

Town of New Shoreham Building Department Electric Service Pedestal Requirements

(Approved by Block Island Power Company October 2022)

- For the purposes of current or future solar generation, where a production meter will have to be tied to the grid, the consumption meter should be located near the location of the (future) solar controller to minimize the length of the connection to the unmetered secondary service. Both meters may be attached to the residence. If solar is anticipated, the meter pad should be sized for two meters, or a dual meter enclosure.
- Due to the local weather and wind driven salt-spray, an aluminum or stainless-steel meter socket is preferred over a painted steel enclosure.
- A meter socket with main breaker is not preferred on Block Island because the breaker may prematurely fail due to the weather. An indoor, main lug panel is preferred.
- The mounting height of all meters should be between 42 and 66 inches from center of the meter(s) to finished grade.
- Two ground rods, 6'-0" apart should be daisy chained to the meter socket neutral or ground lug.
- An additional ground rod shall be installed at the main panel unless the grounded meter socket is within 50 feet of the main panel.
- All secondary conduit shall be minimum 2" Schedule 40 PVC and not steel. All conduit under a road or driveway and the first section going up a pole must be Schedule 80. A weather head must be applied at any open end of a riser.
- An expansion joint must be installed on the vertical leg leading to a fixed enclosure when the conduit transitions from underground horizontal to vertical. The joint may be at the enclosure.
- All conductors between the BIPCO secondary and the meter shall be copper. Underground conductors between the meter and the main panel may be aluminum but copper is preferred.
- Be prepared to verify that all conductors meet the current NEC requirements for load and distance. Verify that all conduits meet the current NEC requirements for conductor size and percent fill.
- To obtain a blue slip allowing power company connection and meter (for new systems), all the above must be inspected including permanent connection to a main breaker.

10/17/2022