Pole Attachment Terminology

NOTE: The following frequently-used terms.

**Abandoned Attachment** – Attachment for which attachment fees have not been paid and/or attachment to which an Attacher has been unresponsive to OUC’s inquiries or communications for more than six (6) months.

**Anchor** – A device supporting and holding in place conductors terminated at a pole or structure buried and attached to the pole by way of a guy wire to counteract the mechanical forces of these conductors.

**Application for Temporary Construction Permit** – OUC form used by potential Pole user to provide proposed aerial and wireless design and construction data to OUC to request Pole attachments.

**Attacher** – Provider of cable television and/or telecommunications services to which OUC has granted certain non-exclusive rights to use its Poles, pursuant to Section 224 of the Communications Act, as amended, other applicable law, and the parties’ Pole Attachment Agreement.

**Authorized Attachment** – Attachment that has been licensed through the Application for Temporary Construction Permit Process.

**As-Built Construction** – An Attacher’s actual aerial cable installations on OUC’s Poles, based on an originally-submitted Application for Temporary Construction Permit for Pole Attachments, and any necessary design modifications and field changes made by the Attacher or requested by OUC during actual construction.

**Boxed-In Pole** – A pole with cable attachments installed on both the street side and the opposite side of a utility pole obstructing safe pole access and either routine or emergency pole replacement.

**Cable Tagging** – Method for the physical identification in the field of an attaching company’s aerial cable plant attached to OUC’s poles.

**Cable Television System Attachments** – Any fiber optic cable, coaxial cable, the cable and wires connected to such fiber optic cable and coaxial cable, and any and all supporting cable used by cable television operators providing only cable television services (“Cable Attachments”), as may be more fully described in the Guidelines;

**Communication Service Drop** – Communications cable from Attacher’s existing attachment to a new customer’s premises for the sole purpose of providing service to the new customer.

**Communications Space** – The lowest zone on a Pole, located immediately below the Communications Workers Safety Zone. The Communications Space is used primarily for the placement of cable television, broadband, fiber, and telephone wires used to deliver communications services.

**Communication Workers Safety Zone** – The safety zone, also called the “neutral” space, is the space between the lowest supply conductor or equipment and the highest communication cables or equipment. Spacing requirements for Communication Workers Safety Zone and other workers are specified by the NESC.

**Conduit Riser** – PVC tubing used to protect cable/fiber facilities that are attached to a Pole via Stand-Off Brackets that transitions facilities from underground to overhead.

**DAS/SMALL CELL** – A Distributed Antenna System (DAS) is a network of spatially separated antenna nodes connected to a common source via a fiber connection that provides wireless service supported by radio and battery back-up equipment.
**Distribution System** – The portion of an electric power system that distributes electricity to consumers from a bulk power location such as a substation.

**Electrical Supply Zone** – (see also Supply Space) the upper portion of a Pole, used for electric lines and other electric supply equipment, located above the Communications Workers Safety Zone, that is reserved to support electric distribution equipment.

**Electrical Ground** – A conducting connection by which an electric circuit, or equipment, is connected to the earth or some conducting body that serves in place of the earth.

**Federal Communications Commission (FCC)** – The federal Government agency responsible for implementing and enforcing the pole access requirements of Section 224 of the Communications Act as amended.

**Foreign Pole** – A utility pole that is not owned by OUC.

**Ground Furniture** – The electronic and electric hardware used to support wireless antenna(s) located separate from the Node Pole, typically located at the meter service pole.

**Ground Rod** – A large conductor attached to one side of the power supply that serves as the common return path for current from many different components in the circuit.

**Grounding System** – A power system providing for a common return path (to earth) for electrical current and for an appropriate current-carrying capability for absorbing an excess amount of current.

**Guy Wire** – Also known as strand, messenger, support wire, structure cable, or guy, a guy wire is designed to offset the lateral pull of the electrical wires and/or communications cable attachments. OUC Pole Attachment Guidelines and Procedures

**Horizontal Extension Arm** – A bracket extension arm attached at the Pole for the purpose of suspending cables or conductors at a distance from a pole.

**Irregular Plant Conditions (IPCs)** – Conditions associated with the Attacher’s facilities that OUC has determined adversely impact the safety and reliability of its electric distribution network.

**Make-Ready** – All work on an existing pole, including but not limited to such work required to rearrange and/or relocate existing attachments by OUC and/or third parties, and to correct any existing safety violations, that OUC may deem necessary pre-installation to ensure that any Pole for which Attacher has requested access is safe, reliable, and in suitable condition to support Attacher’s proposed Attachment.

**Mid-Span Clearance** – The required NESC vertical separation between power and communications conductors midway between two distribution poles. Mid-span clearance is the controlling factor in determining NESC clearance between power and communication lines.

**National Electrical Safety Code (NESC)** – The collaborative national standard of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), providing for the safeguarding of persons from hazards arising from the installation, operation or maintenance of: (1) conductors and equipment in electric supply stations; and (2) overhead and underground electrical supply and communication lines and equipment, as may be amended from time to time.

