

Program Explanation

The Reduced Charge Option is available for new 1-Ø underground electrical services and allows the customer to install the conduit for the service cable. When the installation is complete, inspected, and all requirements have been met, Idaho Power will then install the cable and meter at a reduced charge.

Be sure to connect to the proper equipment. Refer to the *Definitions* section or contact Idaho Power for clarification.

Call **Dig-Line** for locations
at least **2 business days** before digging.



Know what's **below**.
Call before you dig.

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Conformance

Each installation is **subject to review and inspection** at any time by Idaho Power for conformance to these specifications.

If a non-conformance is discovered such as the conduit length, route, depth, etc., or if you are not ready when the installation crew arrives, the cable **WILL NOT BE INSTALLED** and **you may be assessed a return trip charge** for each return trip. See the Cost Information document for more information. After the non-compliance is corrected, contact Idaho Power to reschedule the installation.



Contact Idaho Power if:

- ◆ This is your first time using this program.
- ◆ Your service exceeds any of the design limits.
- ◆ A conduit stub cannot be found.
- ◆ You require service from a pole.

Design Limitations

200 Amp. For self-contained meter bases up through 200 amps that meet the following limitations, you do not need to contact Idaho Power until you are ready for your service to be installed.

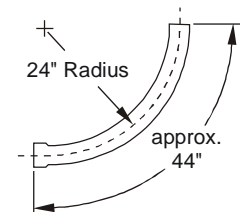
- ◆ **Use 2" gray, UL listed, Schedule 40 PVC**
Use 2" conduit, bends, and fittings unless Idaho Power specifically tells you to use 3".
- ◆ **125' maximum service length**
This is the horizontal distance measured along the service route between Idaho Power's equipment and the meter.
- ◆ **Up to 135° of conduit bends.**
Don't include the bends at the meter or Idaho Power's equipment in the 135° limit.

400 Amp. For larger self-contained meter bases up through 400 amps, you must contact Idaho Power for **approval in advance** to ensure a proper design.

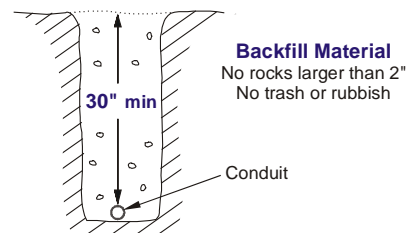
- ◆ **3" conduit**
All services to meter bases larger than 200 amps require 3" conduit, bends, and fittings.

Additional Requirements

Conduit bends. Only use gray colored manufactured bends with a radius of at least 24".
Do not form your own bends!



Trench and Backfill.



WARNING!

Non-conformances may have to be corrected at the builder's expense.

Important Information

DON'T heat the conduit in any way to shape it or to form bends.

DON'T leave open trenches. Any open trench must be adequately barricaded or protected to ensure public safety as required by local, state, or federal rules and regulations. Keep open trenches to a minimum.

DON'T change conduit sizes in the run.

DO compact the trench particularly near the meter where settling could pull the conduit down and damage the meter base. Although compacting the trench is the builder's responsibility, the homeowner is responsible for any future settling.

DO make square conduit cuts. Remove burrs from the inside and outside edges.

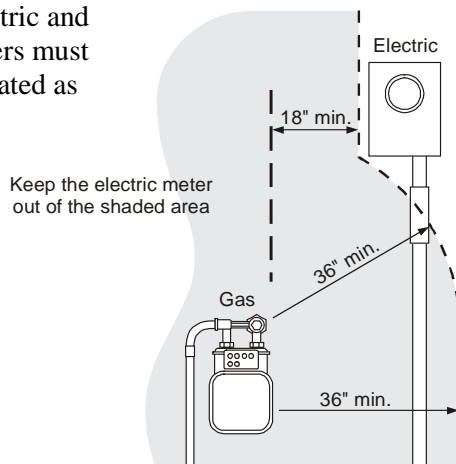
DO glue conduit joints. All joints must be completely seated and permanently glued with PVC cement.

DO keep dirt and debris out of the conduit.

DO keep proper trench separations. Keep a 12" horizontal and vertical clearance between the electrical conduit and all other utilities and any structures.

