



## Information Bulletin:

### Revised ES54 F3-06 and F3-07 BC Hydro Transformer Pad on Private Property Installation Standards

#### 1.0 Items Covered

ES54 F3-06 R12 BC Hydro Transformer Pad on Top of Soil on Private Property Inside Building Alcove

ES54 F3-07 R6 BC Hydro Pad-Mounted Transformer on Private Property Next to Customer Building

This advisory and the standards listed above can be found at [bchydro.com/distributionstandards](http://bchydro.com/distributionstandards).

#### 2.0 Overview

This bulletin introduces key revisions to standards ES54 F3-06 R12 and ES54 F3-07 R6 which govern the placement of BC Hydro transformer pads on private property. The main update clarifies grounding and bonding requirements by specifying the BC Hydro counterpoise must now be installed at the midpoint between the transformer pad and the closest wall or structure, with a maximum distance of 900 mm unless otherwise indicated. These changes aim to improve safety and ensure compliance with installation practices.

- a. Substantive changed content in the revised standard is marked by green vertical revision lines in the left margin; and
- b. This advisory is referenced by number in the Revision Notes section in the revised standard.

Changes in ES54 F3-06 R12 are described in the following table:

Page	Section	Changes
3	Note 6 – Grounding and Bonding	Added note 6d to ensure the BC Hydro counterpoise to be installed at the midpoint between the transformer pad and the closest adjacent wall or structure, to a maximum of 900mm unless otherwise noted.
4	Note 6 – Grounding and Bonding	Added note 6e to confirm grounding loops are installed per the diagram to minimize step-and-touch potentials.

Page	Section	Changes
6	Figure 2	Updated figure to reduce the minimum spacing from the back of alcove to the transformer pad, and to increase the minimum spacing from the front of the transformer pad to the front of the alcove.
8	Figure 5	Updated figure to reduce the minimum spacing from the BC Hydro counterpoise to the back of the transformer pad; increased spacing between the transformer pad and bollards; updated measurement reference for the front counterpoise from the transformer pad to the edge of bollard; added reference to ES54 U2-02 for spacing between bollards; and added references to notes 6d and 6e.
9	Figure 6	Updated figure to reduce minimum distances behind the transformer; revised reference to depth of primary service ducts; increased spacing from the transformer pad to the bollard; and added reference to note 6d.

Changes in ES54 F3-07 R6 are described in the following table:

Page	Section	Changes
3	Note 3 – Building Permit Drawings	Expanded note 3e to clarify bollard placement requirements.
4	Note 6 – Grounding and Bonding	Added note 6f to ensure the BC Hydro counterpoise to be installed at the midpoint between the transformer pad and the closest adjacent wall or structure, to a maximum of 900mm unless otherwise noted.
4	Note 6 – Grounding and Bonding	Added note 6g to confirm grounding loops are installed per the diagram to minimize step-and-touch potentials.
4	Note 6 – Grounding and Bonding	Added note 6h allowing the building's concrete-encased (Ufer) grounding to be used as part of the customer grounding loop.
5	Figure 2	Updated figure to reduce minimum spacing between the back of the transformer pad and the customer building; removed the ground wire running parallel to the fence; and added reference to note 6h.
7	Figure 4	Updated figure to reduce the minimum spacing between the back of the transformer pad and the customer building; and added reference to notes 6g and 6f.
8	Figure 6	Updated figure to reduce minimum distances behind the transformer; revised reference to depth of primary service ducts; revised clearance between property line and customer grounding loop; removed typical distance of 600mm; and updated item reference from 2 to 8.

### 3.0 Action

ES54 F3-06 and F3-07 become effective immediately. For projects in flight, customers, consultants, and equipment manufacturers may continue to use the previous revisions of the standards.

#### **Designers, Engineers, and Civil Inspectors**

Designers, engineers, and civil inspectors should familiarize themselves with the revisions to ES54 F3-06 and F3-07.

#### **Customer and Customer Representatives**

Customers and customer representatives, including electricians, project managers, consultants, and contractors, should familiarize themselves with the revisions to ES54 F3-06 and F3-07.

### 4.0 Contact

#### **Customer and Customer Representatives**

Please direct questions and concerns to your local BC Hydro representative.

#### **BC Hydro Employees and Contractors**

Please direct questions and concerns related to the standard to [distribution.standards@bchydro.com](mailto:distribution.standards@bchydro.com).

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