



City of Atascadero Community Development Department

PUBLIC INFORMATION - BUILDING SERVICES

Community Development Department 6500 Palma Avenue Atascadero, CA 93422 (805) 461-5035 fax (805) 461-7612

OFF-GRID SOLAR HANDOUT

SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY C, D or E - CLIMATE ZONE 4 - WIND ZONES 85 M.P.H - EXPOSURE ZONE "B" OR "C"
ZONING ORDINANCE - NATIVE TREE ORDINANCE - ATASCADERO MUNICIPAL CODE - 2022 CBC - 2022 CRC - 2022 CEC
2022 CFC - 2022 CMC - 2022 CGBC - ENGINEERING STANDARDS - CALIFORNIA STATE ENERGY COMPLIANCE (TITLE 24)

PERMIT SUBMITTALS WILL BE ACCEPTED BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. & 4:30 P.M.

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Incomplete submittals will not be accepted at the permit counter

This handout is intended to provide guidance for how to design off-grid solar installations that are not connected to a commercial power source and that provide an equivalent source of power to an electrical service in accordance with Chapter 8 of the 2021 Uniform Solar, Hydronics and Geothermal Code and all applicable Title 24 California Building Standards Codes. This is not an all-inclusive list of code requirements or installation examples. This is intended to provide guidance regarding these types of systems. A building permit is required for these types of electrical improvements and approval shall be gained from the City of Atascadero Building and Fire Departments prior to commencing any construction.

General

- The off grid electrical system shall be designed by a California Licensed Electrical Engineer.
- For residential projects a minimum 225-amp rated (bus) distribution panel and feeder conductors from the off-grid system to the distribution panel are required.
- All equipment shall be listed (UL) or by another recognized testing/listing agency.
- An electrical disconnect is required at the exterior of the structure served by the off-grid solar system.
- The design of the system shall meet all requirements per the most recently adopted edition of the California Electrical Code and local ordinances.
- Back up generators shall comply with the noise ordinance in the Atascadero Municipal Code

Commercial

- Systems shall be designed by a Licensed California Electrical Engineer.
- Systems shall be designed to provide sufficient power and back up power for all expected loads which may include fire alarms, and sprinkler pumps. Load calculations shall comply with the requirements of the California Electrical Code and manufactures requirements.
- Systems shall provide 7 days of autonomy, i.e. available battery supply.
- Systems shall include a backup generator controlled by an approved automatic transfer switch.
- Systems shall also be approved by the Atascadero Fire Department local fire district.

- Complete Application:** Must be signed by Owner, Agent (with approved written authorization), or Licensed Contractor.
- Permit Fees:** \$645.00 due upon submittal, covers cost of inspections. Plan check fees will be charged at an hourly rate.
- Construction drawings:** Design package including site plan and supporting docs (3 complete drawing sets with 2 sets support docs).