

Policy regarding requests from communications/broadband providers to attach to lighting-only poles owned by We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service

Wood Lighting-Only Poles

Authorized communication/broadband attachments to existing wood lighting-only poles are allowed with the intent of minimizing attachments to distribution poles, which are typically more congested, carry conductors and equipment rated >600v, and result in more code violations.

- Light poles on private property and billed to non-governmental customers should be avoided if possible to reduce possibility of customer objections.
- Metered energy, joint use fees and all other standard attachment requirements apply.
- Any upfront cost paid by the lighting customer for installation shall not be reimbursed or credited.
- Any monthly lighting and accessory fees shall continue per the relevant lighting tariff.

Non-Wood Lighting-Only Poles

No We Energies, Wisconsin Public Service or third-party communication/broadband or other powered attachments are allowed on non-wood lighting poles.

- Poles are pre-drilled by the manufacturer for lighting arms and possibly a convenience outlet, so other attachments require either drilling or straps. Drilling may not affect pole integrity or strength significantly but there is a high probability of nicking or cutting secondary wires inside the pole that is not in a protective raceway.
- Straps often cause damage due to abrasion and/or rust stains.
- Poles are engineered for a weight and wind load of lighting, and the addition of antennas and associated equipment typically exceeds design criteria.
- Poles are specified with a single internal raceway. Both NEC and NESC prohibit non-utility conductors in the same raceway, so internal wiring is not allowed.
- We shall deny such attachments even if the lighting customer requests or approves such attachments. If necessary, we shall offer to de-energize and remove our pole and light, subject to tariff conditions, so the customer may install and maintain their own multi-use pole.
- Banners, flags and holiday decorations requested by the governmental lighting customer of record are excluded from this policy.