



Ensuring Public Safety Since 1917

# Connections

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## A Message From the Executive Director:



### Hello, everyone!

The Board is contemplating a **low or limited voltage license requirement**. There would be a different set of training and education requirements for this type of license. Currently, limited voltage work in North Dakota is mostly unregulated and the NDSEB feels we should be assuring that people who do this work are qualified and the work is inspected.

Minnesota has a similar license and we will look at their program as well as other options. We are forming a study committee of volunteers to gather pertinent information for this license and report back to the Board. There will be more information on this topic as the study committee moves forward.

Recently, our inspectors have been seeing equipment installed by others that

are not listed, especially air compressors. Just want to remind everyone that when purchasing electrical equipment, or when your customers purchase electrical equipment, be sure the equipment has a listing. Permanently installed air compressors need to be listed. Several inspectors have received calls from electricians citing installations where a vendor has sold an unsuspecting owner a piece of equipment that is not listed. Give the inspector or our office a call if you run across any of this equipment or have questions about it.

During this past license renewal period, the office staff has been working with contracting electricians to get their past due correction notices completed. We appreciate the cooperation, but the staff is spending countless hours on this and it is really the contracting electrician's responsibility to have these cleaned up by their due date. Remember: if the

correction cannot be completed in the allotted time, please call your local inspector or this office and review the correction or request an extension. As some of you have witnessed, if you let the corrections go past due, administrative fees are accessed and your license is placed on "hold" for renewal. We would rather work with you before these corrections go past due or better yet, complete them when they're due so we don't have to resort to drastic measures.

We like to hear from you, so send me your questions and I'll do my best to answer them. As always, we want your comments. Communication with our office is important.

I hope you're having a great summer!

Be safe out there,  
James Schmidt

## New Online “OneStop” System Coming Soon

A new online “OneStop” system for the NDSEB is under development and nearing completion. This system will be used for electricians licensed in the State of North Dakota to renew a license, submit an application for licensure, inquire about CEU hours, or, if a North Dakota licensed contracting Master or Class B, submit electronic wiring certificates “e-Certs”.

Provided are samples of what you will see with the new system (when it launches - it's not live yet). The top image is the main page where you can either click on “Permits”, “Licenses”, or “Register”. The second image is an example of a page after clicking on “Permits”.

In particular, the e-Cert system has been in existence since 2003 and is designed to allow a contracting Master or Class B to enter, view, and pay for wiring certificates. It also allows to view and submit correction reports through the web. It automatically forwards the e-Cert to the power supplier, saving the cost of postage.

Eventually, the NDSEB will move entirely to an online electrical wiring certificate process, thereby eliminating the paper wiring certificates (and also eliminating the need for extra storage).

A majority of North Dakota electricians use the current e-Cert system now, and have indicated that

they will never go back to paper. It also maintains seven (7) years worth of information for your records.

More information will follow, and the new online “OneStop” system will hopefully launch in the Fall, 2015. ☺

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- Issuing Wiring Certificates for Re-Energizing Electrical Services
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### NDSEB Mission Statement:

Ensure safety and protect life, health, and property in the daily use of electricity.

## Issuing Wiring Certificates for Re-energizing Electrical Services

When issuing a wiring certificate for an electric service that had the meter pulled, there are several things to keep in mind:

1. The power company is requesting this to relieve them of the liability exposure of having energized an unsafe electrical system.
2. Go to the site and examine the electrical system to see if it is safe to energize. Don't do this over the phone. An example is where an electrical contractor had issued a certificate for a re-energization, the basement had been flooded to the floor joists by a broken water pipe, and the owner didn't tell that to the contractor. The contractor had installed the panel just a few years before and it looked brand new from the outside, but on the inside the bus bar was green from corrosion and the screws were badly rusted.
3. We are not asking that the service or the rest of the house meet present code, only that it meets code for when the electrical system was originally installed, plus a few basic safety items:
  - a. The service should be connected to a grounding electrode.
  - b. Interior metal water piping should be bonded.
  - c. Broken, defective, or water damaged electrical equipment, devices and light fixtures should be replaced.
  - d. Wiring should be in good condition, not frayed or otherwise damaged.
  - e. All boxes or other openings should be covered. Wires hanging out of the walls or ceilings should be eliminated.
4. Don't issue the wiring certificate to the power company until you have looked at the electrical system and made the necessary changes for a safe energization. I know everyone has the best intentions, with a lot of excuses. Meanwhile, time passes and the unsafe conditions go unrepairs. ☺

- Lyle Wergeland, Director of Inspections



NDSEB Board member Karen Karls received a plaque for her 15 years of service to the NDSEB at their meeting on July 14, 2015. Presenting the award to Karen was Board President Earl Scherer (left) and Board Vice President Rodney Mayer. Karls represented the public on the NDSEB. A replacement will be appointed by Governor Dalrymple soon. Thank you Karen from NDSEB staff.

## Temporary Installation Safety

With summer here, there are many projects that are underway and many of those are using temporary power to carry them along until the permanent electrical system can be installed. As electricians, we are typically responsible for installing and maintaining the temporary power at the jobsite. We want to point out some things that are required for the safety of all workers.

