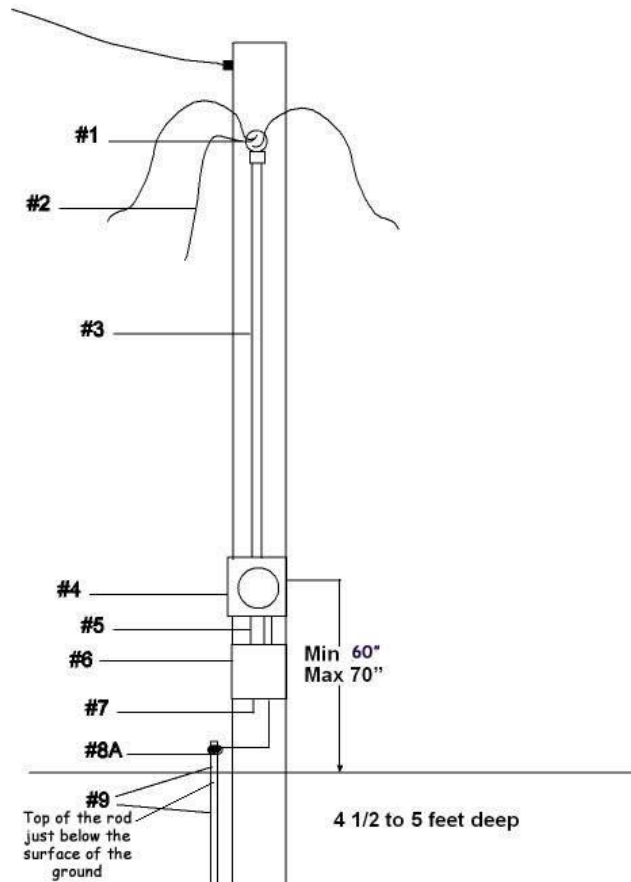


San Patricio Electric Cooperative
(361) 364-2220
Pole-Mounted Meter Loop Construction Requirements

All Pole-mounted meter loops must be on the work site on the scheduled construction date before work can begin. All installations must comply with the latest applicable National Electrical Code (NEC), local regulations, and Cooperative requirements.

Final approval and service connection are subject to inspection by the Cooperative.

San Patricio Electric Cooperative
Overhead Meter Loop Mounted on Pole



Poles should be set 10% of pole length plus 2 feet.

1. Weather head extending to within 18" of top of pole.
2. Mark neutral with white tape or use white colored wire. Wire must extend out of weather head at least 24". Minimum of #2 stranded copper is required for all conductors.
3. Riser shall be made of rigid galvanized conduit, rigid aluminum conduit, or Schedule 80 Electrical Grade PVC. **(EMT is not acceptable).**
4. Ringless Meter Can.
5. PVC TA's (Threaded Adapters) with lock rings and plastic bushing from Meter can to panel. If threaded galvanized or aluminum nipple is used, there must be a bonding bushing installed on the meter can side with ground wire passing through the lug. Panel side must be connected to hub if located below meter Can. Conduit must be same diameter as riser above meter can. Length must be a minimum of 4" but not more than 6".
6. Breaker Panels with Hub (**MUST HAVE MAIN BREAKER**).
7. Ground Wire #6 green stranded/solid up to 125 amp, #4 green up to 225 amp, #2 green up to 320 amp. Ground wire starts in meter can and passes out to ground rod. From the meter can the wire must be in PVC conduit.
8. Wire and Conduit should be sized according to Meter loop amp rating. (See chart on back)
9. 5/8" x 8' Copper-Clad Ground Rod & Clamp shall be fully driven into earth with the top of rod just below the surface of the ground.

San Patricio Electric Cooperative
(361) 364-2220
Pole-Mounted Meter Loop Construction Requirements

CONSTRUCTION of a 3 WIRE METER LOOP

Consumers may set their own meter pole. NOTE: Contact SPEC about placement of meter pole in relation to transformer pole BEFORE placing meter pole. The meter pole must be a minimum of 18 feet in length with a 6" top. Pole must be set a minimum of 10% of pole length plus 2 feet. Meter loop riser must extend to within 18" from top of the pole. Meter loop should be mounted on the pole so that meter can is a minimum of 60" from ground level and a maximum of 72" from ground level. A 5/8" X 8' copper weld ground rod and copper weld ground rod clamp must be installed with a minimum size #6 green copper ground wire up to 125 amp service and minimum #4 green copper ground wire up to 225 amp service.

Meter loops must be completely assembled by the member or by an electrician in order to be connected. Co-op employees will not help with the assembling of a meter loop on the job site. The Co-op shall determine the acceptability of the meter loop before the connection is made.

San Patricio Electric has a licensed electrician that builds meter loops and offers other services as well. For a price quote please call the Cooperative at (361) 364-2220 Ext.132

Mobile Home/Manufactured Home Service Equipment. The mobile/manufactured home service equipment shall be located adjacent to the mobile/manufactured home and NOT mounted in or on the mobile home. The service equipment shall be located in sight from and not more than 30 ft from the exterior wall of the home it serves.

Meter and Main disconnect must be located on the outside area of any structure and must be accessible to the Cooperative and/or fire department. First point of disconnect must be breakers or fuses and not blade disconnects.

CONSTRUCTION of 5 WIRE METER LOOP WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED.

Consumer wiring from the load side of the consumer's breaker box cannot be run back up through the meter can and the main meter loop riser. To feed consumer services, wire should be run underground and not up meter pole.

ALLOWABLE AMPERAGE OF AN INSULATED CONDUCTOR

Taken from National Electric Code Manual Table 310-16

Copper wire, type THHN max. Temp. 90° centigrade, 600 volt insulation minimum

<u>Wire Size</u>	<u>Meter Loop Size</u>	<u>Conduit Size</u>
#2 cu	125 amp service	1-1/4"
#1 cu	150 amp service	1-1/2"
#2/0 cu	200 amp service	2"
#3/0 cu	225 amp service	2"
#350	320 amp service	3"

Aluminum Wire Not Allowed

Reduced Neutral Not Allowed

Ground Clearance

NOTE: For 120/240-volt service drop installations, minimum clearances must be maintained according to SPEC regulations: The guidelines on ground clearances for service conductors as described MUST BE FOLLOWED.

12' of clearance should be maintained where no traffic is present.

15' of clearance should be maintained over driveways.

22' of clearance should be maintained over roadways.

3.5' of clearance should be maintained over building roof.

11' of clearance should be maintained over building roofs (with Pedestrians)

The measurement for clearance is determined at the lowest point in the service wire. The clearances from the ground to the service wire will decrease as the distance between the meter pole and the service pole, or transformer pole, increases.