



City of Raymore

Building Inspection Division
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Code Interpretation: 2012 IRC Interpretation 08

Date: Updated 1/8/2014

Code/ Edition: 2011 National Electrical Code (NEC); 2012 International Residential Code (IRC)

Section(s): NEC 250.52; IRC E3508.1.2

Subject: Requirements for utilizing foundation reinforcing steel as a component of the grounding electrode system.

Question: Is it mandatory to utilize foundation reinforcing steel as a component of the grounding electrode system?

Answer: Yes

Commentary: The wording in the 2012 IRC allows options when the specified grounding electrodes are not available or inaccessible (i.e. concrete encased electrode).

Kansas City Power and Light (KCPL) requires all new construction to comply with wording in the 2011 National Electrical Code (NEC). All electrodes that exist in the structure are included as a part of the grounding electrode system, which includes a concrete encased electrode (e.g. foundation reinforcing steel). This connection will not be required in existing structures where no foundation work is occurring.

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