*PLEASE READ: Peninsula Clean Energy and Silicon Valley Clean Energy are sharing the Menlo Park all-electric code to serve as a model for all-electric energy code amendments. Menlo Park’s amendments to the base code are underlined. PCE/SVCE have made edits to the Menlo Park building electrification code, in tracked changes and comments below.*

*Please see ‘Sample Code Facts and Findings’ on website under Materials for related template language.*

*Version date: October 1, 2020. Update adds threshold of what constitutes as new construction and corrects an enumeration error.*

**SECTION 100.0 – Scope**

(e) Sections applicable to particular buildings. TABLE 100.0-A and this subsection list the provisions of Part 6 that are applicable to different types of buildings covered by Section 100.0(a).

1. All buildings. Sections 100.0 through 110.12 apply to all buildings.

EXCEPTION to Section 100.0(e) 1: Spaces or requirements not listed in TABLE 100.0-A.

2. Newly constructed buildings.

1. All newly constructed buildings. Sections 110.0 through 110.12 apply to all newly constructed buildings within the scope of Section 100.0(a). In addition, newly constructed buildings shall meet the requirements of Subsections B, C, D or E, as applicable~~;~~ and shall be an All-Electric Building as defined in Section 100.1(b). For the purposes of All-Electric Building requirements, newly constructed buildings as defined in Section 100.1 shall include a construction project where an alteration includes replacement of over 50% of the existing foundation for purposes other than a repair or reinforcement as defined in California Existing Building Code Section 202; or when over 50% of the existing framing above the sill plate is removed or replaced for purposes other than repair. If either of these criteria are met within a 3-year period, measured from the date of the most recent previously obtained permit final date, that structure is considered new construction and shall be subject to the All-Electric Building requirements. The final determination whether a project meets the definition of substantial reconstruction/alteration shall be made by a designated building official.

Exception 1: Non-Residential Buildings containing a Scientific Laboratory Building, such area may contain a non-electric Space Conditioning System.

To take advantage of this exception applicant shall provide third party verification that All-Electric space heating requirement is not cost effective and feasible.

Exception 2: All low-rise and high-rise residential buildings may contain non-electric Cooking Appliances and Fireplaces.

Exception 3: Exemption for public agency owned and operated emergency centers. To take advantage of this exception applicant shall provide third party verification that All-Electric space heating requirement is not cost effective and feasible.

Exception 4: Multifamily residential building projects that have been granted entitlements within one year or less before the effective date of this ordinance are not required to install all-electric water heating systems. If the Building Official grants a modification pursuant to this Exception, the applicant shall comply with the pre-wiring provision of Note 1 below.

Exception 5: If the applicant establishes that there is not an all-electric prescriptive compliance pathway for the building under the Energy Code, and that the building is not able to achieve the performance compliance standard applicable to the building under the Energy Code using commercially available technology and an approved calculation method, then the Building Official may grant a modification. If the Building Official grants a modification pursuant to this Exception, the applicant shall comply with the pre-wiring provision of Note 1 below.

Conditional Exception 7: Non-residential buildings containing a for-profit restaurant open to the public or an employee kitchen may apply to a City Council appointed body, which body shall be designated from time to time by the City Council, for an exception to install gas-fueled cooking appliances. This request must be based on a business-related reason to cook with a flame that cannot be reasonably achieved with an electric fuel source. Examples include barbeque-themed restaurants and pizza ovens. The City Council appointed body shall grant this exception if they find the following:

1. There is a business-related reason to cook with a flame;

2. This need cannot be reasonably achieved with an electric fuel source;

3. The applicant has employed reasonable methods to mitigate the greenhouse gas impacts of the gas-fueled appliance;

4. The applicant shall comply with the pre-wiring provision of Note 1 below.

The City Council appointed body’s decision shall be final unless the applicant appeals to the City Council within 15 days of the appointed body’s decision. The City Council’s decision on the appeal shall be final.

