



---

## BUILDINGS BULLETIN 2013-016

### Technical

---

**Supersedes:** None

**Issuer:** James Colgate, R.A., Esq.  
Assistant Commissioner for Technical Affairs and Code Development

**Issuance Date:** December 5, 2013

**Purpose:** This bulletin clarifies the acceptable use of Rigid Nonmetallic Conduit as permitted conduit for service-entrance conductors, outside feeders and outside branch circuits on buildings located in a corrosive environment.

|  |           |                |
|--|-----------|----------------|
| <b>Related<br/>Code/Zoning<br/>Section(s):</b> | EC 225.10 | EC Article 110 |
|  | EC 230.43 | EC Article 352 |
|  |           | EC Article 355 |

**Subject(s):** Service-entrance conductors, rigid nonmetallic conduit; Outside feeders, rigid nonmetallic conduit; Outside branch circuits, rigid nonmetallic conduit; Rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit (PVC); Reinforced thermosetting resin conduit (RTRC).

---

**Background:** New York City Electrical Code sections 225.10 and 230.43 do not permit the use of rigid nonmetallic conduit, such as Rigid Polyvinyl Chloride Conduit (PVC), or Reinforced Thermosetting Resin Conduit (RTRC), for the installation of service-entrance conductors, outside feeders, or outside branch circuits. However, the resulting use of metallic conduit poses a potential safety hazard when installed within proximity of a salt-water body. Such a potential safety hazard is in conflict with the requirements in Article 110, Section 110.2(A), which states, in part: "All electrical equipment, apparatus, materials, devices, appliances or wiring thereto installed or used in any electrical construction or installation regulated by the terms of this code, shall be designed and constructed so as to be safe and suitable for the purpose intended."

**Specifics:** In order to resolve the potential conflict and inconsistency among the sections cited above, and to ameliorate the potential safety hazard regarding the installation of wiring within proximity of a salt-water body, the Department will accept the use of PVC and RTRC as a wiring method for service-entrance conductors, outside feeders, and outside branch circuits in residential buildings located within 3000 ft. of a salt-water body, and not exceeding three floors above grade. The installation of PVC and RTRC shall be in accordance with all applicable requirements of Articles 352 and 355 of the 2011 NYC Electrical Code.