

Memo

To: Electrical Inspectors for Authorities Having Jurisdiction
From: Portland General Electric (PGE)
Date: September 2025

PGE Plans to Change Maximum Available Fault Current in 2026

Electrification is underway and expected to accelerate in the coming decades. PGE has been studying how to prepare services today for this growing shift. Based on recent research and ongoing system planning, PGE will be updating our maximum fault current requirements in the 2026 edition of the Electric Service Requirements (ESR) book.

The Maximum Available Fault Current Table will be published as follows:

Type of Service	Maximum Fault Current
Single-family residence, <i>underground service</i> , 0 A to 400 A	22,000 A
Single-family residence, overhead service, 200 A or lower	10,000 A
Single-family residence, overhead service, 201 A to 400 A	22,000 A
Single-family residence, 400 A and higher	Calculated upon request
Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural, and Multiple-Family Services	Calculated upon request
Network Services (located in downtown SW Portland. Map is available in the ESR book).	Calculated upon request. Fault current levels are significantly higher.

Starting January 2026, PGE will change the Maximum Available Fault Current from 10 kA to 22 kA for single-family residences 200A and lower served by an underground service. While the calculated maximum available fault current may be lower, PGE will require 22 kA. This update is to prepare and pave the way to safely support customer's electrification now and in the coming decades.

Customers will need to furnish service equipment (meter gear) that is capable of interrupting and withstanding this required maximum available fault current. **Single-family residences with underground services 0 A to 400 A will need to supply a 22 AIC breaker.** Upon request, PGE will provide the calculated maximum available fault current at the PGE point of delivery.