DO keep proper meter separations.

The electric and gas meters must be separated as shown.



Ownership and Maintenance

Idaho Power assumes ownership of the builder-installed conduit when the electrical service cable is installed. However, the builder is responsible for the condition of the conduit and trench until the ownership of the home is transferred to the first buyer.

After the cable has been installed, **Idaho Power** will own and maintain:

- ◆ All conduit and fittings installed below the finished grade.
- ◆ The entire length of electric cable and the connections at Idaho Power's equipment.
- ◆ The meter.

NOTE. Idaho Power will connect the cable to the meter base but the homeowner will own and maintain the connections.

After the cable has been installed, the **builder** or **homeowner** will own and maintain:

- ◆ All conduit and fittings installed above the finished grade.
- ◆ The trench and any landscaping.
- ◆ The meter base and its connections to the electric cable.
- ◆ All wiring and electrical connections on the customer's side of the meter.

Meter Base Guidelines

Refer to the *Meter Base Identification Guidelines* located on www.idahopower.com.

Meter Base Requirements

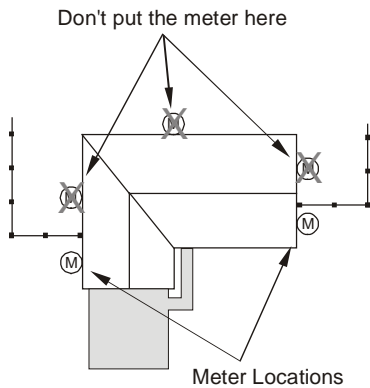
The meter base must accept 3" conduit if 3" conduit is used for the service.

The meter base and conduit must be on the outside of an outside structure wall and remain accessible to Idaho Power.

Exceptions must be approved in advance!

Locate the meter on the side of the house toward the front.

- ◆ Don't place the meter behind a fence.
- ◆ Don't put the meter at the back of the house.



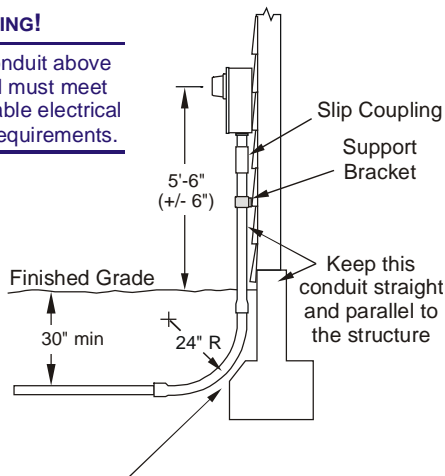
NOTE. Placing the meter in front of the fence will keep the meter reader out of the back yard.

The center of the meter must be 5'-6" (+/- 6") above the finished grade.

Meters installed on a pedestal require a minimum height of 3'-0".

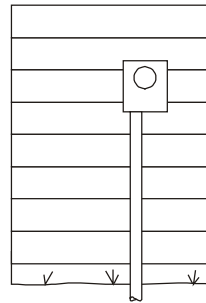
WARNING!

Any conduit above ground must meet applicable electrical code requirements.



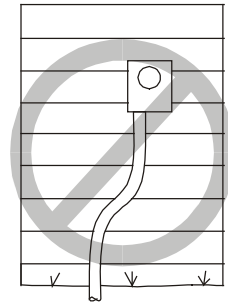
Suggestion. Block out a section of the footing for an easier installation.