Note 1: If natural gas appliances are used in any of the above exceptions 1-4, natural gas appliance locations must also be electrically pre-wired for future electric appliance installation. They shall include the following:

1. A dedicated circuit, phased appropriately, for each appliance, with a minimum amperage requirement for a comparable electric appliance (see manufacturer’s recommendations) with an electrical receptacle or junction box that is connected to the electric panel with conductors of adequate capacity, extending to within 3 feet of the appliance and accessible with no obstructions. Appropriately sized conduit may be installed in lieu of conductors;

2. Both ends of the conductor or conduit shall be labeled with the words “For Future Electric appliance” and be electrically isolated;

3. A circuit breaker shall be installed in the electrical panel for the branch circuit and labeled for each circuit, an example is as follows (i.e “For Future Electric Range;”) and

4. All electrical components, including conductors, receptacles, junction boxes, or blank covers, related to this section shall be installed in accordance with the California Electrical Code.

Note 2: If any of the exceptions 1-4 are granted, the Building Official shall have the authority to approve alternative materials, design and methods of construction or equipment per CBC 104.

*Section 100.1(b) is modified by adding the following definitions:*

ALL ELECTRIC BUILDING: is a building that has no natural gas or propane plumbing installed within the building, and that uses electricity as the source of energy for its space heating, water heating (including pools and spas), cooking appliances, and clothes drying appliances. All Electric Buildings may include solar thermal pool heating.

Scientific Laboratory Building: is a building or area where research, experiments, and measurement in medical, and life sciences are performed and/or stored requiring examination of fine details. The building may include workbenches, countertops, scientific instruments, and supporting offices.

*Section 110.2 is modified as follows:*

SECTION 110.2 – MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR SPACE-CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT

Certification by Manufacturers. Any space-conditioning equipment listed in this section, meeting the requirements of section 100.0 (e)2A, may be installed only if the manufacturer has certified to the Commission that the equipment complies with all the applicable requirements of this section.

*Section 110.3 is modified as follows:*

SECTION 110.3 – MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE WATER-HEATING SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

(a) Certification by manufacturers. Any service water-heating system or equipment, meeting the requirements of section 100.0 (e)2A, may be installed only if the manufacturer has certified that the system or equipment complies with all of the requirements of this subsection for that system or equipment.

*Section 110.4 is modified as follows:*

SECTION 110.4 – MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR POOL AND SPA SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

(a) Certification by Manufacturers. Any pool or spa heating system or equipment, meeting the requirements of section 100.0 (e)2A, may be installed only if the manufacturer has certified that the system or equipment has all of the following:

*Section 110.5 is modified as follows:*

SECTION 110.5 – NATURAL GAS CENTRAL FURNACES, COOKING EQUIPMENT, POOL AND SPA HEATERS, AND FIREPLACES: PILOT LIGHTS PROHIBITED

Any natural gas system or equipment, meeting the requirements of *Section 100.0 (e)2A,* listed below may be installed only if it does not have a continuously burning pilot light:

*Section 110.10 is modified as follows:*

SECTION 110.10 – MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR SOLAR READY BUILDINGS AND SOLAR PANEL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL NEW BUILDINGS

(a) Covered Occupancies.

1. Single Family Residences. Single family residences located in subdivisions with ten or more single family residences and where the application for a tentative subdivision map for the residences has been deemed complete approved by the enforcement agency, which do not have a photovoltaic system installed, shall comply with the requirements of Section 110.10(b) through 110.10(e).
2. Low-rise Multifamily Buildings. Low-rise multi-family buildings that do not have a photovoltaic system installed shall comply with the requirements of Section 110.10(b) through 110.10(d).
3. Hotel/Motel Occupancies and High-rise Multifamily Buildings. Hotel/motel occupancies and high-rise multifamily buildings with ten habitable stories or fewer shall comply with the requirements of Section 110.10(b) through 110.10(d)~~.~~ and Table 1.
4. Nonresidential Buildings. Nonresidential buildings with three habitable stories or fewer, other than healthcare facilities, shall comply with the requirements of Section 110.10(b) through 110.10(d)~~.~~ and Table 1.

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| --- |
| **Table 1: Solar panel requirements for all new nonresidential and high rise residential buildings** |
| **Square footage of building** | **Size of panel** |
| Less than 10,000 sq. ft. | Minimum of 3-kilowatt PV systems |
| Greater than or equal to 10,000 sq. ft. | Minimum of 5-kilowatt PV systems |
| EXCEPTION: As an alternative to a solar PV system, the building type may provide a solar hot water system (solar thermal) with a minimum collector area of 40 square feet, additional to any other solar thermal equipment otherwise required for compliance with Part 6.  |

(b) Solar Zone.

