

Dear Iowa Members:

RE: Solar Photovoltaic inspections effective January 1, 2018

The State of Iowa Electrical Inspectors require that the information highlighted below, be submitted prior to an on-site inspection taking place for solar photovoltaic systems. When an inspector receives an inspection request for a Solar Photovoltaic System (PV), you will receive an email from the inspector requesting the information highlighted below. If you would like to be proactive, you can email the requested information to the area inspector at the same time you request the inspection. Once the inspector receives all the requested information, the inspector will inspect the detailed one-line drawing along with all the other information to make sure the installation meets the minimum safety standards of the State adopted National Electrical Code. If there are no errors and everything was submitted, the inspector will schedule and complete the inspection request as requested. If there are errors or items missing, the inspector will email you back asking you to make the corrections and/or resubmit the missing items. Once the corrected and/or missing items are emailed back to the inspector, the information will be re-inspected for code compliance. If everything is correct, the inspector will schedule and complete the inspection as requested.

As of January 1, 2018, if the items are still not corrected and still non-code complaint, the inspection request will be completed on the on-line inspection system and count as an inspection towards the project. Once you gather up the missing items and/or make the corrections, you can go back into the on-line system, request a new inspection, and re-email the inspector the requested information that was documented in your failed inspection report. If everything is resubmitted correctly, the inspection will be scheduled and completed.

Template email you receive from your electrical inspector when you request an inspection for a Solar system:

It has come to our attention that you submitted an inspection request for a Photovoltaic System that you have installed. Please visit the link at the bottom of the page, scroll down to Photovoltaic Worksheets, and click on either the Micro-Inverter or Standard String heading. Complete the worksheet that is applicable to your installation and email it back to the Inspector assigned to that county along with the following information.

1. Solar Photovoltaic Paperwork from State Fire Marshal website. (see link below)
2. Cut Sheets of all Equipment to be used.
3. Detailed One-Line Diagram
4. Calculation Sheet
5. Site Plan showing where entire system is located on the property.

This information is required before the inspection will be scheduled and/or take place. With this information in advance the inspector can get a good idea of what the project entails and perhaps warn the electrical contractor of an electrical code issue before the installation is completed.

Link to Solar Photovoltaic Worksheets:

<http://www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/electrician/forms/forms.shtml>

Here is the link to our Interactive County Map that shows who the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) is:

http://www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/electrician/ContactMap/Contact_Map.shtml

Thank you,

Brian Young

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