

## **Construction Services & Permitting**

# **Early Release of Power**

## **Guidelines**

*Revised February 2014*

### **General:**

The Building Official acknowledges that certain finishes and materials are affected by climatic conditions, that a security system is an important and vital building component, and the need to test equipment prior to obtaining a final building inspection are valid requests. The Early Release of Power is distinct from Temporary Power and Power from a Sawpole, as defined herein. Energizing the electrical power to a building is potentially hazardous, as such the authority to make such a request is a responsibility borne onto the permit applicant.

### **Definitions:**

Contractor – The permit applicant that applied for and obtained the electrical permit for the building of which an Early Release of Power has been requested.

Early Release of Power – A process granting authorization to the power company, from the Building Official or his designee, to energize electrical services of a building prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

Sawpole – An energized panel board attached to a pole, stand or other type of structure that provides electrical power to a construction site for the purpose of providing construction trades sufficient electrical power to energize their respective tools. A sawpole is for the sole application of providing power for use during the construction of a building or structure. A sawpole is not an approved means of energizing a building, structure or vacant property.

Temporary Power – Use of electricity for a temporary use including, but not limited to weekend events, holiday associated sales and uses approved through the Temporary Use process.

### **Policy/Procedure:**

In granting Early Release of Power, the contractor must agree to the following:

- Contractor will not allow use of early released power on the current project other than for those items requested on the Early Release of Power Request form. Any person or contractor violating this agreement, or using early released power in a hazardous or unauthorized manner, will result in a violation complaint filed against the person or contractor.
- Contractor will lock off access to uncompleted areas and/or lock service to areas where exposed wiring has not been safely protected. Contractor will maintain all early released power in a safe manner until the Certificate of Occupancy is issued; or when a Certificate of Occupancy is not required, a final electrical inspection is conducted.
- Contractor will protect all construction outlets by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).
- Violation will result in immediate shut-off of power and contractor further agrees that violation may prohibit contractor from applying for Early Release of Power for a period of not less than two (2) years from date of violation.

Therefore, the following procedure is hereby established to allow the early release of power:

1. Electrical Contractor must obtain and complete the Early Release of Power Request form. (The form can be found on our website at [www.stpete.org](http://www.stpete.org) or by visiting the Construction Services & Permitting Department.)
2. Contractor to pay associated Early Release application fee.
3. Schedule applicable (#0294 Temporary for Test) electrical inspection when ready for release of power to utility.

*Note: The Building Official may consider granting variations of this policy/procedure, yet variation from this policy/procedure will not be interpreted as setting precedence.*



# Construction Services & Permitting Early Release of Power Request

One Fourth Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 893-7231

Revised February 2014

I respectfully request the early release of electrical power for a building constructed under Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_, located at \_\_\_\_\_.

Unless authorized by the Building Official, this Early Release of Power may not exceed 30 days from date of release to the power company. This Early Release of Power does not authorize occupancy of the building or structure. Early Release of Power Request fees are: \$125 Commercial; \$50 Residential.

The Early Release of Power is requested for:

- Interior lighting for commercial buildings or structures only. All construction outlets will be protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).
- Testing of HVAC equipment including air handler and compressor.
- Interior finish materials requiring a climatic conditioned building.
- House meter or identification of Unit No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- Testing and maintenance of a security alarm system.

### YOUR ELECTRICAL WORK MUST BE READY FOR AN INSPECTION UPON THIS REQUEST

As the Electrical Contractor, I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree that:  
(print your name)

I will not allow use of Early Release of Power on this project other than for those items requested above. Any person or contractor violating this Agreement, or using Early Release of Power in a hazardous manner, will result in a violation complaint filed against this person or contractor.

I will LOCK OFF ACCESS TO UNCOMPLETED AREAS AND/OR LOCK SERVICE AREAS where exposed wiring has not been safely protected. I will maintain all Early Release of Power in a safe manner until the Certificate of Occupancy is issued, or when a Certificate of Occupancy is not required, a final electrical inspection is conducted. All construction outlets will be protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).

Violation of this Agreement will justify immediate SHUT OFF of Early Release of Power and I further agree that VIOLATION of this Agreement may prohibit me from applying for Early Release of Power for a period of not less than two (2) years from the date of violation.

**This Early Release of Power does not authorize occupancy of the building or structure.**

Signature of Electrical Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_

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The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_, who has produced \_\_\_\_\_ as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.

Notary Public, State of Florida \_\_\_\_\_

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Receipt Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Inspected and Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notification to Power Company By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_