



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION BUREAU MANUAL
CODE REQUIREMENTS
423.5 ALTERNATIVE POWER SUPPLIES
EFFECTIVE: APRIL 1, 2016
AUTHORIZED: *R. Pearce*

SCOPE

This policy establishes alternative power supply requirements.

PURPOSE

This policy has been established to clarify the District's requirements for alternative power supply requirements. The use of an electrical power supply, (including, but not limited to; photovoltaic, wind, geothermal or fuel fired generators) other than the community's commercial source, currently Pacific Gas and Electric, shall be in accordance with this standard.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A DC disconnect for the alternative power supply shall be located within eight feet and line of sight from the PG&E. Electrical service disconnect on the same or an adjacent exterior wall. The disconnect shall be accessible to emergency personnel from the exterior without the use of ladders or other special equipment.

All wiring that contains electrical potential when the alternate service disconnect has been activated, (such as the wiring between the solar arrays and the DC disconnect on a photovoltaic system) shall be completely contained in metal conduit on the exterior of the building.

2. The following wording shall be placed on a permanent sign attached at the main electrical disconnect from PG&E. The sign shall be red background with white letters or a white background with red letters. Minimum size 2-1/2" X 6" with a minimum 22 pt font.

WARNING: This building supplied with an alternative power source. Alternate disconnect is: (*describe location - on the right, below, etc*) of this main disconnect. Both must be used.

3. If the inverter contains a DC disconnect and is to be used as the required DC disconnect within 8 feet of the main service disconnect, it shall be located on an exterior wall. The DC disconnect shall be labeled with "on" and "off" locations.

PROCEDURES

Alternative Power Supply permit applications shall be submitted to the building department.

Any permit not complying with this standard or the California Fire Code shall be referred to the Fire District for review. Approval by the Fire District is required before Building Division approval in this case.

CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code 605.11