**Node Pole** – Distribution Pole used to accommodate communications hardware (DAS or Small Cell Wireless Technology) that receive and transmit data does not include Ground Furniture.
Neutral – The conductor used to carry unbalanced current. In single-phase systems, the conductor used for a return current path.

Overlash(ing) – A specific method of attaching multiple communications cables on a single supporting strand, as further described in the FCC’s orders.

Pole – OUC’s Poles supporting electrical conductors of less than 69 kV, not including Transmission-only poles, dedicated metal poles, street light poles, and all other such special purpose poles or pole lines of non-standard design that do not support OUC’s electric distribution system.

Pole Attachment Agreement – Agreement executed by OUC and Attacher setting forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which Attacher may obtain access OUC’s Poles, the applicable pole attachment rate(s) or rate formula(s), and the process whereby Attacher may obtain a Site License to use any individual OUC Pole.

Pole-Top Zone – Pole space located at the top of the pole.

Post-Installation Inspection – Inspection performed by OUC to ensure that Attacher’s installation conforms to the design data approved in Attacher’s Application for Temporary Construction Permit, and fully complies with the NESC, these Guidelines, and applicable regulations, codes, and laws.

Primary – A primary voltage distribution circuit delivering electric power through electrically charged conductors usually considered to be between a substation or point of supply and the distribution transformers.

Public Safety Department – OUC group responsible for promoting electric safety and educating the general public about the dangers of electricity.

Regulator – A device used to control (increase and decrease) the voltage of a circuit.

Route Map – Attacher’s map showing intended aerial cable route using individual Poles.

Service Standards – OUC’s electric service standard practices compiled for the benefit and guidance of customers, contractors, electricians, architects, and engineers.

Single Phase – The distribution of electric power using a system in which the voltage is taken from one phase of a Three-Phase source.

Site License (SL) – OUC map document authorizing an Attacher’s non-exclusive right of attachment and ongoing use of specific OUC Poles as indicated thereon, and as the OUC and Attacher may amend from time to time.

Stand-Off Bracket – 9 to 10 inch hardware bracket used to extend Conduit Risers away from Poles to provide safer climbing space.

Supply Space – (see also Electrical Supply Zone) the upper portion of a distribution pole located above the Communications Workers Safety Zone, used to support electric cables and other electric equipment, such as Transformers and capacitors, used for electric distribution. Only OUC-authorized electrical workers are allowed to work in or above the Supply Space.

Telecommunications Attachments – Any fiber optic cable, coaxial cable, the cable and wires connected to such fiber optic cable and coaxial cable, and any and all supporting cable used to provide Telecommunications Service as defined in Section 153(51) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, (“Act”), including without limitation, Broadband Internet Access Service, as defined in the
FCC’s rules, or any combination of cable television service and/or telecommunications service with any other service not otherwise classified by the FCC (“Commingled Service”), including but not limited to Voice over Internet Protocol (“VoIP”) (“Telecommunications Attachments”).

**Temporary Construction Permit (TCP)** – OUC map document designating the Poles on which an Attacher has been authorized to place attachments, authorizing such Attacher to proceed with the specific installations approved by OUC, as requested in Attacher’s Application.

**Three-Phase** – A circuit consisting of three conductors where the current and voltage in each conductor (phase) is 120° out of phase with each other phase.

**Three-Phase Major Underground (MUG) Terminal Pole** – also known as a “dip pole,” is a medium-voltage, three-phase, coppered-out switch that terminates at the pothead, which is used to transition between three-phase medium voltage overhead lines and three-phase underground medium voltage cable that either continues to feed the circuit or a three-phase underground Transformer.

**Transformer** – An electro-magnetic device used to change the voltage in an alternating current electrical circuit.

**Transmission** – Normally, the highest voltage network of an electric utility system, that carries power over the longest distances, typically operating at voltages of 69 kV (69,000 volts) or greater.

**U-Guard** – U-shaped cover molding designed to protect communications cable facilities is located where communications circuits lead from underground to overhead.

**Unauthorized Attachment**– Any attachment which has not been licensed through the Application for OUC Distribution Pole Attachment process (Section 6).

**Unusable Space** – The space on the pole below the applicable minimum clearance requirement as defined by federal, state, or local regulations.

**Wireless Telecommunications Attachments** – Antennas and support equipment including but not limited to batteries, conduits, and boxes for power supply and other purposes, support mounts and structures, radio access nodes, accessory equipment (including associated hardware), cables and wires connecting antennas to accessory equipment on the same Pole, electronic equipment shelters and all property within such shelters, pedestals supporting equipment cabinets or panels, and other necessary communications equipment (located at the Ground Furniture) (collectively, “Wireless Telecommunications Attachments”) used to provide Telecommunications Service, as defined in Section 153(51) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("Act").