

## Multiple Utility Meters

### **Rick's Question:**

"In a multiple occupancy strip mall, the owner wants to knock down a common wall and make a large suite out of two smaller ones. Will the utility company permit the new tenant to be billed from two meters?"

### **Working Electrician:**

This is what the code says; otherwise, it would be up to the utility company and the AHJ to decide any exceptions.

#### ***230.2 Number of Services.***

*"A building or other structure served shall be supplied by only one service unless permitted in 230.2(A) through (D). For the purpose of 230.40, Exception No. 2 only, underground sets of conductors, 1/0 AWG and larger, running to the same location and connected together at their supply end but not connected together at their load end shall be considered to be supplying one service."*

The basic requirement of 230.2 is that a building or other structure can be supplied by only one service. However, under certain conditions, when a single service may not be adequate to supply a building or structure, 230.2 permits the use of additional services. Sections 230.2(A) through (D) describe those conditions under which more than one service is permitted. If more than one service is installed, 230.2(E) requires that a permanent plaque or directory be installed.