

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	19-BSTD-12
Project Title:	Town of Truckee Petition to Solar PV Requirement
TN #:	236819
Document Title:	Resolution No 21-0210-5
Description:	RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THAT THE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC REQUIREMENT IN THE 2019 BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS §150.1(c)14 DO NOT APPLY TO BUILDINGS THAT CANNOT COMPLY WITH THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE AND CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE SNOW LOAD STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS
Filer:	Cody Goldthrite
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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Docketed Date:	2/17/2021

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THAT THE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC REQUIREMENT
IN THE 2019 BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS §150.1(c)14 DO NOT
APPLY TO BUILDINGS THAT CANNOT COMPLY WITH THE CALIFORNIA
BUILDING CODE AND CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE SNOW LOAD
STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS**

RESOLUTION: California Energy Commission (CEC) confirmation that the solar photovoltaic requirement in the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards* (Energy Code) §150.1(c)14 do not apply to buildings that cannot comply with the California Building Code and California Residential Code snow load structural requirements, provided in California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 6.

WHEREAS, The Administrative Regulations of the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 1, §1-313) include provisions under which any local government agency, firm, or member of the public may petition the CBSC for the proposal, adoption, amendment, or repeal of any building standard or administrative regulation in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Truckee and its local building working group submitted a petition pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 1, §1-313; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Truckee, in its petition regarding the 2019 Energy Code, stated that certain building sites have design snow loads that are greater than what PV panels are rated to withstand, based on the American Society of Civil Engineers Standard 7-16, Chapter 7 Snow Loads (ASCE Standard 7-16); and

WHEREAS, the California Building Code (CBC, Title 24, Part 2) and the California Residential Code (CRC, Title 24, Part 2.5) require PV systems, including panels, supports and attachments, to meet the design and installation requirements to meet snow loads in ASCE Standard 7-16; and

WHEREAS, CEC staff has analyzed and found that whether PV systems can be installed safely to meet snow loads depends heavily on site-specific conditions, and building permit applicants should address issues under their control to design and install PV systems that meet snow load structural requirements where possible; and

WHEREAS, simultaneous compliance with the pertinent code requirements of the 2019 Energy Code, the CBC, and the CRC should be accomplished in as many newly constructed, low-rise residential buildings, as feasible and achievable; and

WHEREAS, local enforcement agencies should take care to ensure that practical approaches to design homes to facilitate the installation of solar panels, occur if at all possible; and

WHEREAS, recent extreme weather events and raging wildfires up and down the state demonstrate that the consequences of climate change are upon us and properly installed PV systems represent an important opportunity for achieving state and local climate change goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including in snow country; and

WHEREAS, CEC staff informed the Town of Truckee that, due to conflict between the 2019 Energy Code and the California Building and Residential Codes, Section 150.1(c)14 is not applicable where PV panels cannot be installed to withstand the snow load conditions in high-snow-load areas and documented its analysis and findings in a *Notice of Final Conclusions for Town of Truckee Petition*,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the CEC confirms that the solar photovoltaic requirements in the 2019 Energy Code §150.1(c)14 do not apply to buildings that cannot comply with the California Building Code and California Residential Code snow load structural requirements; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CEC directs the executive director to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the California Energy Commission held on February 10, 2021.

AYE: Hochschild, Douglas, McAllister, Monahan, Gunda

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None



Cody Goldthrite
Secretariat