



*January 15, 2008*

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**2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code  
Adoption rule—Electrical provisions**

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**Opportunity for public input:**

Those who would like to provide public testimony may attend a public hearing on January 15, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. at the Building Codes Division, Conference Room A. Written comments may also be submitted to the contact below. The last day to submit written comments is 5:00 p.m. January 18, 2008.

**Purpose of the rule:**

This proposed rule adopts the electrical provisions of the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC).

This proposed rule would be effective April 1, 2008.

**Citation:**

Amend: OAR 918-480.

To view the amended code language click the following:

[Amendments to the 2008 National Electrical Code.](#)

**History:**

From September 14 to October 31, 2007, the division received code amendment proposals. The Electrical Code Review Committee met four times from October to November 2007. At these meetings, the committee reviewed model code changes from the 2005 National Electrical Code (NEC) to the 2008 NEC, existing Oregon amendments, new code amendment proposals, and existing statewide code interpretations and alternate method rulings.

The Residential Structures Board reviewed the electrical code amendments on December 11, 2007. The Residential Structures Board approved the committee's recommendation to go public hearing and subsequent adoption.

**Contact:**

If you have questions or need further information, please contact Hearing Officer Dennis Clements at (503) 378-4459, or [Dennis.L.Clements@state.or.us](mailto:Dennis.L.Clements@state.or.us).



Secretary of State  
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING HEARING\***

A Statement of Need and Fiscal Impact accompanies this form.

Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division	918
Agency and Division	Administrative Rules Chapter Number
Nicole M. Jantz	PO Box 14470, Salem, OR 97309
Rules Coordinator	Address
	(503) 378-4130
	Telephone

**RULE CAPTION**

Adopts the electrical provisions of the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code

**Not more than 15 words that reasonably identifies the subject matter of the agency's intended action.**

January 15, 2008	2:30 p.m.	1535 Edgewater Street NW, Salem, Oregon	Dennis L. Clements
Hearing Date	Time	Location	Hearings Officer

*Auxiliary aids for persons with disabilities are available upon advance request.*

**RULEMAKING ACTION**

Secure approval of new rule numbers (Adopted or Renumbered rules) with the Administrative Rules Unit prior to filing.

**ADOPT:**

**AMEND:** 918-480

**REPEAL:**

**RENUMBER:**

**AMEND & RENUMBER:**

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.020, 455.030, 455.110, 455.380 & 455.525

Other Auth.:

Stats. Implemented: 455.610

**RULE SUMMARY**

The proposed rules adopt the electrical provisions of the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing the negative economic impact of the rule on business.

January 18, 2008 5:00 p.m.

**Last Day for Public Comment** (Last day to submit written comments to the Rules Coordinator)

	Mark Long	
Signature	Printed name	Date
*Hearing Notices published in the Oregon Bulletin must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the 15 <sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month unless this deadline falls on a weekend or legal holiday, upon which the deadline is 5:00 pm the preceding workday. ARC 920-2005		

**STATEMENT OF NEED AND FISCAL IMPACT**

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Hearing or a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking accompanies this form.

Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division

918

Agency and Division

Administrative Rules Chapter Number

**In the Matter of:** Amending 918-480**Rule Caption:** (Not more than 15 words that reasonably identifies the subject matter of the agency's intended action.) Adopts the electrical provisions of the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code**Statutory Authority:** ORS 455.020, 455.030, 455.110, 455.380 & 455.525**Other Authority:****Stats. Implemented:** 455.610

**Need for the Rule(s):** ORS 455.610 requires the division to adopt, and amend as necessary, a low-rise code "that contains all the requirements, including electrical provisions, related to the construction of residential dwellings three stories or less above grade." This code is known as the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC). Furthermore, ORS 455.020 and 455.110 require the division to adopt a uniform state building code that conforms to model building codes generally accepted and in use to govern the "construction, reconstruction, alteration and repair of buildings and other structures" and the "installation and use of mechanical, heating and ventilating devices and equipment" in buildings and other structures.

