



National Electric Code Status

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The function of panel members is to not only to approve suggested modifications to the code but to make sure that modifications that are not beneficial or would have unintended impacts are not approved.

- Many minor editorial changes made to National Electrical Code (NEC) Article 694
 - Many change requests were not accepted
- There were a few substantive changes which follow
 - Underlined text is new language.

Changes in the 2017 NEC: Article 694

694.7 (B) Equipment

Wind electric systems shall be listed and labeled or field labeled for the application. Wind electric systems undergoing evaluation for type certification and listing shall be permitted to be operated in a controlled location with access limited to qualified personnel.

Informational note: Testing for certification and listing is typically performed under the supervision of a qualified electrical testing organization.

694.7 (G) Working Clearances

Working space shall be provided for electrical cabinets and other electrical equipment in accordance with 110.26(A). For large wind turbines where service personnel enter the equipment, where conditions of maintenance and supervision ensure that only qualified persons perform the work, working clearances shall be permitted to comply with Table 694.7 for systems up to 1000 V nominal.

694.15 (C) Direct-Current Rating

Overcurrent devices, either fuses or circuit breakers, used in any DC portion of a wind electric system shall be listed and labeled for use in DC circuits and shall have appropriate voltage, current, and interrupting ratings.

694.40 Equipment Grounding and Bonding

(A) General. Exposed non-current-carrying metal parts of towers, turbine nacelles, other equipment, and conductor enclosures shall be grounded and bonded to the premises' grounding and bonding system.

In addition to modifications to article 694 the panel approved the creation of new articles and definitions.

- New articles:
 - Article 706—Energy Storage Systems
 - Article 710—Stand-alone Systems
 - Article 712—DC Microgrids
- Definitions for “microgrid system” and “microgrid interconnect device” were added to Article 705
 - Overcame utility resistance to using the term “microgrid”
- Scope of NEC discussed and tabled for next cycle.

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