All receptacles are required to be of the grounding type and shall be connected to an equipment grounding conductor in accordance with 250.118. All 15 and 20 amp, 125 and 250 volt receptacles installed in wet locations shall comply with 406.9(B)(1), which requires the use of an extra duty in-use style cover and that the receptacle is weather resistant.

One change in the 2014 code is the requirement that cable assemblies and flexible cords and cables installed as branch circuits and feeders shall not be installed on the floor or ground; they must be supported in place and in a manner that will protect them from

physical damage. Extension cords are not required to comply with this requirement.

GFCI protection for 15, 20, and 30 amp 125 volt receptacle outlets is required for circuits installed for temporary use and also for permanent wiring being used for temporary power use. All other receptacles that do not fall under the requirements of 590.6(A)(1) through (A)(3) are required to be protected by having GFCI protection for personnel or being part of an Assured Equipment Grounding Conductor Program. 590.6(B)(2) gives all of the requirements that must be followed for this type of program.

Please be sure to regularly test all GFCI devices and check extension cords and tool cords for cuts, frays, and loose ends or prongs to be sure no one gets injured on the job. ☺

- Scott Halle, Training & Compliance Administrator

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## 2015 NDSEB CEU Class Schedule:

### August 2015

August 6, 2015: Devils Lake  
August 7, 2015: Jamestown

### September 2015

September 10, 2015: Grand Forks  
September 11, 2015: Fargo

### October 2015

October 8, 2015: Dickinson  
October 9, 2015: Williston

### November 2015

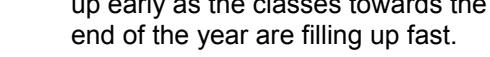
November 19, 2015: Minot  
November 20, 2015: Bismarck

### December 2015

December 10, 2015: Grand Forks  
December 11, 2015: Fargo

## News & Notes from NDSEB

- This year's IAEI Western Section Meeting is to be held in Jackson Hole, WY from September 20-23, 2015. Mitch Feininger (NDSEB's District 3 Inspector) will be one of the presenters on the topic of hazardous locations. If anyone has an interest and wants more information, go to <http://www.iaei-western.org/meeting/>.
- To clarify some confusion on continuing education credited to electricians: At the meeting held on September 14, 2005, the NDSEB discussed whether licensees should be granted credit for attending the same continuing education class more than once. It was the decision of NDSEB that if a licensee attends the same class from the same sponsor with the same course approval number, the licensee can only use those continuing education hours one time. This change took effect on any classes held on or after January 1, 2006.
- NDSEB Training & Compliance Administrator Scott Halle continues to conduct **CEU classes** throughout the state, so remember to sign up early as the classes towards the end of the year are filling up fast.



## Making A Connection:

### District 6 Inspector David Paul



#### Originally

from Fullerton, North Dakota, David Paul graduated from Dickey Central High School, served in the Air Force, and worked

for several electrical contractors before coming to work for NDSEB seven years ago as the District 6 (Jamestown area) Electrical Inspector. He attended NDSCS and VCSU.

David and his wife Courtney have three children - Lexi (15), McKenzie (13), and Hoyt (6).

**What is your favorite part of the job?**  
*Meeting all the different people and electricians on the jobs and seeing a project go from bare ground to a completed building.*

**Did you or do you have a mentor or a person that inspired you? My Grandpa and Pastor Scott Block. They both have taught and shown me the**

*finer things in life are not material.*

**What are your hobbies?** *Fishing, hunting, camping, or anything sports or outdoors.*

**What would be your dream vacation?** *Extended hunting/fishing trip to Alaska.*

**The best thing about North Dakota is . . . ?** *Hunting and fishing opportunities.*

**The best movie of all time is . . . ?** *Saving Private Ryan, Lone Survivor, We Were Soldiers, Act of Valor, The Patriot, Lethal Weapon(s), Die Hard (s), and Tombstone. ☺*



- Applicants seeking a license have been questioning the North Dakota qualifications for electrical licensure. Please refer to:

**N.D.C.C §43-09-11. Qualifications.** An applicant for an electrician's license must have the following experience and training:

1. For licensure as a master electrician, an applicant must have completed one year's experience as a licensed journeyman electrician.
2. For licensure as a journeyman electrician, an applicant must have:
  - a. Completed eight thousand hours experience in installing and repairing electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment, which experience may not be obtained in less than three years.
  - b. Effective for an applicant who registered with the board as an apprentice after January 31, 2008, completed at least one of the following:

(1) Successfully completed apprenticeship training approved by the federal bureau of apprenticeship and training and completed eight thousand hours' experience in installing and repairing electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment.

(2) Successfully completed an appropriate course of study, which may not be less than two years or the equivalent of two years, at a board-approved institution of higher education and completed eight thousand hours' experience in installing and repairing electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment. The board may determine equivalent hours of education that may be applied as a credit against the eight thousand hours' experience requirement under this paragraph.

3. For licensure as a class B electrician, eighteen months' experience in farmstead or residential wiring. ☺