The current Oregon Residential Specialty Code is based on the 2003 edition of the International Residential Code (IRC), with Oregon amendments. The 2006 International Residential Code, is the base model code adopted with Oregon amendments as the Oregon Residential Specialty Code, however, this proposed rule adopts the 2008 National Electrical Code (NEC) with Oregon amendments as the electrical provisions of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

**Documents Relied Upon, and where they are available:** Draft rules; Electrical Code Review Committee minutes from October through November 2007; minutes of the Electrical and Elevator Board meeting of December 6, 2007; and minutes of the Residential Structures Board meeting of December 11, 2007 are available from the division's Rule Coordinator located at 1535 NW Edgewater Street, Salem, Oregon, 97304 and are posted on the division's Web site.

**Fiscal and Economic Impact, including Statement of Cost of Compliance:** The Electrical Code Review Committee ("Committee") discussed the fiscal and economic impact of each code change proposal. Based on the information available at this time, the division has determined that state agencies, units of local government and members of the public who inspect, construct, remodel, alter or repair buildings and other structures could realize some slight cost increases as a result of the proposed code changes. Cost increases as a result of the following code changes: 1) tamper resistant receptacles; and 2) drilling floor joists in crawl spaces.

The division estimates that State agencies, cities and counties will also incur typical costs for the purchase of new code books for certified staff. The division is unable to determine the cost of code change training. Based on available information, the division is unable to quantify any additional fiscal or economic impact on state agencies, cities and counties for changes in construction practices or use of new materials.

The division licenses approximately 24,000 electrical contractors, installers, inspectors and plans reviewers. Many of these contractors are small businesses and will be impacted by changes to the Residential Specialty Code. The division is unable to determine the cost of training on code changes for these licensees. The proposed rules impose no additional reporting, record keeping, or administrative requirements on small businesses. These proposed rules impose no new equipment, supplies, labor and administrative requirements and no additional professional services are required to comply with these rules. No other impacts can be determined or quantified at this time based on information available to the division.

The Residential Structures Board made the specific finding that the added cost is necessary for the health and safety of the occupants and the public, or is necessary to conserve scarce resources.

**How were small businesses involved in the development of this rule?** Small businesses were represented on the Electrical Code Review Committee and on the Oregon State Plumbing Board and the Residential Structures Board.

**Administrative Rule Advisory Committee consulted?:** Yes

If not, why?:

Mark Long

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Signature

Printed name

Date

Administrative Rules Unit, Archives Division, Secretary of State, 800 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97310. ARC 925-2005

**2008 OREGON LOW-RISE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING CODE-  
ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING PROVISIONS' RULES**

**DIVISION 480  
ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLING SPECIALTY CODE**

**OAR 918-480-0005**

**Minimum Safety Standards for the Design and Construction of Residential Dwellings**

(1) The **Low-Rise Residential Dwelling Code**, identified in ORS 455.610, shall be known as the **Oregon Residential Specialty Code**.

(2) Effective April 1, 2008~~5~~, the **2008~~5~~ Oregon Residential Specialty Code** is the **2006~~3~~ Edition of the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings**, as published by the International Code Council, Inc. and as further amended by the Building Codes Division.

(3) Applicability of code changes to pending applications. Code requirements in effect at the time a plan review or permit application is filed shall control the construction under the application unless the applicant agrees to be controlled by subsequent changes.

