



BUILDING DIVISION - DPW

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Bulletin No: PV 2012-01

Date: September 17 & August 24, 2012 and revised February 13, 2014

Code/ Edition: Hawaii County Code Chapter 9 and the 2008 National Electrical Code (NEC)

Subject: Photovoltaic (PV) energy systems

The following clarifications are the result of discussions at the public PV workshops conducted on September 17, August 14, and 15, 2012, by the Department of Public Works:

A. PV - GENERAL

1. Inspection

Building and electrical inspections may be requested in any order following installation of panels on roof.

B. PV - ROOF MOUNTED

1. Inspection

Building Division has decided to provide ladders to inspectors. In the interim, contractors, please continue to provide ladders and fall protection at the time of inspection.

2. Plan Review and Approval

Per the manufacturers' literature and ICC Evaluation Reports for Iron Ridge Mounting Systems and mounting attachments-- Unirac and Solar Mount systems are approved for use and may be installed to a maximum height of 30' in Wind Zones A, B, C or D and Seismic Zones A, B, C, or D. Not require is a licensed Hawai'i state architect or structural engineer review and approval (a professional stamp). Applications within Wind Exposure D (1/4 mile of the ocean) and/or Seismic Zones E or F require a licensed Hawai'i state architect or structural engineer review and approval.

3. Hawaii Engineering Group, Inc. president Ather R. Dar, PE, certification, specifications, and details provided on September 5, 2012-- Grace Solar Graso roof mounting standard aluminum (6005-T5) rail is approved for use, and may be installed on residential homes with gable roofs in Wind Zones A, B, C, or D and Seismic Zones A, B, C, D or E. Approval and professional stamp is not required from a licensed Hawaii state architect and or structural engineer.

4. Murar Engineering & Design Inc, Kevin Murar PE & SE, revised the SunEarth SolarStrut photovoltaic racking system and found it in accordance with wind and seismic design requirements for Hawai'i island. The requirements are acceptable up to a seismic design category E or less.

Thank you again for your participation. For questions, please email Neil Erickson, Plans Examining Manager --nerickson@co.hawaii.hi.us

Issued by: David Yamamoto, Building Division Chief

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