensure that the interior portion is kept as short as possible. If you have any question regarding that contact the District Electrical Inspector. One note of caution, due to the length (60m), you should do a voltage drop calculation to ensure the size of the service conductors are in compliance with Rule 8-102.