

## WCMES UNDERGROUND SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

### **General Requirements**

1. The customer or their electrical contractor shall furnish and install all conduit, trenching, and fittings required for underground electric service, in accordance with WCMES specifications.
2. Conduit shall extend continuously from the meter base to the WCMES point of feed, which may be a pad-mounted transformer, handhole, or service pole.
3. WCMES will provide and install the service cable once conduit installation has been completed, inspected, and approved.
4. The conduit system must be installed, inspected, and approved by WCMES Engineering prior to backfilling the trench. Failure to obtain inspection may result in re-excavation at the customer's expense.
5. Customer must install meter base at WCMES approved location.

### **Conduit Installation**

1. Conduit Size & Material:
  - For 200-amp service, conduit shall be a minimum of 3-inch Schedule 80 PVC or rigid metallic conduit.
  - For 400-amp service, conduit shall be a minimum of 3-inch Schedule 80 PVC or rigid metallic conduit.
  - All metallic conduit must have bushings installed on both ends.
  - All conduit above grade shall be Schedule 80; conduit below grade may be Schedule 40 or 80 PVC.
  - Each conduit joint shall be fully glued and watertight. Plumbing-grade fittings are not permitted.
2. Depth and Routing:
  - Conduit shall be installed at a minimum depth of 24 inches below final grade.
  - Trench shall be straight (free of any bends exceeding 5°), properly graded, and free of rocks, debris, or other utilities.
  - Conduit must be installed with a pull string throughout its entire length.
  - Conduit runs must remain accessible to WCMES at all times.

3. Conduit at Pole or Transformer:

- If the point of feed is a pole, the customer shall provide one 10-foot stick of Schedule 80 PVC conduit for WCMES to install on the pole.
- If the point of feed is a pad-mounted transformer or handhole, conduit shall terminate per WCMES direction, with elbows and sweeps installed and ends left capped (unglued).

### **Trenching and Inspection**

1. Customer Responsibility:

- The customer is responsible for trenching, conduit installation, backfill, and maintaining clear access for WCMES inspection.
- The pathway must be free of all obstacles, such as water lines, sewer, and other underground utilities. The customer shall locate and mark all existing facilities on the premises prior to excavation.

2. Inspection:

- A ditch/conduit inspection by WCMES is **required** before any backfilling.
- All conduits, sweeps, and joints must be visible during inspection.
- Failure to obtain an inspection may delay service and require the customer to uncover the trench at their expense.

### **Meter Base and Foundation**

1. The customer must ensure that the meter base is installed in an approved location and that the footing is clear of the entrance cable path.
2. If an offset in the foundation was not provided, the edge must be chipped away to make a clear path for the entrance cable.
3. The entrance conduit shall extend at least 10 inches below ground line and be properly strapped and secured before requesting inspection.

## **WCMES Responsibilities**

1. WCMES will:
  - Pull and terminate the service conductors once the customer's conduit and trench are inspected and approved.
  - Set and connect the transformer, pad, or service point.
2. WCMES is not responsible for:
  - Additional backfill if the trench caves in after installation.
  - Damage to unmarked or improperly located customer-owned facilities.

## **Fees and Compliance**

- All applicable fees must be paid prior to WCMES performing installation.
- Failure to comply with these requirements may result in rejection by the State Wiring Inspector and delays in service connection.

