



KUNA RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

EST. 1951

150 W BOISE ST
PO Box 607
Kuna, ID 83634
PHONE: (208) 922-1144
FAX: (208) 922-1982

Solar Panel Installation Requirements

2018 International Fire Code (IFC) Adoption

Beginning on January 1, 2021, the Kuna Rural Fire District has adopted the 2018 International Fire Code. Along with that comes changes to solar Panel installations. I have summarized what the code says below:

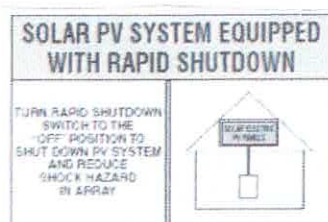
- No fewer than two – 3-foot pathways up the rakes with at least one being on the front, or driveway side of the structure.
- 18" across the ridge on both sides if the solar panels occupy less than 33% of the plan view of the total roof area. If it is more than 33% then the ridge dimension is 3' of clear space on each side of the ridge.
- No solar panels can be installed below a 2nd story emergency escape or rescue access (i.e. a bedroom window).
- The 2018 code does not address hips and valleys. For fire operations and consistency installation – Kuna Fire will be using the 18" of clearance on each side of the hip or valley.

Also new for 2021 is this section of code pertaining to Solar System Rapid Shutdown labeling:

1204.5.1 Rapid shutdown type. The type of solar photovoltaic system rapid shutdown shall be labeled with one of the following:

1. For solar photovoltaic systems that shut down the array and the conductors leaving the array, a label shall be provided. The first two lines of the label shall be uppercase characters with a minimum height of 3/8 inch (10 mm) in black on a yellow background. The remaining characters shall be uppercase with a minimum height of 3/16 inch (5 mm) in black on a white background. The label shall be in accordance with Figure 1204.5.1(1) and state the following:

SOLAR PV SYSTEM EQUIPPED WITH RAPID SHUTDOWN. TURN RAPID SHUTDOWN SWITCH TO THE "OFF" POSITION TO SHUT DOWN PV SYSTEM AND REDUCE SHOCK HAZARD IN ARRAY





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2. For photovoltaic systems that only shut down conductors leaving the array, a label shall be provided. The first two lines of the label shall be uppercase characters with a minimum height of 3/8 inch (10 mm) in white on a red background and the remaining characters shall be capitalized with a minimum height of 3/16 inch (5 mm) in black on a white background. The label shall be in accordance with Figure 1204.5.1(2) and state the following:

THIS SOLAR PV SYSTEM EQUIPPED WITH RAPID SHUTDOWN. TURN RAPID SHUTDOWN SWITCH TO THE "OFF" POSITION TO SHUT DOWN CONDUCTORS OUTSIDE THE ARRAY. CONDUCTORS WITHIN ARRAY REMAIN ENERGIZED IN SUNLIGHT.

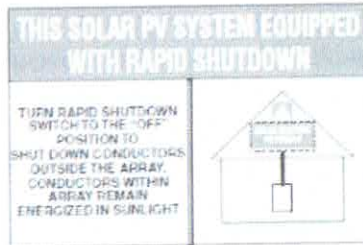


FIGURE 1204.5.1(2)
LABEL FOR SOLAR PV SYSTEMS THAT ONLY SHUT DOWN
CONDUCTORS LEAVING THE ARRAY

Solar Panel Installations will be subject to inspections and approval by an electrical inspector. The NFPA 70, International Building Code, and International Residential Code requirements may apply.

The installation requirements noted on this document will be checked and verified by the electrical inspector.