

Date: 2026-01-08

Regulation Name: The Manitoba Electrical Code Regulation
The Performance Standards for Electrical Permits Regulation

Type of Regulation (e.g., LGenC, Ministerial, Board):
Lieutenant Governor in Council

Primary Act: The Manitoba Hydro Act

Minister: Honourable Adrien Sala

Department, Government Agency or Board: Manitoba Finance

Proposed Coming into Force Date: Upon proclamation following 30-day public consultation

SUMMARY

Provide a high-level statement of the issue addressed by the regulation. (Maximum length: two sentences)

The Manitoba Electrical Code Regulation unifies and adopts the most up to date electrical code for the province, resulting in red tape reduction and alignment with other jurisdictions. The Performance Standards for Electrical Permits Regulation require Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg to notify applicants, conduct inspections, and make decisions within fixed timeframes thereby improving consistency, predictability, and timeliness to the electrical permit process.

Provide a concise summary of the key issue/ problems being addressed and context for the regulation. Clearly describe why it is an issue/problem and why government action is required.

There are currently two electrical codes for within and outside the City of Winnipeg enforced by the City and Manitoba Hydro, respectively. Government action is required to unify the electrical code in the province through the Manitoba Electrical Code Regulation, which adopts the latest edition of the Canadian Electrical Code (2024), with limited Manitoba-specific amendments. This has the effect of reducing red tape for industry and aligning Manitoba with other jurisdictions.

Government action is required to introduce service standards to ensure timeliness and predictability of the approving authorities notifying applicants, conducting inspections, and making decisions on an electrical permit application.

Provide a concise summary of the social, economic and environmental impacts of the regulation and who will be affected. Explain how the regulation is in the public interest.

The Manitoba Electrical Code is in the public interest as it adopts the Canadian Electrical Code – a national standard that governs the installation and maintenance of electrical equipment across Canada, ensuring safety and compliance with modern practices. A uniform code supports economic growth by providing consistent and reliable standards in the province and ensuring alignment with other Canadian jurisdictions. This latest edition of the code includes several updates intended to make it easier to adopt green energy initiatives.

The Performance Standards for Electrical Permits Regulation require Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg to notify applicants, conduct inspections, and make decisions within fixed timeframes. This is in the public interest as they provide certainty and predictability for customers.

If applicable, indicate the unproclaimed Act to which the regulation relates.

The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act, S.M. 2021, c. 37, Schedule C.

Implications and Impacts

Describe the benefits of the regulation.

- The benefits of the regulations are:
- Certainty for industry and customers.
 - Red tape reduction.
 - Predictable timelines.
 - Alignment with other Canadian jurisdictions.
 - Support for green energy initiatives and safety updates.

Describe the adverse impacts, if any, of the regulation.

The department is not aware of any adverse impacts of the regulations.

Describe the compliance, inspection and enforcement measures, if any, in the regulation.

The Manitoba Electrical Code is enforced by Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg. Manitoba Hydro oversees electrical permits and inspections outside the City of Winnipeg; the City of Winnipeg oversees electrical permits and inspections within the city.

Describe the alternatives to regulation considered in developing the regulation.

There is no alternative to the regulations because the electrical code only becomes law and enforceable when adopted and referenced in law by jurisdictions.

Describe the social, economic and environmental impacts of the regulation, including the impact on Indigenous communities, rural and Northern Manitoba, non-profit organizations and small business and provincial competitiveness.

Describe the impacts of the regulation on vulnerable or protected populations.

Describe the impacts of the regulation on the public interest.

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Exceptions to time periods based on accessibility of the location being inspected are provided under the Performance Standards for Electrical Permits regulation. These exceptions could impact Indigenous communities, rural and Northern Manitoba.

Consultation and Engagement

Describe the consultation (both internal and external) and the engagement that took place in the development of the policy underlying the regulation.

The department worked with Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg on developing the regulations. The department considered their recommendations based on the technical expertise and enforcement responsibilities of the authorities.

The department also conducted initial consultations with industry stakeholders on the regulations.

The Canadian Electrical Code itself undergoes many stages of consultation. It is developed through a consensus process by experts who form the official Technical Committee. Key groups include regulators; owners, operators and producers who represent electrical manufacturers, electrical installation designers and installers, and electrical installation user groups; and general interest groups such as fire chiefs, electric utilities, insurers, educators, consumers.

Implementation

State the proposed implementation date.

Upon proclamation, following 30-day public consultation.

Describe the plan to implement the regulation, including information about the required resources, policies and procedures.

Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg are preparing training materials and will deliver presentations available to all Manitoba electricians and contractors at various locations throughout the province. Training materials will be posted on Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg's websites.

In addition, the CSA Group offers various training products on the 2024 Edition of the Canadian Electrical Code.

Describe the communications plan for internal and external stakeholders and the public about the implementation of the regulation.

The details of the proclamation and coming into force of the regulations will be published on the Manitoba Laws website. The department will inform Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg directly. As Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg are the authorities having jurisdiction over the electrical code, they will inform their subscribers about the implementation of the regulations.

Describe the plan to measure, assess and report on the effectiveness of the regulation and whether the objectives have been achieved.

The department will monitor implementation feedback from industry and approving authorities on the Performance Standards for Electrical Permits Regulation and adjust these standards as needed.

The department will continue regular engagement with Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg on matters related to their enforcement of the Manitoba Electrical Code.