

National Electrical Safety Code Committee, Accredited Standards Committee C2

National Electrical Safety Code®

Interpretation

Section 35. Direct-Buried Cable

Rule 351C1, Location and Routing, Other Conditions, Swimming Pools IR524 of 1997 edition of the NESC

I am requesting interpretation on the applicability of Rule 351C1 in relation to permanently installed above ground pools. Specifically, if an above ground pool and / or its auxiliary equipment is permanently installed within 5 ft of existing direct buried cables, do the cables need to be re-routed to where there will be 5 ft of clearance?

If Rule 351C1 does apply, is the 5 ft clearance a diagonal clearance from the nearest point of the pool or is it a horizontal clearance? Please reference the diagram on page 2.

Please provide interpretations based on both the 1997 edition and the 2002 edition.

Interpretation

The NESC Interpretations Subcommittee has reviewed your interpretation request regarding Rule 351C1 of the NESC, dated 3 October 2001, in detail.

We regret that the NESC Interpretations Subcommittee cannot achieve consensus on the application of Rule 351C1 to above ground swimming pools, and therefore, an interpretation cannot be rendered.