

ORDINANCE NO. 003-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTH TOOELE FIRE DISTRICT ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE DISCONNECTS FOR REMOTE SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATIONS

WHEREAS, the North Tooele Fire District recognizes the importance of safety and accessibility for emergency services personnel in the event of a fire or emergency involving properties with solar panel installations; and

WHEREAS, proper and safe access to a disconnect switch for solar panel systems is essential to ensure that firefighters and emergency personnel can quickly and safely disable power from these systems; and

WHEREAS, the North Tooele Fire District has determined that it is in the best interest of the community to establish standards for service disconnect switches for remote solar panel installations, ensuring proximity to the main service panel of a residence;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the North Tooele Fire District as follows:

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a requirement for the placement of a service disconnect for all remote solar panel installations. This will ensure that emergency services personnel have safe and rapid access to a disconnect switch, minimizing hazards during emergency situations.

Section 2. Definitions

1. **Remote Solar Panel Installation:** Any solar photovoltaic (PV) system where solar panels are located separately from the main service panel or electrical infrastructure of the residence.
2. **Service Disconnect:** A device or switch that provides a means to safely disconnect the power generated by a solar panel system, typically installed in close proximity to the residence's main service panel.

Section 3. Requirements for Service Disconnect Placement

1. **Service Disconnect Placement:**
 - For any remote solar panel installation, a service disconnect must be installed within 36 inches of the main service panel for the residence.
 - This service disconnect must be readily accessible and clearly marked as the primary solar panel disconnect.
2. **Installation Standards:**

- The service disconnect shall be installed in accordance with all applicable codes, including the International Electrical Code (IEC), state and local electrical codes.
- The disconnect must be labeled and visible to emergency services personnel, with signage indicating the presence of a remote solar panel installation and the location of the service disconnect.

3. Inspection and Compliance:

- Prior to activation, the service disconnect for any remote solar panel installation shall be inspected by a certified electrical inspector to ensure compliance with this ordinance and applicable codes.
- The North Tooele Fire District may conduct periodic inspections to ensure continued compliance and proper labeling and accessibility of the service disconnect.

Section 4. Penalties

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in this ordinance may result in fines, penalties, or corrective action as determined by the North Tooele Fire District.

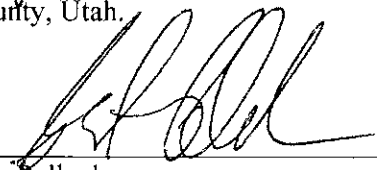
Section 5. Severability

If any section, clause, or provision of this ordinance is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 6. Effective Date


This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and publication as required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of January, 2025, by the Board of Trustees of the North Tooele Fire Protection Service District, Tooele County, Utah.



Rick Pollock
Board Chair
North Tooele Fire District

Attest:



Cassandra Ray
Administrative Chief
North Tooele Fire District