

Please see below questions/concerns that were raised at the ECABC Central Chapter Meeting, March 12th, 2020 and BC Hydro's responses.

Question: Why is a secondary conductor size not known early enough in the process for providers to provide the correct size cable clamps?

Answer (BC Hydro): BC Hydro uses a standardized practice for sizing service conductors to the customer's main switch. Please reach out to your BC Hydro Design contact in the earliest stages of a project to discuss conductor sizing. There is good probability BC Hydro will be able to determine the correct cable size for you with minimal design time invested. Furthermore, BC Hydro intends to eventually supply terminations/clamps with the service conductor to alleviate this concern for the customer/contractor. The date for this implementation is currently unknown but certainly on the radar.

Question: The adjustable c-channel configuration is resulting in some issues. Why?

Answer (BC Hydro): Please review the BC Hydro ES54 Standards, Sections S2 & S3 for various illustrations and notes pertaining to cable support clamps. <https://app.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/electrical-connections/distribution-standards/LA-ES54-2016-underground-civil-manual.html>

It is the manufacturer's responsibility to comply with both BC Hydro and CSA standards. Should they have any specific questions regarding BC Hydro standards, the manufacturer may contact our Distribution Standards, Specialist Engineer, Mark Kelvin directly: mark.kelvin@bchydro.com

Question: FRE/RTRC Duct is not preferred by Electrical Contractors due to issues of supply delays and increased labour to install. It is also not preferred by suppliers due to low turnover of stock and the perspective that the Eng. calculations may not be accurate.

Answer (BC Hydro): RTRC conduit is used in limited and specific circumstances to improve the pulling capacity of electrical conductors as it has superior strength and a lower coefficient of friction when compared with other PVC conduit products. RTRC manufactured bends are commonly used as an alternative to cumbersome and physically prohibitive measures such as concrete encasement and/or additional pull boxes.

BC Hydro Engineering & Design staff utilize the Polywater Pull Planner 3000 software tool to help determine our pulling capacities. Feel free to contact Polywater or download the program for your reference. <https://www.polywater.com/>