



Municipality of Anchorage



Policy E.02

Requirements for AFCI Circuit Breakers on Existing Panels

Section 210.12.B of the 2005 National Electrical Code requires that all branch circuits supplying 125-volt 15- and 20-ampere outlets installed in dwelling unit bedrooms shall be protected by an arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI). An outlet, per the National Electrical Code, is a point on the wiring system at which current is taken to supply utilization equipment such as a light, smoke detector, or receptacle.

Additions or alterations require AFCI if the existing panel or newly installed panel accepts arc fault circuit breakers. Each existing panel that does not accept arc fault circuit breakers will not be required to be replaced and arc fault protection will not be required on the new installation when less than six outlets are added to that panel.

Ron Thompson, Building Official
DATE: May 17, 2006
(Ref: 03-08; 06-04)