

Board of Electricity
c/o Department of Labor and Industry
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FINAL INTERPRETATION


Subject: Solar Photovoltaic Systems
Code Reference: Minnesota State Electrical Code, Chapter 1315
Submitted by: Mr. Gary Thaden, National Electrical Contractors Association,
830 Transfer Road, St. Paul, MN 55114; and
Mr. John Ploetz, The Minnesota Electrical Association, Inc.,
3100 Humboldt Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408-2588; and
Mr. Dan McConnell, IBEW Local 292, 312 Central Avenue,
Suite 292, Minneapolis, MN 55414
Approved by: Board of Electricity
by Joseph Vespa, Chair
Date Received: Mr. Thaden's submission: June 10, 2009
Mr. Ploetz's submission: June 12, 2009
Mr. McConnell's submission: June 12, 2009
Issue Date: July 8, 2009

Questions: Are Solar Photovoltaic Systems, including photovoltaic panels and their associated components, electrical equipment under the State Electrical Code?

Answer: Yes. The State Electrical Code adopts by reference the 2008 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC). *See* Minn. R. 1315.0200. Solar Photovoltaic Systems fall within the definition of "equipment" in the 2008 NEC. *See* NEC 690.4(D) (2008). Accordingly, Solar Photovoltaic Systems, including photovoltaic panels and their associated components, are electrical equipment under the State Electrical Code.

Commentary: The Board considered these requests for interpretation and made a determination regarding the final interpretation at the July 7, 2009, Board meeting. All persons present who wished to speak were given a full and fair opportunity to speak. The Board also considered written comments that were received before the meeting. As required by Minnesota Statutes, section 326B.127, subd. 5, the Board will consider this Final Interpretation for adoption as part of the Minnesota Electrical Code.

Date: July 8, 2009



Joseph Vespa, Chair
Board of Electricity