

# **RESIDENTIAL SOLAR SYSTEM PERMIT CHECKLIST**

Building, Electrical and Fire permits are required for the installation or replacement of solar/photovoltaic (PV) systems, including rooftop arrays and PV water heaters.

# CODES:

- International Residential Code (Current Edition)
- International Building Code (Current Edition)
- International Fire Code (Current Edition)
- National Electrical Code (Current Edition)

## Note:

- We reserve the right to request additional information and documents as needed
- Please refer to the <u>Electronic Submittals Requirements</u> for naming conventions and other requirements
- Staff will not process incomplete applications.
- VERIFY CONTRACTORS LICENSE
- PRE-INSTALLATION SOLAR INSPECTION:
  - Contractor is required to schedule the inspection at the same time as installation and have the approved plan set on site. Do not cover the Work. Failure to do so may incur an additional fee.

## Plan review is REQUIRED.

# Submittal Requirements

### **Plan Requirements**

- Site Plan
- Roof Plan
  - Include documentation showing the roof structures adequacy of the existing roof structure to support the additional load, or
  - Documentation showing the roof structure was substantially overbuilt compared to prescriptive code requirements.
- Dev System Electrical Diagram. Also, indicate if the existing panel upgrade is required.
- □ Manufacture's Specifications/Cut Sheet. Include the weight of the equipment.
- □ Installation Manuals and the mounting hardware & details, if available.
- □ Structural calculations by a WA state licensed engineer (as required)

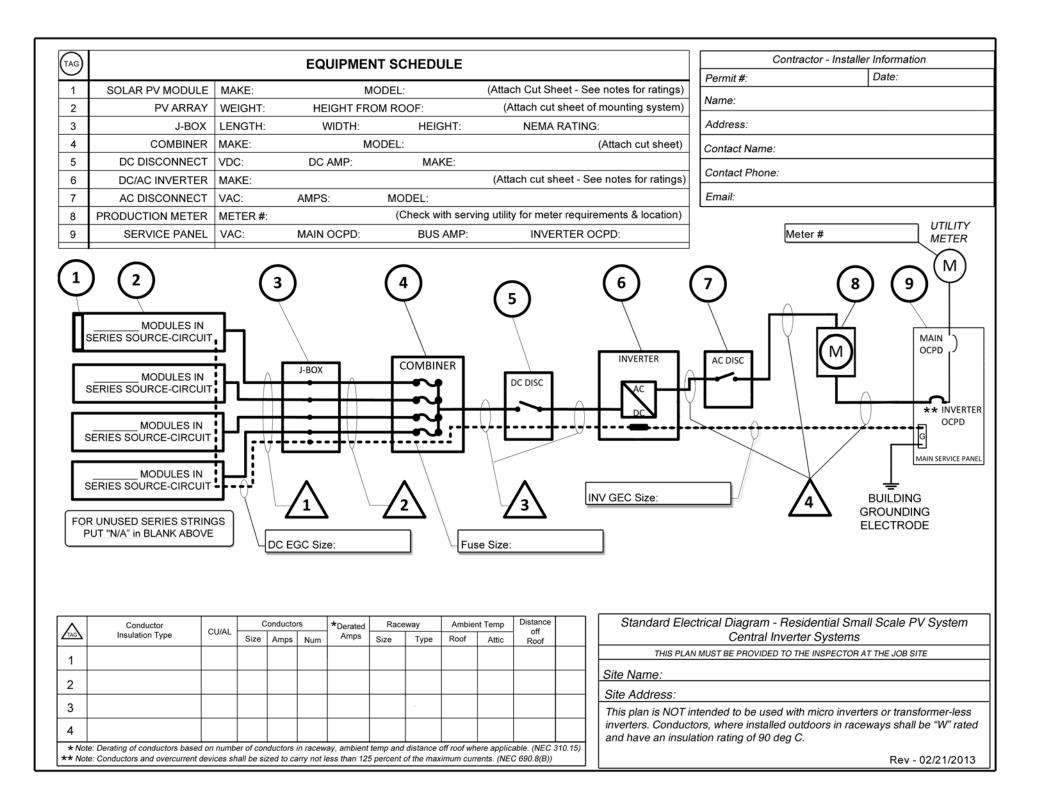


## Solar PV Electrical One-Line Diagram Requirements

The electrical one-line diagram must be used to accurately represent the electrical components of the solar PV system and shall include:

