
FW: Proposed rule change clarification

From DirOfficeInq, DBR (DBR) <DBR.DirOfficeInq@dbr.ri.gov>
Date Tue 12/9/2025 11:52 AM
To Pfeiffer, Hannah (DBR) <Hannah.Pfeiffer@dbr.ri.gov>
Cc Cotta, Meredith (DBR) <Meredith.Cotta@dbr.ri.gov>

Good morning,

From the Director's Inbox.

Thank you.

Russ

From: Sam At CMS Home Inspection <sam@cmshomeinspection.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 11:46 AM
To: DirOfficeInq, DBR (DBR) <DBR.DirOfficeInq@dbr.ri.gov>
Subject: Proposed rule change clarification

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Hi, I noticed under the standards of practice, "5.24.5 Scope of Home Inspection" under "D system:
e." On page 22 reads "Exclusions: In addition to the exclusions and prohibitions found in §§ 5.242.5 and 5.242.6 of this Part, the inspector shall not be required to: Dismantle any electrical device or control other than to remove the covers of the service and distribution panels. However, the inspector is not required to remove the covers of the service and distribution panels if the panel covers are not readily accessible, if there are dangerous or adverse situations present, or when removal would damage or mar any painted surface and/or covering materials; and/or."

So based on the wording we're not required to remove covers if there are dangerous conditions, or if it's not accessible, or if removing the cover would cause damage to the home's finish. However, this wording that we are not required to dismantle any electrical device OTHER than the panel cover would mean we are required to remove the covers unless xyz condition is present. If the standards said "including" instead of "other than" then that would make more sense with the current orders we got months ago.

This wording is the same as in the current SOP, however the state sent out emails telling us we can't remove covers. Looking for clarification. Do we have to remove covers or not? Is it legal

for non licensed electricians to remove covers or not?

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