

CC: Committee
DPW
POLICE
Zoning

300 Madison Ave
Morristown NJ, 07960
732-212-4261

<mailto:jointuse@firstenergycorp.com>

February 2, 2010

Mayor
Holland Township
61 Church Road
Milford NJ, 08848

RE: POSTING SIGNS & BANNERS ON UTILITY POLES.

New Jersey State Statute 27:5-9, prohibits the placing of signs (political or otherwise) on public utility poles. Section 27:5-9f states, "A sign may not be painted, drawn, erected or maintained upon trees, rocks, other natural features or public utility poles."

*In addition, Section 27:5-23 states, "It shall be the **duty** of all departments of State or local government and all county and municipal officers charged with the enforcement of State and municipal laws under the direction of the commissioner to **assist in the enforcement** of the provisions of this act and the orders issued, or rules or regulations adopted pursuant to this act. The Superintendent of State Police in the Department of Law and Public Safety and the Chief of Police of any municipality are **authorized and charged** under the direction of the commissioner **to enforce** the provisions of this act and any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto."*

Section 27:5-16 prescribes penalties ranging from \$50 to \$500 for each offense. Each day of the violation may be deemed to be a separate offense.

Aside from being illegal, these signs pose a safety hazard to utility workers. Not only do the signs often prevent them from being able to physically climb the pole; but nails, staples, etc. could cause injury to utility workers or could jeopardize the integrity of safety equipment (gloves) that may unknowingly be punctured by these staples and nails.

We encourage local municipalities to actively enforce this law and educate their residents. A copy of the statute can be provided. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at (732) 212-4261.

Sincerely,

Robin R. Alston-Santiago
Distribution Specialist – Joint Use

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FEB 22 2010

TOWNSHIP OF HOLLAND
CLERKS OFFICE



POLE ATTACHMENT PERMISSION PROCEDURE

Honorable Mayor and Council:

Permission to attach to utility poles must be obtained before installing the following pole attachments:

- HOLIDAY LIGHTING AND DECORATIONS
- HORIZONTAL BANNERS
- VERTICAL BANNERS/FLAGS

ALL ATTACHMENTS TO UTILITY POLES MUST BE PRE-APPROVED BY BOTH JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT AND THE LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANY PRIOR TO ANY INSTALLATION.

Attachments made without permission are *illegal* and the parties attached are responsible for any damage to property or persons.

For more information contact:

Robin R. Alston-Santiago (732) 212-4261

Parties requesting permission to hang banners in your municipality must be made aware of our requirements; including an Insurance Certificate and Letter of Indemnification prior to attaching. The municipality must first approve all banner requests.