



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: October 24, 2012

To: Code Services Staff

From: Brad Claussen, Building Official

Subject: Intermediate Metal Conduit used as Electric Service Mast

The question recently came up as to whether intermediate metal conduit (IMC) could be used for overhead electrical service masts. In order to answer that question, I first went to section 230.28 of the National Electrical Code. That section notes that the mast must be of adequate strength or be supported by braces or guys to safely withstand the strain imposed by the service drop. There is not a specific mention of materials permitted or not permitted for this specific use. A few general rules would apply. First, the material would need to be permitted for outdoor use exposed to the elements. Second, it would have to be allowed for use where subject to physical damage.

I then checked with Westar Energy to see if they had any service standards which would prohibit the use of IMC as service mast. They informed us they do not. Therefore one may use either IMC or rigid metallic conduit (RMC) for these applications.