OK



Keep the riser straight

NOT PERMITTED

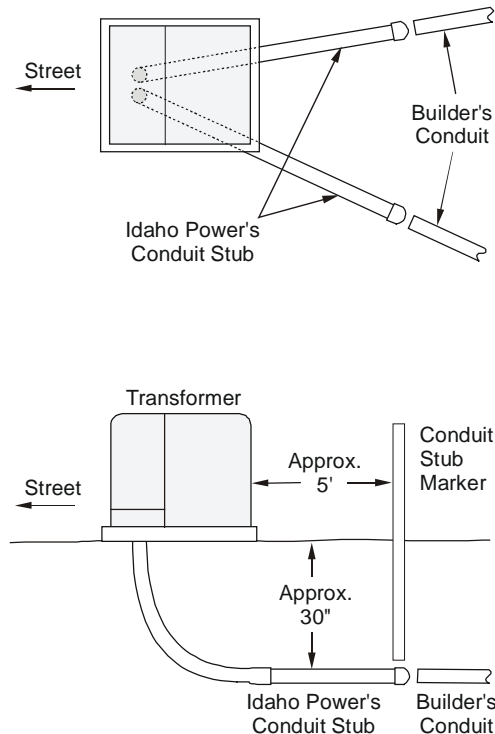


Don't form the PVC conduit with heat or add extra bends

Transformers

Most transformers have 2" or 3" conduit stubs as shown below. Expose the end of the stub and connect your new conduit. If the stub marker cannot be found, contact your Idaho Power representative.

Don't dig under the transformer!

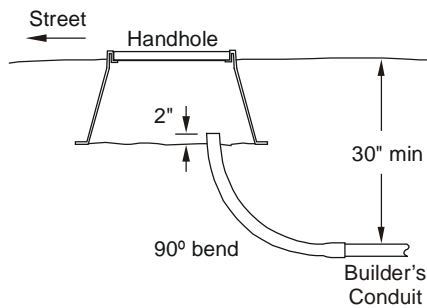
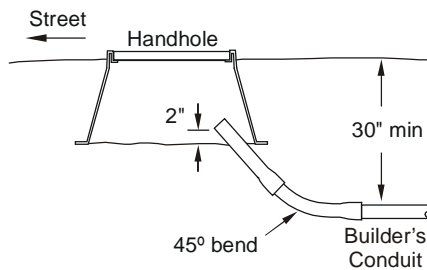
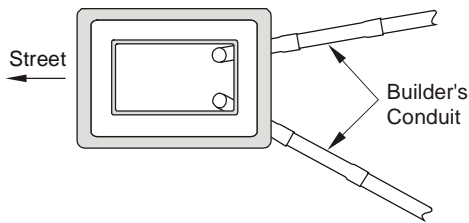


Handholes

Most handholes do not have conduit stubs.

- ◆ Plumb the conduit into the nearest corner of the handhole using a 45° or 90° bend with the end 2" above the handhole floor.
- ◆ Plug or cap the open end of the conduit to keep out dirt and debris.

If there is a conduit stub, expose the end and connect your conduit to it.



Contact Idaho Power
if your service involves a pole.

Special Requirements for Poles

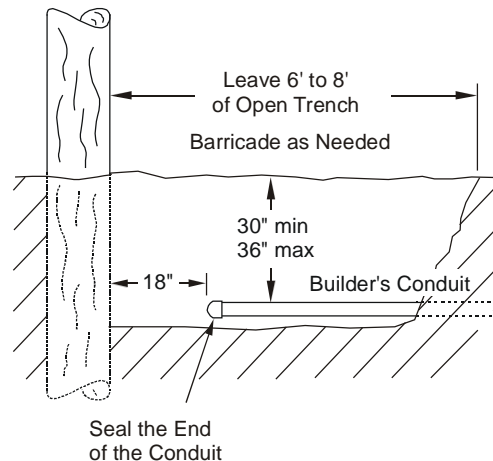
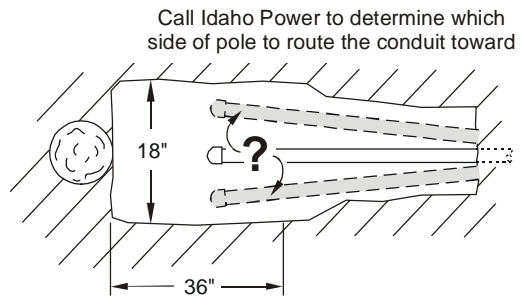
You **must meet** with an Idaho Power representative **prior to digging the trench** to determine:

1. If the pole is adequate for your service.
2. Which side of the pole you must route the conduit toward.

Trench all the way to the base of the pole.
If the pole becomes unstable, contact Idaho Power immediately! When backfilling the trench, leave 6' to 8' open adjacent to the pole.

Any open trench must be adequately barricaded or protected for public safety.

After Idaho Power connects the pole riser and conduit, it is the builder's responsibility to backfill and compact any remaining trench.



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