

NOTICE

TO: ALL FIRMS DOING CONCRETE WORK FOR BUILDINGS

FROM: NORTH DAKOTA STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD

EFFECTIVE: APRIL 1, 2005

Your professional assistance is needed. Due to the increased use of nonmetallic piping and isolation fittings, underground water piping systems have become less reliable as a grounding electrode, therefore the code change to require a concrete-encased electrode to be used where present.

A new requirement in the National Electrical Code is to establish a more effective grounding system, which will become effective April 1, 2005. This change would require the electrical contractors to connect the electrical service to the #4 concrete encased rebar. To achieve this, we are asking the building concrete contractors to stub up the #4 rebar located within and near the bottom of a concrete foundation or footing that is in direct contact with the earth, consisting of at least 20 ft. of one or more reinforcing bar or rod. This stub up should be near where the utility room will be located or water line enters the building so 6 inches are exposed. Other states have required this for some time, and through the cooperation of the concrete contractors have shown successful results.

Below are illustrations – one or the other is required. If you have any questions, you can contact the electrical contractor that is doing the electrical work. If they are not available, please feel free to contact the N.D State Electrical Board at (701) 328-9522. Thank you for your cooperation.

