

**Office of the Fire Marshal  
Kern County Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Unit**



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The Kern County Fire Department “Energy Storage System Review Guide Sheet and CFC Sections [A] 105.4 and 1206.1.3 are clear in what is required to be submitted as part of the application for a permit to install an ESS. The current code requirements took effect July 1, 2021, and KCFD has routinely distributed the review guide to assist applicants.

The following submission procedures will take effect immediately:

1. Submitted plans and documents must be under the signature and seal of CA Licensed design professional.
2. Applications will be reviewed as to completeness based upon the KCFD ESS Review Guide Sheet and the CFC. If any required submittal item is missing the application will be deemed incomplete and the application rejected until such time that a complete package is submitted.
3. Once an application is accepted for review, any updated submittals during the period of review, installation and final inspections must either be signed and sealed by the design professional of record, or a cover letter signed and sealed by the design professional of record shall accompany the submittal, attesting that the updated information conforms to the overall design and code requirements.
4. HMA, Fire Risk Analysis, fire suppression and deflagration protection analysis submittals shall be from a CA Licensed Fire Protection Engineer approved by the Kern County Fire Department per CFC Section [A]104.7.2. Submittals will require signature and seal.
5. Fire protection system submittals such as fire suppression and water supply shall include a C-16 - Fire Protection Contractor of record.
6. Fire alarm systems, fire detection, gas detection shall include a C-10 - Electrical Contractor of record.
7. No batteries over 50% State of Charge (SOC) shall be brought to a site until necessary fire protection and other safety systems have been commissioned and accepted. Documentation on the SOC shall be provided prior to batteries being brought to a site.
8. ESS are required to meet all the requirements of the CFC and Kern County Fire Department requirements, any ESS not meeting core safety requirements will be rejected.
9. Final approvals of any ESS or safety related equipment that has routine maintenance requirements according to the code or manufacturer’s instructions will not receive approval inspections until a maintenance plan has been submitted and approved by KCFD.