1. Minimum Solar Zone Area. The solar zone shall have a minimum total area as described below. The solar zone shall comply with access, pathway, smoke ventilation, and spacing requirements as specified in Title 24, Part 9 or other Parts of Title 24 or in any requirements adopted by a local jurisdiction. The solar zone total area shall be comprised of areas that have no dimension less than five feet and are no less than 80 square feet each for buildings with roof areas less than or equal to 10,000 square feet or no less than 160 square feet each for buildings with roof areas greater than 10,000 square feet.

A. Single Family Residences. The solar zone shall be located on the roof or overhang of the building and have a total area no less than 250 square feet.

EXCEPTION 1 to Section 110.10(b)1A: Single family residences with a permanently installed domestic solar water-heating system meeting the installation criteria specified in the Reference Residential Appendix RA4 and with a minimum solar savings fraction of 0.50.

EXCEPTION 2 to Section 110.10(b)1A: Single family residences with three habitable stories or more and with a total floor area less than or equal to 2000 square feet and having a solar zone total area no less than 150 square feet.

EXCEPTION 3 to Section 110.10(b)1A: Single family residences located in the Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area as defined in Title 24, Part 2 and having a whole house fan and having a solar zone total area no less than 150 square feet.

EXCEPTION 4 to Section 110.10(b)1A: Buildings with a designated solar zone area that is no less than 50 percent of the potential solar zone area. The potential solar zone area is the total area of any low-sloped roofs where the annual solar access is 70 percent or greater and any steep-sloped roofs oriented between 90 degrees and 300 degrees of true north where the annual solar access is 70 percent or greater. Solar access is the ratio of solar insolation including shade to the solar insolation without shade. Shading from obstructions located on the roof or any other part of the building shall not be included in the determination of annual solar access.

EXCEPTION 5 to Section 110.10(b)1A: Single family residences having a solar zone total area no less than 150 square feet and where all thermostats are demand responsive controls and comply with Section 110.12(a), and are capable of receiving and responding to Demand Response Signals prior to granting of an occupancy permit by the enforcing agency.

EXCEPTION 6 to Section 110.10(b)1A: Single family residences meeting the following conditions:

A. All thermostats are demand responsive controls that comply with Section 110.12(a), and are capable of receiving and responding to Demand Response Signals prior to granting of an occupancy permit by the enforcing agency.

B. Comply with one of the following measures:

i. Install a dishwasher that meets or exceeds the ENERGY STAR Program requirements with a refrigerator that meets or exceeds the ENERGY STAR Program requirements, a whole house fan driven by an electronically commutated motor, or an SAE J1772 Level 2 Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE or EV Charger) with a minimum of 40 amperes; or

ii. Install a home automation system capable of, at a minimum, controlling the appliances and lighting of the dwelling and responding to demand response signals; or

iii. Install alternative plumbing piping to permit the discharge from the clothes washer and all showers and bathtubs to be used for an irrigation system in compliance with the California Plumbing Code and any applicable local ordinances; or

iv. Install a rainwater catchment system designed to comply with the California Plumbing Code and any applicable local ordinances, and that uses rainwater flowing from at least 65 percent of the available roof area.

B. Low-rise and High-rise Multifamily Buildings, Hotel/Motel Occupancies, and Nonresidential Buildings. The solar zone shall be located on the roof or overhang of the building or on the roof or overhang of another structure located within 250 feet of the building or on covered parking installed with the building project, and shall have a total area no less than 15 percent of the total roof area of the building excluding any skylight area. The solar zone requirement is applicable to the entire building, including mixed occupancy.

EXCEPTION 1 to Section 110.10(b)1B: High-rise Multifamily Buildings, Hotel/Motel Occupancies, and Nonresidential Buildings with a permanently installed solar electric system having a nameplate DC power rating, measured under Standard Test Conditions, of no less than one watt per square foot of roof area.

