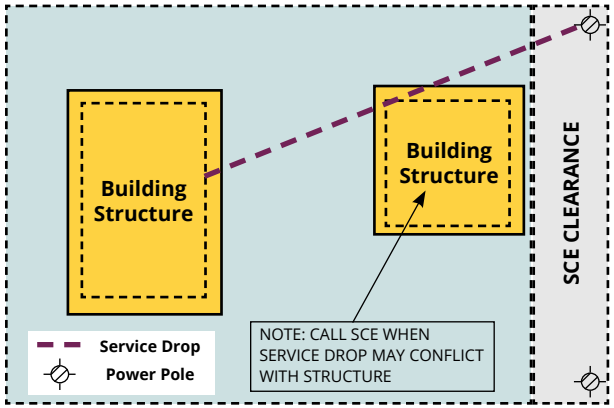


Before Beginning Construction On a Project Near SCE Overhead Power Lines:

- Make sure all plans meet SCE tariff rules, Electric Service Requirements, clearance requirements and are approved by the local jurisdiction for conformance to applicable codes.
- Verify the presence of SCE easements on the property.
- Submit an encroachment request when construction impacts an SCE utility easement.
- Submit projects requiring new service, upgrades or relocations at [sce.com/projectportal.](sce.com/projectportal)
- Contact SCE at 1-800-655-4555 to connect with your local planning department for guidance.

Resources and References:

SCE Quitclaims and Encroachments

Electrical Service Requirements

California Building Code

General Order 95

SCE Building, Renovation and Project Planning Portal



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON®

SAFE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION NEAR OVERHEAD POWER LINES



Updated: 11/3/2026

Clearance Requirements From Distribution Power Lines:

SCE tariffs and California Public Utilities Commission General Order 95 (GO 95) establish minimum clearance requirements between overhead power lines and buildings, including Accessory Dwelling Units.

SCE designs and constructs electrical facilities to meet these safety standards. Cities, counties or other local authorities have similar clearance requirements as part of their building codes, which generally align with the California Building Code, but could also be more restrictive.

To maintain safety and compliance, the most restrictive requirement — whether established by SCE, GO 95, California Building Code or the local jurisdiction — must be followed.

Maintaining proper clearances helps keep our communities safe and allows crews to perform necessary maintenance on electrical equipment.

Clearance Requirements Around SCE Structures and Easements:

SCE utility easements may exist on your property and must be identified and verified prior to construction.

When Building Near an SCE Structure or Underneath Overhead Power Lines:

- Construction plans must be approved with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (e.g., city or county).
- Customers may be required to submit an encroachment request at **sce.com/quitclaims.**

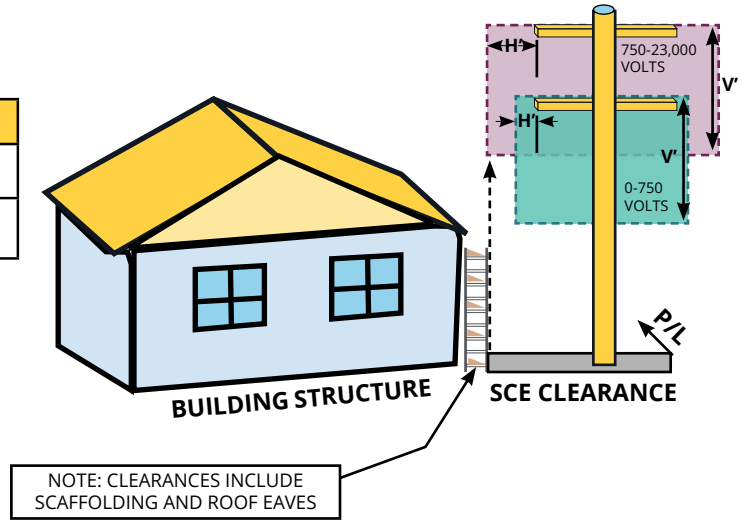
Note: Review reference materials to avoid potential project delays or hardships at the customer's expense.

GO 95 Minimum Clearance

See General Order 95 QR Code

Voltage Level	Horizontal (H)	Vertical (V)
0-750 Volts	3 feet	8 feet
750-23,000 Volts	6 feet	12 feet

Note: Additional clearance may be necessary because of local regulations, ongoing structural maintenance (e.g., painting or roofing), or safety, reliability or constructability considerations. The clearance must provide safe utility access for operation, maintenance and infrastructure replacement.



Clearance Requirements Around Residential Service Drops:

Refer to the table below for required clearances of residential service drops over buildings and structures.

If proposed or existing construction interferes with required clearances, **contact the SCE Planning Department before construction begins.**

Minimum Allowable Vertical Clearance Over Buildings and Structures 0-600 Volts Service Drops — Residential

See Electrical Service Requirements QR Code

Roof/Structure Type	Clearance Over Building Served	Clearance Over Other Buildings on Premises Served	Clearance Over Building on Other Premises
Non-metallic roof < 37° pitch	A minimum of 12 inches, but the greatest practicable clearance should be obtained	2 feet	8 feet
Non-metallic roof ≥ 37° pitch	A minimum of 12 inches, but the greatest practicable clearance should be obtained	2 feet	2 feet