

**Joint Use Engineering Policy**

**Subject: Boxing and Extension Arms**

**Definitions:**

Pole Boxing

The term “boxing” in this document is the placement of cables, wires or messenger on opposing sides of a pole below the power space.

Extension arms

The term “extension arms” is used in this document to denote extension arms, brackets, bolts, cross-bars, straps, and any other techniques that are used to maintain, or have the effect of maintaining, some horizontal distance between an attachment and the pole.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to communicate FirstEnergy’s policy on the use of boxing and extension arms and the circumstances under which they may be requested and approved for use on FirstEnergy poles.

**Applicability**

FirstEnergy’s policy applies to all FirstEnergy utilities granting pole attachment rights.

**Policy**

FirstEnergy’s policy is not to allow boxing or extension arms. However there may be certain limited circumstances under which FirstEnergy will evaluate requests for boxing or extension arms on a case-by-case (i.e. pole-by-pole) basis. From the issue date of this statement of policy forward, if the use of boxing or extension arms is approved by FirstEnergy, any such approval shall be made by a FirstEnergy Manager of Engineering in writing. Blanket approval shall not be granted to any attaching person, company or contractor.

**Boxing and Extension Arms Create Operational Problems**

FirstEnergy design and work principles intend that all poles may be climbed safely at any time, and boxing and extension arms make poles difficult to climb. For example, extension brackets and boxing may be especially hazardous where a ladder is needed. Boxing also significantly complicates the process of pole replacement because the new pole must be inserted between the boxed attachments.

**Guidance**

Attachment companies requesting permission to install or retain the use of boxing and / or extension arms must submit a justified explanation and listing of poles and locations to the Manager of Engineering in the applicable FirstEnergy utility. Approval for the use of boxing and extension arms shall be determined by FirstEnergy at its sole discretion, on a case-by-case (i.e. pole-by-pole) basis.

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Existing boxed attachments shall not constitute consent for additional boxed attachments. Further, boxing poles and use of extension arms without FirstEnergy's expressed written consent may result in corrective action being taken for which the responsible party may be subject to make-ready costs to remedy the unauthorized attachment.

All attachments to FirstEnergy poles must meet the requirements of all applicable federal, state, county and municipal codes and regulations, the most current edition of the National Electrical Safety Code, the terms of the attacher's pole attachment agreement, joint use/ownership agreement, or FirstEnergy operating company tariff (whichever is applicable), and FirstEnergy's practices and construction standards. All attachment requests must be submitted to FirstEnergy in accordance with the approved permitting process.

This document is provided for informational purposes and is subject to change at any time.

This version supersedes and replaces all prior versions.