## **Contact Information**

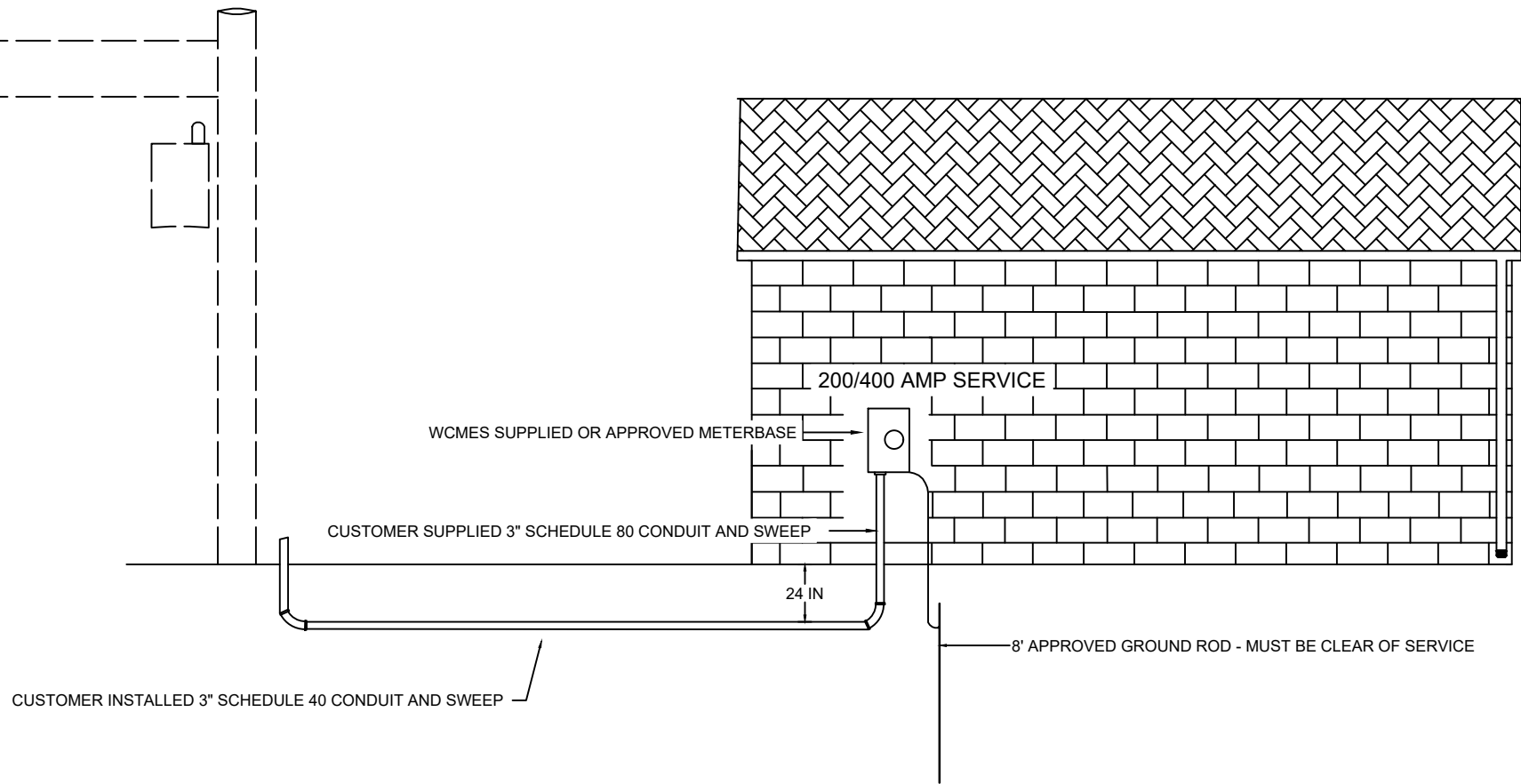
For questions or trench inspection scheduling, contact:

WCMES Engineering Department – (731) 587-9521

7/1/2026

Hunter Wood

Manager of Engineering



**NOTE: AS OF 7/1/2026 ALL NEW URD SERVICES MUST BE INSTALLED BY CUSTOMER**

1. THE GROUND RODS MUST BE CLEAR OF SERVICE PATH
2. THE PATH AROUND THE METER BASE MUST BE CLEAR OF DEBRIS
3. ALL CONDUITS MUST BE INSPECTED BEFORE BACKFILL
4. PULL STRING MUST BE INSTALLED IN CONDUITS BEFORE SERVICE INSTALL



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