

Electrolink N^o 4

March 2015

METER BOARD ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEW SINGLE PHASE DOMESTIC CONNECTION FOR UP TO 20kVA

NEW CONNECTIONS

Following an application for a new single-phase domestic connection, Electricity North West will, as a Distributor of electricity, arrange for the installation of an appropriately fused cut-out. The customer's appointed Supplier shall arrange for the appropriate metering and disconnector (if provided) to be installed and connected to the Electricity North West cut-out.

This would follow an appropriate application to a Supplier for a supply of electricity. It is the electrical contractor's responsibility to ensure that the customer's electrical installation will conform to the current edition of BS 7671 – Requirements for Electrical Installations (IEE Wiring Regulations). It is also his responsibility to arrange for the connection of the installation to the appropriate terminals provided on the meter board by the customer's Meter Operator. Electricity North West will not make this connection unless requested. A separate charge will be made for this work if Electricity North West undertakes it.

METER BOARDS

Meter boards, 18mm thick, in resin bonded compressed wood chipboard (or other approved material) are available in three sizes:

- Small - 505mm H x 340mm W
- Medium - 575mm H x 375mm W
- Large - 650mm H x 460mm W

Outdoors The small-size meter board is designed to fit in the standard Electricity North West outdoor meter cupboard. The meter board will accommodate the Electricity North West cut-out and Meter Operator-provided credit meter and disconnector (if provided) for domestic tariff or off peak tariff and time controller, if required. Drawings (Nos 900000-53-068 and 900000-53-071), showing typical meter board layouts and wiring arrangements, accompany this Electrolink.

Indoors The medium-size board will generally be used to accommodate the Electricity North West cut-out and Meter Operator-provided metering equipment and disconnector (if provided) including time controller.

The large-size board will be used in situations where the Meter Operator-provided metering and pre-payment equipment or other combinations are in excess of the medium-size board capacity.

LOCATION OF THE METER BOARD

The meters provided by the Meter Operator will normally be arranged for outside viewing and installed in a small size outdoor meter cupboard. (Further details are given in the Electrolink N^o 5 "Outdoor Meter Reading Facilities"). The position of the cupboard will be decided in conjunction with the developer. Your Meter Operator may not fit prepayment meters and card meters in outdoor meter cupboards. Adequate space should be made available adjacent to the meter cupboard, on an internal wall, for the possible future installation of a prepayment or card meter and medium sized meter board, size 575mm x 375mm.

Meter boards situated indoors will be fixed to an internal wall at a position allowing a minimum of 750mm access in front of the board and at a convenient height for reading the meter. Location in an attached garage is acceptable providing there is no risk of damage by vehicles.

The only equipment to be mounted on the meter board shall be that provided by Electricity North West, your Supplier and the appointed Meter Operator. Customer's switchgear should be mounted as close as possible to the meter board, but not on it. However, where a disconnector is provided by the customer, this may be accommodated on the meter board.

Similarly, where the installation is connected via a sub-service to a remote consumer unit (eg in a first-floor flat), one controlling switch-fuse may be mounted on the meter board.

It is no longer Electricity North West's policy to provide and install disconnectors between the meter and customer's equipment at new connections. Where the Meter Operator or customer installs a disconnector between the meter and the customer's equipment, Electricity North West will neither accept ownership of nor responsibility for that disconnector. Where disconnectors are shown on the arrangement drawings, they are owned by and are the responsibility of the installer.

All Electricity North West equipment shall be sealed using an approved stranded hardened steel wire and copper seals that should not be disturbed by other than Electricity North West staff or staff employed by your Supplier or authorised Meter Operator.

EARTHING ARRANGEMENTS

Earthing facilities are made available to the customer at Electricity North West's discretion. An earthing terminal will be provided on the meter board for the connection of the customer's earthing lead by the electrical contractor. If the customer's installation includes more earth continuity conductors than can be accommodated in the Electricity North West earthing terminal then a separate terminal block for marshalling the conductors will be provided by the customer. The connection between the customer's separate earth block and the Electricity North West earth terminal shall be 16mm² Green/Yellow PVC insulated stranded copper conductor.

The protective bonding connection from the main earthing terminal to metal pipes or structures will be in accordance with the current edition of BS 7671. For PME supplies the connection will be 10mm² Green/Yellow PVC insulated stranded copper conductor.

WATER METER

In certain cases, an outside meter cupboard may contain a remote metering unit for recording the consumption of water in the property. This unit will be found attached to the wall of the meter cupboard in the right hand bottom corner. This is the property of the relevant water supply company and should not be disturbed.

SAFETY NOTE

The electricity supply and earth facility will be provided on the basis that the installation will conform with the safety requirements contained within the IEE Wiring Regulations. Failure to comply could result in the supply being withdrawn.

ELECTRICITY NORTH WEST'S RESPONSIBILITY

The advice contained within this Electrolink is given in good faith based on information available. No guarantee can be given, however, that the information will not change in the future. Electricity North West cannot be held responsible for costs incurred due to inaccuracies or subsequent changes.

Other publications in the Electrolink series:

- Electrolink N^o 1 - Application of PME to Customers' Electrical Installations.
- Electrolink N^o 2 - Estimation of Prospective Short Circuit Current.
- Electrolink N^o 3 - Temporary Electricity Connections for Construction Sites - up to 20/60kVA.
- Electrolink N^o 5 - Outdoor Meter Reading Facilities.
- Electrolink N^o 6 - Interference with Supply to other Customers.
- Electrolink N^o 7 - Computers and Mains Electricity Supply.
- Electrolink N^o 8 - Temporary Electricity Connections for Construction Sites - 60kVA to 300kVA.

For further information contact:

Electricity North West,
Frederick Road,
Salford,
M6 6QH

Telephone: 0800 048 1820

Email: connectionapplications@enwl.co.uk