



# Standards for photovoltaic energy storage

Are photovoltaic solar energy systems safe?

The safe and reliable installation of photovoltaic (PV) solar energy systems and their integration with the nation's electric grid requires timely development of the foundational codes and standards governing solar deployment.

What are the requirements for a PV system?

In particular, ESS spacing, unit capacity limitations, and maximum allowable quantities (MAQ) depending on location. PV systems also have structural requirements and codes associated with them. Many jurisdictions use ICC's International Building Code (IBC) and ASCE 7 to guide the structural components of a PV installation.

What are the requirements for large PV power plants?

Large PV power plants (i.e., greater than 20 MW at the utility interconnection) that provide power into the bulk power system must comply with standards related to reliability and adequacy promulgated by authorities such as NERC and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Are PV storage systems safe?

Storage systems in PV plus storage settings call for many overlapping safety standards and precautions, particularly those that apply to working on DC wiring, and bring a set of technology-specific new considerations.

Which inverter is required for a combined PV and storage system?

Combined PV and storage system topologies will generally require a bi-directional inverter, either as the primary inverter solution (DC-coupled) or in addition to the unidirectional PV inverters (AC-coupled).

What should NREL consider when testing energy storage systems?

Photo by Owen Roberts, NREL Considerations for energy storage system testing include the following. If cost-justified by a large purchase, consider qualification testing of battery systems. Include test conditions in specifications for battery O&M diagnostics and testing.



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