

Kim Reynolds
Governor
Adam Gregg
Lt. Governor



Department of Public Safety

Roxann M. Ryan
Commissioner

June 26, 2017

RE: New Legislation on the Inspection of Farm Facilities effective July 1, 2017

Dear Electrical Contractors, Utility Companies, and Electricians:

During this year's Legislative Session, Senate File 357 was passed and signed by Governor Branstad. Subject to limited exceptions, this bill provides that electrical permits and inspections are no longer required for farm buildings and structures used for agricultural purposes. SF 357 **does not exempt** the installation of electrical services from Iowa Code chapter 103's permitting and inspection requirements if those services supply power to:

- A house or other residential installation located on a farm; and,
- Any farm building or structure that is regularly open to the public as a place of business for the retail sale of goods, wares, services or merchandise.

Except for those installations identified above, we will no longer require the service equipment to an electrical installation located on a farm – meaning any land, buildings and structures used for agricultural purposes – to be inspected as of July 1, 2017.

Simply stated, there will be no mandated inspection of the accessory buildings, grain bins, pole barns, etc. located on farms unless those buildings are connecting to a new or existing dwelling or open to the public for retail sales. Nonetheless, the Department of Public Safety will be available to conduct voluntary inspections upon request, to further our goal of helping to insure the safety of farm families, farm workers, utility workers, and the public.

In compliance with Iowa Code Chapter 103, the National Electrical Code® has been adopted in the state of Iowa, and state administrative rules have been promulgated in order to protect public safety and health and property. The Department of Public Safety will continue to provide electrical consultation and advice to any electrical contractors, farmers, and homeowners desiring assistance in safely completing their electrical installations.

The mission of Iowa's Electrical Licensing and Inspection program is to provide, consistent with its statutory mandate, a safe electrical environment for our citizens where they work, live, or play.

If you have any questions, please email elecinfo@dps.state.ia.us or call: 515-725-6147

Sincerely,

Electrical Examining Board & Staff

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