

# Understanding Meter Base Adapter Equipment



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**Dominion Energy Virginia will convert overhead electric services to underground. In some cases, a meter base adapter will need to be installed so that the meter base can accept the new underground cable.**

## What is a meter base?

A meter base is the customer-owned box attached to your home that holds your electric meter. It safely provides the separation between Dominion Energy's wiring and the customer's wiring that runs into the interior panel box. For safety reasons, a meter base should only be opened by a Dominion Energy representative, authorized contractor, or certified professional electrician using proper personal protective equipment.

## Why is a meter base adapter needed?

In some cases, the meter base for existing overhead services cannot accommodate a different underground cable due to size limitations. Adding an adapter allows

the existing overhead service to be converted to underground.

## When is the meter base adapter installed?

Dominion Energy will install the adapter during construction. The timing for this work and associated power outage will be communicated closer to the installation date.

## Important Facts

- Customers may be asked to provide access to the meter base.
- When the electric service line is removed from the side of the home, any repainting or surface restoration is the property owner's responsibility. Our contractors will only caulk nail holes.

**A Dominion Energy representative will discuss the available options and work with each customer to determine the best possible solution.**



*Conceptual examples only—actual meter base size and property characteristics will vary.*

### Option 1:

No obstructions underneath the meter base



An "ELL" adapter can be installed near the current meter base.

### Option 2:

Obstructions are beneath the meter base (i.e. patio, deck)



A "junction box" adapter can be installed utilizing entrance cable to connect the meter base to the adapter.

### Option 3:

Replace the existing meter base with one that will accept the new underground cable



Situations will vary, Dominion Energy may or may not have the ability to replace the meter base. If not, this option will require work at the customer's expense prior to conversion.

### Option 4:

Leave the existing electric service line overhead



The electric line that serves the neighborhood would be placed underground, but the service line providing power to the house would remain overhead.

Ask our authorized representative about our Augmented Reality App for a 3D view of the meter base adapter options.



Strategic  
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