# Overview and process for converting residential overhead electric service to underground



(Up to 400 amps/self contained meters)

# **Overview**

# Connexus Energy conversion charges\*

Base charge	\$1,835 (the first 80' of trench footage is included with the base charge)
Footage charge	\$9.75 per foot after the first 80' of trench footage from the pole to the meter socket. Connexus Energy will determine the method of install. No discount for providing conduit or trench. Customer is responsible to ensure a 10-foot-wide path for installation. Connexus Energy does not accept customer-installed underground service wire.
Winter construction	To avoid winter construction charges, all requirements must be met by November 1.
Transformer fee	If a transformer change is required, additional costs may be incurred.
Minimal impact	If minimal impact installation method is required, additional fees will be charged.

<sup>\*</sup>All prices are subject to change annually

#### Other costs to consider

**Hire a licensed electrician:** It will be necessary to hire a licensed electrician to upgrade and/or convert the meter socket to accept an underground service. Some communities require permits for this type of work and may also charge a fee. It is the electrician's responsibility to coordinate an inspection if that is required in your community or to submit an affidavit.

**Restoration:** Connexus Energy does not restore the lot to its original condition after the conversion is complete. If you require directional boring due to landscaping or other obstacles, additional fees will apply.

**Other utilities:** Connexus Energy does not have a contract with phone and cable companies. There may be a charge for them to bury their facilities. Contact your phone and/or cable provider to coordinate installations.

Note: Connexus Energy reserves the right to refuse a conversion from overhead to underground service due to excess costs, impractical site conditions or easement issues.



#### **Questions?**

If you have additional questions please feel free to call the Connexus Energy Builders Line between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 763.323.4214.

# Sample site sketch

Note: All prices are subject to change annually. Call the Builders Line at 763.323.4214 to confirm.

ndoor Lighting  Dutdoor Lighting  Dutdoor Lighting  Dutdoor Lighting  Mfg. Equipment  Motor Load*  Ground Source Heat Pump  Miss. Equipment  Jonder Floor Heating  Heat Storage  Electric Vehicle Charging  Air Source Heat Pump  Other  Air Conditioning  TOTAL  Largest Motor: HP  Phase  Voltage  Class  Starts/hr  Total HP  Iny motor over 7.5 HP single phase or 75 HP three phase requires starting equipment approved by Connexus Energy.  Ustomer Signature:  Electricians Signature (if applicable)  Jyes, please provide a contact name and phone number to review off-peak programs and metering equipment options.  Ontact:  Phone:  is preferred that a survey is included with the application. If a survey cannot be provided, please draw a sketch below or attach a pds you are facing the lot from the street. Include the location of the meter and any buried private facilities or obstacles on your propert at were selected on your application.		Connected Load (KW)	Estimated Demand Load (KW)		Connected Load (KW)	Estimated Demand
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Electric Heat   Motor Load*   Misc. Equipment   Misc. Equipment				<del>                                     </del>		
Receptacles   Electric Vehicle Charging   Other				+		
Electric Vehicle Charging   Other	Ground Source Heat Pump			Misc. Equipment		
Air Source Heat Pump Other  Air Conditioning TOTAL  argest Motor: HP Phase Voltage Class Starts/hr Total HP  ny motor over 7.5 HP single phase or 75 HP three phase requires starting equipment approved by Connexus Energy.  ustomer Signature: Electricians Signature (if applicable)  ill any of the above connected loads be on an off-peak program? Yes No  yes, please provide a contact name and phone number to review off-peak programs and metering equipment options.  phone:  is preferred that a survey is included with the application. If a survey cannot be provided, please draw a sketch below or attach a pdiction are facing the lot from the street. Include the location of the meter and any buried private facilities or obstacles on your property	Jnder Floor Heating		i	Receptacles		
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## **Process**

#### 1) Send the following:

- □ Service Change Application Complete the enclosed to include the appropriate billing address and estimated footage of the service installation.
- Overhead-to-Underground Preliminary Site Sketch This form helps us understand your lot layout and assists us in our planning. Plot plan is not accepted as a replacement for the site sketch.

You can submit these forms by emailing a PDF to builders@connexusenergy.com, or sending them by mail to: Connexus Energy Attn: Builders 14601 Ramsey Blvd., Ramsey, MN 55303



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# 2) Easement – Check your pole location

Is your pole located on your own property?

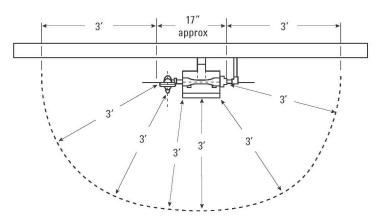
YES – Continue with process

NO — Do not proceed with electrical work. You may require an easement to proceed with your overhead-to-underground conversion. Please contact our Builders Line at Connexus Energy about how to move forward.

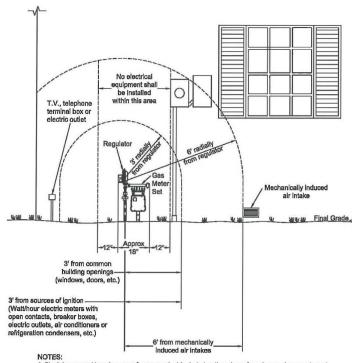
# 3) Install a Connexus Energy approved meter socket

It will be necessary to hire a licensed electrician to upgrade and/ or convert the meter socket to accept an underground service. Your electrician has or can obtain Connexus Energy information on which meter sockets are approved.

# Minimum clearances for outside gas and electric meter installations



▲ Natural gas meter, clear zone for ignition sources, top view



3' minimum working clearance from non-electrical obstructions is preferred around ges meter set
 Disregard clearances when measuring ground corners of structure.

