

COMMERCIAL SOLAR READY

C402.6 (2015 IECC) and 5.4.6 (ASHRAE 90.1-2013) Commercial Solar Ready – A designated Solar-Ready Zone shall be identified on the construction documents as “Reserved for Future Solar Installation”. This zone must lie within the Potential Solar Area, be free from obstructions such as but not limited to vents, pipes, ducts, equipment, etc., and must comply with access, pathway, smoke ventilation, spacing, and other requirements of the City of Austin Land Development Code.

Exceptions:

1. Potential Solar Area < 2,000 square feet (185.8 square meters)
2. High hazard buildings (Group H)
3. Roofs located within the downtown network as identified in Appendix A of the current Austin Energy Distribution Interconnection Guide
4. When compliance with section C406.5 is demonstrated

C402.6.1 Solar ready area. The size of the Solar-Ready Zone is defined in Equation 4-5.5.

$$\text{Solar-Ready Zone Area} = 0.50 * \text{Potential Solar Area} \quad \text{(Equation 4-5.5)}$$

Where:

$$\text{Potential Solar Area} = \text{Gross Roof Area} - \text{Affected Area}$$

Affected Area is defined as the following areas:

1. Areas of the roof that are shaded for at least 50% of daylight hours as modeled on March 21.
2. Areas of non Low-Slope roofs that are oriented from 300° northwest, north to 90° east.
3. Gross area of all skylights.
4. Area of rooftop equipment including required access paths.
5. Those areas required by the fire code or by other sections of the Land Development Code to not contain solar equipment.
6. Areas of roofs used as heliports or for rooftop parking.
7. Green roofs and occupied rooftop areas.

No part of the Potential Solar Area can lie in an Affected Area. The designated Solar-Ready Zone and the Potential Solar Area can be made up of multiple sub-areas. Each sub-area must be at least 80 square feet (7.432 square meters) and must be a rectangle the short side of which measures at least 5 feet (1524 millimeters).

C402.6.2 Structural loads. Areas of the roof that are part of the Solar-Ready Zone shall have their structural design loads for roof dead load and roof live load clearly indicated on the construction documents.

C402.6.3 Equipment location and interconnection pathway. The construction documents shall indicate a location for inverters and metering equipment and a pathway for routing of conduit from the solar zone to the point of interconnection with the electrical service.

C402.6.4 Electrical distribution system. The electrical service distribution system shall have reserved space to allow for the future installation of solar electric and shall be permanently marked as “For Future Solar Electric”.

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