

I N T E R P R E T A T I O N

Interpretation Number: 7/2006

Code: USBC, Part I, Virginia Construction Code

Section No(s): National Electrical Code, §§ 230.40 and 230.70

GIVEN: When you have multiple tenants in a building such as apartments or retail shops, there will be one service drop coming to the building and it will connect to a row of meters. Often each meter will feed one disconnect or panel located at the individual tenant space as long as all of the service conductors are located on the exterior of the building. Each space will have fire separation. If there are ten tenant spaces then each would have its own disconnect located on the exterior of its space. This is more economical for the owners and tenants. All wiring ahead of the service disconnecting means is on the outside of the building.

QUESTION: Do all of the disconnects have to be grouped at the meters which will limit you to six disconnects at one location, or can one set of service conductors be run from each meter to each tenant space?

ANSWER: One set of service conductors may be run from each meter to each tenant space provided the service entrance conductors are on the outside of the building with disconnects in accordance with Section 230.70(A).

This Official Interpretation was issued by the State Building Code Technical Review Board at its meeting of November 19, 2010.



Chairman, State Building Code Technical Review Board