Owner / Applicant Information

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Project Information

Locomotive Solar
S 1100 E, between streets S 950 E and Street N 1350 E

Kokomo 46936

County HOWARD

Project Type New [Y] Addition [ ] Alteration [ ] Existing [ ] Change of Occupancy [ ]

Project Status [U] F=Filed U or Null=Unfiled

IDHS Issued Correction order? [No] Has Violation been Issued? [No]

Violation Issued by: NA

Local Building Official

Phone: 3172321407 Email: mbrantley@dhs.in.gov

Local Fire Official

Phone: 3172321407 Email: mbrantley@dhs.in.gov

Variance Details

Code Name: 2009 NFPA 70 Indiana Electrical Code (675 IAC 17-1.8)

Chapters 2, 3, 6

Conditions: The jurisdiction is currently enforcing the 2008 NEC for electrical work. However, the NEC has undergone significant changes since 2008, particularly Articles 690 and 691 governing Solar PV systems, to address newer technologies and system safety. Other applicable articles have also been updated to address items such as DC wire color coding, grounding, bonding, and systems operating up to 1,000V rather than 600V. Accordingly, we are seeking approval to design the Locomotive Solar Project in accordance with the 2023 NEC.
Key 2023 NEC provisions we would follow include, but are not limited to:
Articles 690 and 691 in their entirety
Article 210.5(C)(2)
Article 250, Part VIII
Article 250.102 bonding jumper requirements
Articles 240 and 300 requirements applicable to voltages up to 1,000V
We also note that 2008 NEC Article 90.2(B)(5) excludes installations under the exclusive control of an electric utility from NEC coverage, and its accompanying note describes utilities as entities recognized by public service/utility commissions that operate electrical generation, transmission, or distribution systems. We believe a solar PV generation facility may fall within this provision. Utilities typically follow NESC standards; however, the NESC does not address many aspects of Solar PV plant electrical design. We therefore propose adhering to the more current industry requirements of the 2023 NEC.
Finally, we understand that the State is currently in the process of adopting the 2023 NEC, but the Project's design, permitting, and construction must proceed before that adoption is finalized.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or w

[1]

2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts: The outdated 2008 code does not have specific references to newer technology and industry safety standards, so without updating to the 2023 code adoption we will be limiting the safety administration and code enforcement abilities

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

[Y] Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.

[Y] Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.

[ ] Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.

[ ] Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts: The outdated 2008 code does not have specific references to newer technology and industry safety standards, so without updating to the 2023 code adoption we will be limiting the safety administration and code enforcement abilities