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency **for review at the division. See division Web site for information on purchasing publications.**]

Stat. Auth.: ORS **455.020, 455.030, 455.110, 455.380 &** 455.525 & 455.380

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.610

Hist.: DC 11-1986, f. 6-30-86, ef. 7-1-86; DC 6-1987(Temp), f. & ef. 4-3-87; Renumbered from 814-031-0005; BCA 3-1990, f. 1-30-90, cert. ef. 4-1-90; BCA 7-1990(Temp), f. 3-23-90, cert. ef. 4-1-90; BCA 21-1990, f. 8-28-90, cert. ef. 9-24-90; BCA 30-1990, f. 12-21-90, cert. ef. 1-1-92; BCA 8-1991, f. 4-10-91, cert. ef. 7-1-91; BCA 32-1991(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 9-30-91; BCA 1-1992, f. & cert. ef. 2-6-91; BCA 4-1992(Temp), f. 3-4-92, cert. ef. 3-5-92; BCA 6-1992, f. 3-24-92, cert. ef. 3-27-92; BCA 13-1992, f. 6-29-92, cert. ef. 7-1-92; BCA 28-1992(Temp), f. 12-30-92, cert. ef. 1-1-93; BCA 3-1993(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 3-3-93; BCA 7-1993, f. 4-28-93, cert. ef. 5-1-93; BCA 10-1993(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 6-11-93; BCD 3-1996, f. 2-2-96, cert. ef. 4-1-96; BCD 19-1998, f. 9-30-98, cert. ef. 10-1-98, Renumbered from 918-480-0000; BCD 3-2000, f. 1-14-00 cert. ef. 4-1-00; BCD 33-2002, f. 12-20-02 cert. ef. 4-1-03; BCD 15-2004, f. 9-10-04, cert. ef. 10-1-04; BCD 5-2005, f. & cert. ef. 3-28-05

**OAR 918-480-0010**

**Amendments to the Oregon Residential Specialty Code**

(1) The Oregon Residential Specialty Code is adopted and amended pursuant to OAR chapter 918, division 8. Amendments adopted for inclusion into the Oregon Residential Specialty Code are placed in this rule, showing the section reference, a descriptive caption and a short description of the amendment.

(2) Effective April 1, ~~2005~~ **2008**:

(a) The ~~2003~~ **2006** Edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code as published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and amended by the division are adopted as the plumbing provisions of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code; and

(b) The ~~2005~~ **2008** Edition of the NFPA 70, National Electrical Code and amended by the division are adopted as the electrical provisions of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code. **See OAR Chapter 918, Division 305 for Oregon amendments to NFPA 70, National Electrical Code.**

[Publications: Publications referenced are available ~~from the agency~~ **for review at the division. See division Web site for information on purchasing publications.**]

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.020, 455.110, 455.525 & 455.610

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.610

Hist.: BCA 18-1993, f. 8-24-93, cert. ef. 8-29-93; BCA 28-1993, f. 10-22-93, cert. ef. 1-1-94; BCA 29-1993, f. 11-24-93, cert. ef. 12-1-93; BCD 6-1995, f. 3-31-95, cert. ef. 4-1-95; BCD 3-1996, f. 2-2-96, cert. ef. 4-1-96; BCD 22-1996(Temp), f. 10-1-96, cert. ef. 10-4-96; BCD 5-1997, f. 3-21-97, cert. ef. 4-1-97; Administrative Reformatting 1-19-98; BCD 3-1998, f. 1-29-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98; BCD 19-1998, f. 9-30-98, cert. ef. 10-1-98; BCD 3-2000, f. 1-14-00 cert. ef. 4-1-00; BCD 19-2000(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 8-15-00 thru 2-10-01; BCD 32-2000, f. 12-27-00, cert. ef. 1-1-01; BCD 3-2001, f. 2-9-01, cert. ef. 3-1-01; BCD 2-2002, f. 3-5-02, cert. ef. 4-1-02; BCD 22-2002(Temp), f. 9-13-02 cert. ef. 10-1-02 thru 3-29-03; BCD 30-2002, f. 12-6-02, cert. ef. 1-1-03; BCD 1-2003(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 1-10-03 thru 3-31-03; BCD 33-2002, f. 12-20-02 cert. ef. 4-1-03; BCD 15-2004, f. 9-10-04, cert. ef. 10-1-04; BCD 5-2005, f. & cert. ef. 3-28-05; BCD 9-2006, f. 6-30-06, cert. ef. 7-1-06