- □ The correct conductor sizing based on the ambient temperature, number of conductors, and distance of conduit off the roof.
- □ The correct "Output circuit" conductors sizing from the combiner to the inverter based on the number of strings multiplied by the "Max amps."
- □ Where a combiner box is installed, or where more than two strings of modules are electrically connected together in "parallel," each individual string shall be protected by its own overcurrent protection device or feeders are for the sum of the short circuit current of all strings. The fuse or breaker shall be listed as being suitable for use in a DC circuit and shall meet or exceed the maximum voltage of the circuit. The rating of the fuse or circuit breaker shall not be larger than the maximum size specified on the lowest rated module in the string.
- □ Per NEC Section 690.31(E), metallic raceway and enclosures must be used where DC wiring is installed inside of the house.
- Grounding on the DC side of the inverter requires a minimum #8 copper grounding electrode conductor run un-spliced from the factory identified system grounding terminal of the inverter to the grounding electrode system of the house.
- □ The inverter shall be listed and labeled by a recognized electrical testing laboratory and be identified as "Utility interactive."
- □ Inverter ground fault protection (GFP) shall comply with NEC 690.5.
- □ A performance meter and a safety disconnect switch may be required to be installed between the PV power source and the electrical utility equipment. Contact the local serving utility for requirements. Where a performance meter is required by the local utility to record the power produced by the PV system, the output wiring from the inverter shall always connect to the "LINE" side terminals of the meter.
- □ Where disconnect switches (with or without fuses) are installed in the circuit from the inverter output terminals to the house electrical panel, the wiring originating at the inverter(s) shall always connect to the "LOAD" side terminals of ANY disconnect that has been installed.
- □ The connection to the service panel shall be through a dedicated circuit breaker that connects to the panel bus bars in an approved manner.
- □ "Load Side Taps" where the inverter AC wiring does not terminate using a dedicated breaker or set of fuses are prohibited under ANY condition by NEC 690.64(B).
- □ The location of the PV backfed breaker must be identified per 690.64(B)(7) with the following verbiage: **"WARNING INVERTER OUTPUT CONNECTION. DO NOT RELOCATE THE OVERCURRENT DEVICE."**
- □ Where it is not possible to locate the PV breakers at opposite ends of the panel bus, the sum of the two PV breakers is not permitted to exceed 100% of the bus rating per NEC 690.64(B)(7)
- □ Per NEC 690.53, a permanent label for the DC power source shall be installed at the PV DC disconnecting means. This label shall show the following:
  - Rated maximum power-point current.
  - Rated maximum power-point voltage.
  - Maximum system voltage.
  - Short circuit current of the PV system.

SITE PLAN		Provide roof outline with location of all PV panels, j-box, combiner and DC disconnect.
RESIDENTIAL SMALL SCALE PV SYSTEM		If required, show fire code access pathways
Permit #:	Date:	Contractor: Contrator Phone:
Job Address:		Contact Name: Contact Phone:



NOTES for Residential Small Scale PV System Electrical Diagram			
Permit #: Date:			
Contractor:	·		
Job Address:	\$\$\$:		
Contact Name:			
Contact Phone:			

#### SIGNS

SIGN FOR DC DISCONNECT		
PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SOURCE		
RATED MPP CURRENT A		
RATED MPP VOLTAGE	v	
MAX SYSTEM VOLTAGE V		
MAX CIRCUIT CURRENT	А	
WARNING: ELECTRICAL SHOCK HAZARD-LINE AND LOAD MAY BE ENERGIZED IN OPEN POSITION		
SIGN FOR INVERTER OCPD AND AC DISCONNECT (IF USED)		
SOLAR PV SYSTEM AC POINT OF CONNECTION		
AC OUTPUT CURRENT	А	
NOMINAL AC VOLTAGE	v	
THIS PANEL FED BY MULTIPLE SOURCES (UTILITY AND SOLAR)		

#### **PV MODULE RATINGS**

MODULE MAKE		
MODULE MODEL		
MAX POWER-POIN	IT CURRENT (I <sub>MP</sub> )	A
MAX POWER-POIN	IT VOLTAGE (V <sub>MP</sub> )	v
OPEN-CIRCUIT VC	DLTAGE (V <sub>oc</sub> )	v
SHORT-CIRCUIT C	URRENT (I <sub>sc</sub> )	A
MAX SERIES FUSE	E (OCPD)	A
MAXIMUM POWER	(P <sub>MAX</sub> )	w
MAX VOLTAGE (T)	(P 600V <sub>DC</sub> )	v
VOC TEMP COEFF	(mV/ºC□ or %/ºC□)	
IF COEFF SUPPLIE	ED, CIRCLE UNITS	

#### INVERTER RATINGS

INVERTER MAKE	
INVERTER MODEL	
MAX DC VOLT RATING	v
MAX POWER @ 40°C	w
NOMINAL AC VOLTAGE	v
MAX AC CURRENT	A
MAX OCPD RATING	А

LOWEST EXPECTED AMBIENT TEMP:	°C
HIGHEST CONTINUOUS TEMPERATURE:	°C

NEC 690.8(B) Photovoltaic system currents shall be considered continuous.

NEC 690.8(B)(1) The circuit conductors and overcurrent devices shall be sized to carry not less than125 percent of the maximum currents calculated in 690.8(A).

Exception: Circuits containing an assembly, together with its overcurrent device(s), that is listed for continuous operation at 100 percent of its rating shall be permitted to be utilized at 100 percent of its rating.

All signage and markings shall be a phenolic or metalic plate or other similar material in block letters 1/4 inch or greater in height, and suitable for the environment. Letters and background shall be in contrasting colors. Screws, rivets or other approved means shall be used to affix plates to equipment.

INVERTER		PANELBOARD	
Maximum Current	OCPD Size	Main Bus	Main OCPD
56 amps	70 amps	225 amps	200 amps
36 amps	45 amps	225 amps	225 amps
33 amps	40 amps	200 amps	200 amps
24 amps	30 amps	150 amps	150 amps
20 amps	25 amps	125 amps	125 amps
16 amps	20 amps	100 amps	100 amps