

PASCO COUNTY BCC

Building Construction Services

Power Release Policy and Procedure

Reference **FBC 112.1 (A)** Connection of service utilities. A person shall not make connections from a utility source of energy, fuel, or power to any building or system that is regulated by this code for which a permit is required, until released by the building official.

A **power release** is authorization from Building Construction Services to the power company to release power to a structure. A power release is required so that the power company does not energize a structure before it is determined to be safe. Neither the contractor, electrician, nor private provider has authorization to directly request a power release from a power company with few exceptions for not needing a permit and allowing the power company to turn power back on including burnt lugs that need to be replaced, main breaker replacement and replacing of power pole with no electrical work done. Regarding the agricultural exemption, that would be between the customer and power company.

Temporary power release: A temporary power release is appropriate in cases such as when construction is close to starting or when a temporary change is being made on a structure that involves electric. A TUG (temporary underground) power source is sometimes requested at the start of a residential project so that the construction workers will have power during construction. A power pole may also be used. A Residential temporary power release is at the inspector's discretion such as to allow for A/C for wood floors/cabinets. The building must be substantially complete and must comply with Article **NEC 590**. A temporary power release form must be completed, signed, notarized, and uploaded to the permit. There are separate forms for a TUG, a Residential Temporary power release, and a Commercial Temporary power release, and a Permanent power release.

Emergency power: An "emergency" power release means that power is requested after hours due to a repair and cannot wait until the next working day to be restored if at all possible. This includes scenarios where medical equipment requires electricity, or where heat/cold and food spoilage are a significant factor. The power company may restore power before the next working day. In these cases, the customer must submit a building permit on the next working day and schedule the inspections immediately upon issuance. Failure to comply is a clear violation of this policy. The power company will notify Pasco County whenever they provide emergency power. The electrical contractor must make arrangements with the power company and the Pasco Inspector to perform the inspection with the service de-energized

Permanent power release: A permanent power release is appropriate once a new or upgraded structure is substantially complete and the Building Official (via the passing of appropriate electrical inspections by the electrical inspector) has deemed the structure safe to be electrically energized.

Private Provider: If the inspections were performed by a private provider, then the private provider must notify Pasco via Certificate of Compliance when all inspections have been completed and passed. Then the Pasco County Electrical Inspector will verify the inspection reports and if appropriate they will request the Power Release.

Electrical Safety permit: These are permits issued after a structure has been vacant for 1+ years to ensure the safety of re-energizing the structure. Anyone may pull a safety permit but only the Pasco electrical inspector will verify that no work was performed, and that it is safe to energize. The Electrical Inspector conducting the inspections are responsible for resulting the inspections and emailing the power release to the Power Company.

If a customer moves into a home without a Certificate of Occupancy, they are in violation of our policy and procedures. If a house is energized without Building Construction Services' release of power, the final electrical inspections will be automatically FAILED.

After Hours Inspections: A contractor may request an after-hours inspection for an additional fee by calling the Building Inspections administrative Secretary who will add the fee to the permit. The contractor must pay the fee before the after-hours inspection can be scheduled.

Existing structures: Neither a homeowner nor a contractor may disconnect power on their own. The Power Company must authorize it. All inspections must be completed for release of power to be restored.

Temporary Power Poles: For temporary power poles up to 60amp residential or 100amp commercial, the contractor must schedule the 1st electrical inspection on the permit and state in "requestor comments" that **'this inspection is for the temporary power pole'**. The inspector will inspect and if it passes, they will send a release to the power company. The inspector will "continue" that inspection so the contractor can reschedule it when ready for that portion to get inspected at a later time. All residential power poles over 60 amps and commercial power poles over 100 amps require a separate electrical permit.

Checklist for permanent power/meter release:

1. Final Electrical inspection should show as "passed"
2. Final septic must show as "passed"
3. Final Elevation Certificate must be received
4. Impact Fees must be paid
5. Contractor listed on the permit is liable for any Power requested
6. For MOBILE HOMES – All setup inspections must be marked as "passed"

Permanent Power Release

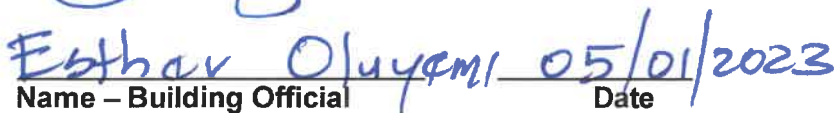
Step 1: The assigned Electrical Inspector "Passes" the **215 Electrical Final Inspection**. The system will generate a power release form for the inspector.

Step 2: The Electrical Inspector sends the Power Release Report to the Power Company.

Step 3: Power company releases the Power.

This policy is authorized by:


Signature


Name – Building Official Date

Contact information

Pasco County Building Inspections: (727) 847-8127

Pasco County Central Permitting: (727) 847-8126

Last updated: March 29, 2023