# ▲ Natural gas meter, clear zone for ignition sources, front view view

Ignition sources include outlets, switches and other electric contact points. Electric meters are not considered ignition sources, but for extra safety, Connexus Energy needs a 3-foot separation between the gas meter & vent and the electric meter stand pipe.

### 4) Electrical permit

The electrical work has been approved or has been completed by a licensed electrician. Submit the following acknowledgment into the Builders Line:

- Inspection notice from state/city certified electrical inspector; or
- A copy of the electrical permit from a licensed electrical contractor. To determine which form of acknowledgment is required for your area, verify at the state website at dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ElectricalInspect.asp or call the Builders Line at 763.323.4214, between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

#### 5) Residential underground service contract

A Connexus Energy representative will visit the site and determine the installation method and the route of the conversion. After the site visit is completed you will receive a quote with the total due. **Your conversion will not be scheduled until full payment is received and requirements are met.** 

## 6) Permits (Internal)

If Connexus Energy has to cross a public road, boulevard or alley to install your service, we will arrange to get the proper right of way permits. Please keep in mind, however, that these permits may delay the process of converting your service by six to eight weeks.

## 7) Other utilities

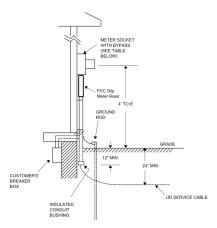
We do not coordinate installation of other utilities. Please contact them for information.

# 8) Prepare the site

Clear a 10-foot-wide path from the utility pole to the new meter location. This includes rocks, brush or trees, any gardens or flower beds, and any other obstacles that would prevent us from digging a trench in your yard. Connexus Energy will install the underground cable from the first utility pole to the meter socket. We will fill the trench, but will not restore disturbed ground to its original condition. Also remember that the disturbed area will settle over time. If you have excavated the site during a remodel, the lot needs to be within 4 inches of final grade.

#### 9) Prepare access to the meter socket

We need an open work area of at least four feet by four feet if there is a sidewalk, patio or concrete/hard scape below or within four feet of your meter socket. You'll need to open an area so the wires can be brought from underground into the new meter and you will be responsible for the restoration.



#### 10) Prepare access to the utility pole

If the work area is open but enclosed by a fence, you are responsible for removing a portion of the fence and providing an opening at least 10 feet wide to get our equipment in and out of the property.

Note: If a neighbor's fence is in the path to the pole, it is the customer's responsibility to gain approval and discuss removal with that homeowner. Connexus Energy will not remove or re-install sections of fence.

#### 11) Private underground obstacles

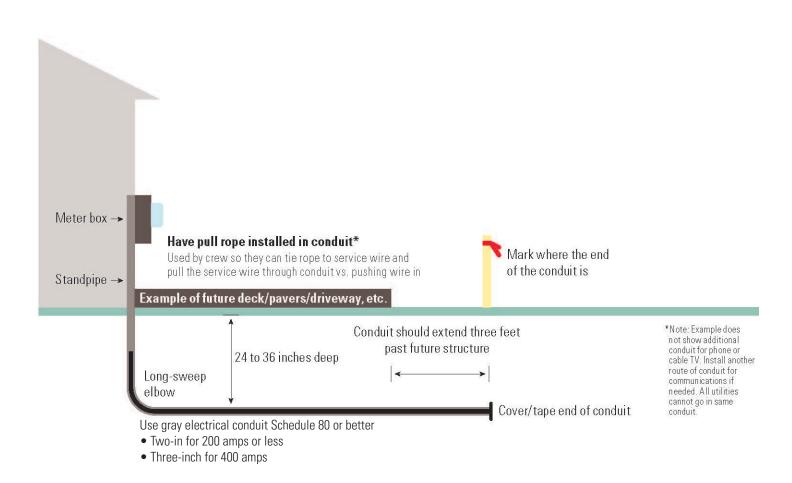
This information should also be on the site sketch form. Expose all private underground obstacles such as sprinkler systems, invisible fencing, drain tiles or old septic or oil tanks. Also expose any other buried lines that do not belong to a utility, such as a private electrical line from your house to a garage or lamp in your yard. Connexus Energy will not be financially responsible for damage to any unexposed facilities.

#### **Builders Line Call 763.323.4214**

#### 12) Conduit

Future decks, sidewalks or patios

- Note: NO DISCOUNTS FOR CUSTOMER-INSTALLED CONDUIT
- Connexus Energy does not install conduit as part of an overhead-to-underground installation. However, if you plan to build a deck, sidewalk or patio near or abutting the house and above the new service wire, you will need to install a two-inch schedule 80 PVC conduit 24 to 36 inches below finished grade and extending at least three feet beyond deck, sidewalk or patio.
- If conduit is installed, the customer is responsible to fill in trench prior to Connexus Energy electric install.
- Connexus Energy will not install service wire under any structures, existing or future, e.g. garages or sheds.



#### **Builders Line Call 763.323.4214**

# 13) Scheduling

Connexus Energy will contact you to schedule when all of the following requirements are met:

- We have received the signed Residential Application.
- Invoice has been paid in full.
- Connexus Energy has received appropriate Right of Way Permits (internal) and/or customer easements.
- Electrical permit

#### Restoration

We will fill in the trench, but will not restore disturbed ground to its original condition. Also remember that the disturbed area will settle over time.

We will be extremely cautious around your trees and shrubs, but Connexus Energy is not financially responsible for any damages that may occur. You will have to put anything moved, such as fencing or swing sets, back in place.

#### Questions?

If you have additional questions, please call Connexus Energy's Builders Line between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday at 763.323.4214.



Email: builders@connexusenergy.com Phone: Builders Line: 763.323.4214 Website: connexusenergy.com



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