



Freedom of Information - Access Application to the City and Environment Directorate - Submission confirmation

Your submission has been successful. Please keep a copy of this receipt for your records.

Date and time

Reference code

The City and Environment Directorate

GPO Box 158
Canberra City, ACT 2601

Phone: 02 6207 2987
CEDFOI@act.gov.au

Applicant details

Title

Given name

Family name

Preferred name

Preferred method of contact

- Phone
- Email
- Post

Contact phone number

Contact email address

Contact postal address

Address line 1

Address line 2

Suburb

State

Postcode

Preferred method to receive information*

Email

Post

Same as contact email address

Information request

Who are you making the request on behalf of?

What type of information are you requesting access to?*

What information are you requesting access to under the Act?*

All guidelines, directions, or the like (however they might be described and in whatever form they may exist), which are intended and/or used to guide, direct, instruct, or otherwise assist in any manner, ACT Government / Access Canberra Electrical Inspectors, when in carrying out inspections of residential electrical installations or upgrades (however described), relevant to the following areas:

- actions electrical inspectors must or should take prior to an inspection being conducted, to inform the occupant(s) of a residence that an inspection is to be conducted;
- efforts electrical inspectors must or should make to ascertain whether any person is present at a residence which is to be the subject of an inspection, at the time of the intended inspection;
- course(s) of action electrical inspectors must or should take in the event that they are unable to ascertain whether any person is present at a residence which is to be the subject of an inspection, at the time of the intended inspection; and
- course(s) of action electrical inspectors must or should take in the event they believe that no person is present at a residence which is to be the subject of an inspection, at the time of the intended inspection.

Attach a description or additional details about the information you are requesting access to (optional)

Do you have a similar or identical request currently under review by another ACT Government Directorate?

Yes

No

Are you enquiring as

A member of the public



Do you wish to apply for a waiver of fees associated with processing your application?

Yes

No

Provide a statement about how the release of information is in the public interest (optional)

On 24 February 2026 an inspection of the nature described in this request was conducted at my residence, well within the property boundary. I was not informed of the intended inspection.

The inspector conducting the inspection did so without making all reasonable efforts to ascertain whether I was at the premises, despite me being at the residence and easily contactable by telephone. (The inspector had my telephone number at all times, and in fact used it at the completion of his inspection).

I discovered that, what I subsequently learned was an inspection, was underway when I firstly heard the sounds of someone apparently interfering with newly installed solar electrical equipment attached to one of the walls of my residence, and secondly, as I observed an unidentified person clearly dismantling a component of that newly installed solar electrical equipment. This was a personally alarming and distressing incident for me, as I believed at the time that a criminal offence was being committed against me and my property.

When confronted by me, the inspector claimed to be following “guidelines” under which he was required to operate, and that those guidelines extended to mandating that he carry out the inspection without my knowledge, as he was able to access the equipment, despite it being well within the property boundary and attached to my house.

If such “guidelines” (however described) do in fact exist, then it is my opinion that they are deficient and/or defective and are likely to result in inspectors venturing outside the authority provided to them under the Electrical Safety Act 1971, which I believe was the case on 24 February 2026 at my residence.

If such “guidelines” as described by the inspector do in fact exist, it is my intention to make representations to the appropriate authority/authorities to have them amended.

Would you like to provide any additional information? (optional)

Attach additional documents to support your application (optional)
