

TO: Contractors, Electricians and Homeowner's

FROM: Edith A. Hampton, Acting Building Official

SUBJECT: **Service Disconnect and 4th Equipment Grounding Wire**

DATE: June 1, 2000

Affected July 1, 2000 all building permits issued for electrical work, electrical upgrades, and new homes will be required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC) to install a service disconnect to cut off all conductors from service conductors.

Section 41016.2 in the One and Two Family Dwelling Code (CABO) Chapter 41 will be strictly enforced. This code states that "the service disconnecting means shall be installed at a readily accessible location either outside of a building or inside nearest the point of entrance of the service panels box." When a meter base and service panel can be installed back to back no disconnects will be required.

A fourth equipment ground wire must also be used to ensure that all equipment is grounded; also this will be strictly enforced.

If you should have any questions, don't hesitate to call my office at 540-980-7710.

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