

**AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER  
AEP TEXAS  
POLE ATTACHMENT POLICY**

**General Design Policy**

During the design phase of aerial cable plant proposed for installation on AEP/AEP-TX's poles, Communication Companies shall comply with the following policy:

- **Safety is a concern for everyone.** During the time of any construction and maintenance, Communication Companies shall consider the electric wires of AEP-TX to be energized, that working in the vicinity of the wires poses potential dangers and should warn its Employees, Agents, Contractors, and Subcontractors of the potential dangers.
- All facilities must be installed in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) and other state and federal laws, rules, municipal ordinances and regulations which apply. The Communication Company must determine the load and sag of each cable to ensure compliance with NESC requirements and AEP Standards. All cables may sag no lower than 18' at mid span under fully loaded conditions over TxDOT owned and maintained roadways. Please be aware that AEP-TX is in the light, medium, and heavy loading areas described in the NESC, but will be evaluated under the stricter requirement of the NESC or AEP Standards. Special care should be taken at railroad crossings and roadways. It should also be noted that additional wind loading up to 150 mph applies within 5 miles of the coastline.
- Wireline Pole Attachments are only allowed in the Communication's space of the AEP-TX pole plant.
- Communication Companies may overlash additional cables to their existing cable if written notification is provided to AEP-TX within 30 days of overlashing. All overlashes may be subject to a post construction inspection and may be subject to a pole loading analysis at the Communication Company's expense.
- In all situations, prior permission must be obtained from property owners and governmental entities for use of private property and public road rights-of-way. AEP-TX assumes no responsibility for securing any such permission that may be required, and Communication Companies should assume no such permission exists based solely on the presence of AEP-TX's facilities. This includes easements, rights-of-way, or franchises required for the construction and maintenance of facilities such as Power Supplies, Pedestals, Stub Poles and Anchors.
- Communication Companies must bond their messenger in accordance with the NESC. If a Communication Company chooses to use a separate bond wire down the pole, it must be bonded to the AEP-TX electrical bond at the base of the pole in accordance with the NESC. When grounding at the house, Communication Companies are not permitted to connect to AEP-TX's meter base.
- Communications cables must be installed on the same side of poles (typically the road side) as other Attachees. Pole Attachments to both sides of the pole (boxing)

are not permissible. The installation of Attachments in Aerial Inner-Duct is not allowed.

- Communications cables must be installed without the use of Extension Arms, Standoff Brackets or similar hardware (unless otherwise approved in advance by AEP-TX for each pole, and specifically referenced on the Communication Company's Authorized Proposal).
- Communications companies must install their own Guys and Anchors. Use of AEP-TX's Anchors is not permitted. Communication Guy(s) shall be either effectively grounded or insulated.
- Service Drops are to be taken off the strand at least 15 inches from the outside of the pole using a crimp-on method, not off the pole with temporary equipment (j-hooks, etc.). Multiple Attachments to the pole are not allowed. If found, we will charge this as an additional attachment on the pole.
- Attachments to AEP Transmission poles without Distribution underbuild are not allowed. Consideration for AEP Transmission pole requests will be forwarded to AEP's Transmission Department for review. All expenses for this review are at the expense of the Communication Company. Attachment reviews on Transmission facilities are significantly more expensive and time-consuming than reviews typically performed on Distribution poles.
- Encroaching into the Communication Worker Safety Zone or into the Electrical Space is not permissible, even at road crossings. If the Communication Company is unable to meet any NESC code requirements for clearances above roads, AEP-TX may rearrange its facilities, when possible, have others rearrange their facilities, or replace the pole at the attacher's expense. Measurements are to be taken from the ground up, not from AEP-TX's facilities down.
- AEP-TX recommends the through-bolt method of construction. Loading data and configuration must be supplied and any temporary facilities must be secured to mounting hardware to prevent them from bouncing free of the hardware.
- All riser cable attachment requests shall be at the sole discretion of AEP-TX. If approved, riser cables are to be in conduit and may be required to be installed on stand-off brackets at the Communication Company's expense. Risers should be limited in order to not impede climbing and installed using AEP Standards.
- Communication Companies shall mark their cables and risers at each pole location with an identifying tag which should include a name and emergency phone number.
- Communication Companies, contractors, or sub-contractors must possess a signed Approved Proposal or permit from AEP-TX at the jobsite when working on AEP-TX facilities.
- DAS antennas/small cell attachers must provide manufacturer's specs to AEP-TX so that any antennas and/or ancillary equipment being considered for installation on/or near AEP poles can be reviewed by AEP's Standards. Installation of said equipment on AEP poles is contingent upon review and approval by AEP Standards. This equipment review is at the attacher's expense.

## **Application Process**

If you do not currently have a Pole Attachment Agreement with AEP-TX to attach to our distribution poles, please contact: David Day, Joint Use Representative, at [dbday@aep.com](mailto:dbday@aep.com) or (361)881-5896 to apply for an agreement.

## **Proposal Process**

If you have an active agreement with AEP-TX to attach to our poles:

- Submit your Permission to Attach (Proposal) form as identified in the Pole Attachment Agreement. A maximum of 50 attachments on each Proposal is allowed for manageable processing.
- Should you require attachment to more than 50 poles, please contact: David Day, Joint Use Representative, at [dbday@aep.com](mailto:dbday@aep.com) or (361)881-5896 to provide a current route map and discuss processing timelines. Provide all pertinent information requested including stringing tension, cable weight, and diameter.
- No attachments are to be made to AEP-TX poles prior to receiving an Approved Proposal. AEP-TX will perform a Pole Loading Analysis on each pole including clearances, strength, and capacity.
- Any excavation work, including the installation of ground rods and anchors, requires a call to the local one-call system 48 hours in advance of any digging to locate all underground facilities.
- All AEP-TX pole rearrangements and/or replacement work will be provided as an estimate to your company for review, with approval and payment in advance of work being scheduled or performed as contractually required. A contact for invoicing will need to be provided to AEP-TX prior to any Proposals being submitted.
- All overlash requests should be proposed on a separate proposal to be processed as Post-Construction Inspections. Should more than 10% of the Overlash Project fail the inspection, the project will be reviewed as new Attachments. Any deficiencies will be corrected at the Attacher's expense.
- Power Supplies must be included in drawings and specification provided on a separate Proposal. Communication Companies should call AEP-TX at 1-877-373-4858 at least 5-10 business days in advance of needing Electric Service to the unit. Our Customer Solution Center will provide assistance with this Electric Service Account.
- Risers must be identified on AEP-TX poles on Proposals.
- All information exchanged between AEP-TX, your company, and your representatives, contractors and subcontractors is considered confidential. Any unauthorized reproduction of AEP information or disclosure of any maps and or documents, in print or electronic format, is strictly forbidden without the express written consent of AEP-TX.
- Notwithstanding approval by AEP-TX to construct communications facilities in a certain manner or at a certain height, it is the responsibility of the Communications Company to ensure that the installation and maintenance of their

facilities does not cause a hazardous condition, overload the pole, or otherwise be installed or maintained in a manner that does not comply with the NESC, AEP Standards and applicable law.

- AEP-TX may perform a Post-Construction Inspection of all Communications Company attachments to ensure full compliance with Design Standards. Communications Company facilities not meeting all installation requirements will be corrected at the Communication's Company's expense.

### **Approved Engineering Contractors**

AEP-TX currently has approved the use of the following contractors for engineering review of proposals:

TechServ  
UC Synergetic

AEP-TX will perform all engineering review using internal resources or one of the above contractors.