



William Miller &lt;william@millersolar.com&gt;

**Re: [EXT]Questions about off-grid permit application**

1 message

**Matt Varvel** <mvarvel@co.slo.ca.us>

Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 6:44 AM

To: "william@millersolar.com" &lt;william@millersolar.com&gt;

Cc: Michael Stoker &lt;mstoker@co.slo.ca.us&gt;, Benjamin Miller &lt;bemiller@co.slo.ca.us&gt;, George Schriefer &lt;gschriefer@co.slo.ca.us&gt;

William,

**1. Below what height is a ground mount rack exempt from engineering?****6'-6"****2. What NEC version you operating from?****2022 CEC****3. Will you be requiring rapid shut-down for a ground-mount system that feeds into equipment inside the attached garage of a single family home? The 2017 and 2023 codes are both ambiguous on the subject.****It depends where the inverters are located.****4. Will you be requiring an external disconnect to disconnect the AC output of the inverter system from premise wiring?****Yes, as required per 230.85****5. Will you be requiring an external disconnect to disconnect batteries from the inverters?****Yes****6. Will you require the ESS to be listed?****Yes****7. Do I need a Cal-Fire approval for this system? It is ground mount PV with sealed batteries and electronics in an attached garage.****Not if it is residential.****Matt Varvel****Plans Examiner III****County of San Luis Obispo****Planning and Building Department**

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*The permit processing and review times have been extended from our target dates. Thanks for your patience and understanding as staff is currently working through the permit applications in the order they are received. Please monitor your projects' status on CSS understanding that the target dates are just estimates. We will contact each customer with the next steps in the process as soon as possible. Please note that applications and submittals that are complete provide for a thorough plan review on the first round. Again, thank you for understanding*



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

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**From:** William Miller <[william@millersolar.com](mailto:william@millersolar.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2023 2:00 PM  
**To:** Matt Varvel <[mvarvel@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:mvarvel@co.slo.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** [EXT]Questions about off-grid permit application

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Matt:

I hope you are well and staying dry.

I am bidding a large-ish off-grid installation and I have a few questions:

1. Below what height is a ground mount rack exempt from engineering?
2. What NEC version you operating from?
3. Will you be requiring rapid shut-down for a ground-mount system that feeds into equipment inside the attached garage of a single family home? The 2017 and 2023 codes are both ambiguous on the subject.
4. Will you be requiring an external disconnect to disconnect the AC output of the inverter system from premise wiring?
5. Will you be requiring an external disconnect to disconnect batteries from the inverters?
6. Will you require the ESS to be listed?
7. Do I need a Cal-Fire approval for this system? It is ground mount PV with sealed batteries and electronics in an attached garage.

Thanks in advance for the answers to these questions. Too bad there are no updated criteria on the building department web site that would save you the time.

William Miller

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