EXCEPTION 2 to Section 110.10(b)1B: High-rise multifamily buildings, hotel/motel occupancies with a permanently installed domestic solar water-heating system complying with Section 150.1(c)8Biii~~.~~ and an additional collector area of 40 square feet.

EXCEPTION 3 to Section 110.10(b)1B: Buildings with a designated solar zone area that is no less than 50 percent of the potential solar zone area. The potential solar zone area is the total area of any low-sloped roofs where the annual solar access is 70 percent or greater and any steep-sloped roofs oriented between 90 degrees and 300 degrees of true north where the annual solar access is 70 percent or greater. Solar access is the ratio of solar insolation including shade to the solar insolation without shade. Shading from obstructions located on the roof or any other part of the building shall not be included in the determination of annual solar access.

EXCEPTION 4 to Section 110.10(b)1B: Low-rise and high-rise multifamily buildings with all thermostats in each dwelling unit are demand response controls that comply with Section 110.12(a), and are capable of receiving and responding to Demand Response Signals prior to granting of an occupancy permit by the enforcing agency. In addition, either A or B below:

A. In each dwelling unit, comply with one of the following measures:

i. Install a dishwasher that meets or exceeds the ENERGY STAR Program requirements with either a refrigerator that meets or exceeds the ENERGY STAR Program requirements or a whole house fan driven by an electronically commutated motor; or

 ii. Install a home automation system that complies with Section 110.12(a) and is capable of, at a minimum, controlling the appliances and lighting of the dwelling and responding to demand response signals; or

iii. Install alternative plumbing piping to permit the discharge from the clothes washer and all showers and bathtubs to be used for an irrigation system in compliance with the California Plumbing Code and any applicable local ordinances; or

iv. Install a rainwater catchment system designed to comply with the California Plumbing Code and any applicable local ordinances, and that uses rainwater flowing from at least 65 percent of the available roof area.

B. Meet the Title 24, Part 11, Section A4.106.8.2 requirements for electric vehicle charging spaces.

EXCEPTION 5 to Section 110.10(b)1B: Buildings where the roof is designed and approved to be used for vehicular traffic or parking or for a heliport.

Exception 6 to Section 110.10(b)1B: Vegetative roofs covering 35 percent of the roof area or greater, meeting all relevant code requirements including considerations for wind, fire, and structural loads.

Exception 7 to Section 110.10(b)1B: Performance equivalency approved by the building official.

2. Azimuth. All sections of the solar zone located on steep-sloped roofs shall be oriented between 90 degrees and 300 degrees of true north.

3. Shading.

A. No obstructions, including but not limited to, vents, chimneys, architectural features, and roof mounted equipment, shall be located in the solar zone.

B. Any obstruction, located on the roof or any other part of the building that projects above a solar zone shall be located at least twice the distance, measured in the horizontal plane, of the height difference between the highest point of the obstruction and the horizontal projection of the nearest point of the solar zone, measured in the vertical plane.

EXCEPTION to Section 110.10(b)3: Any roof obstruction, located on the roof or any other part of the building, that is oriented north of all points on the solar zone.

C. The solar zone needs to account for shading from obstructions that may impact the area required in 110.10(b)1B. When determined by the Building Official that conditions exist where excessive shading occurs and solar zones cannot be met, a performance equivalency approved by the Building Official may be used as an alternative.

4. Structural Design Loads on Construction Documents. For areas of the roof designated as solar zone, the structural design loads for roof dead load and roof live load shall be clearly indicated on the construction documents.

NOTE: Section 110.10(b)4 does not require the inclusion of any collateral loads for future solar energy systems.

(c) Interconnection Pathways.

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

2. For single family residences and central water-heating systems, the construction documents shall indicate a pathway for routing of plumbing from the solar zone to the water-heating system.

(d) Documentation. A copy of the construction documents or a comparable document indicating the information from Sections 110.10(b) through 110.10(c) shall be provided to the occupant.

(e) Main Electrical Service Panel.

1. The main electrical service panel shall have a minimum busbar rating of 200 amps.

2. The main electrical service panel shall have a reserved space to allow for the installation of a double pole circuit breaker for a future solar electric installation. The reserved space shall be permanently marked as “For Future Solar Electric”.