



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-383 **Version:** 1
Type: Ordinances for Introduction **Status:** Passed
File created: 5/3/2021 **In control:** City Council/Public Financing Authority
On agenda: 5/17/2021 **Final action:** 5/17/2021
Title: Approve for Introduction Ordinance No. 4231 adding Section 17.48.050 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Chapter to amend Subsection A of Section 690.13 of the California Electrical Code
Attachments: 1. Att#1 Ordinance No. 4231

| Date | Ver. | Action By | Action | Result |
|-----------|------|---|----------|--------|
| 5/17/2021 | 1 | City Council/Public Financing Authority | approved | Pass |

REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

SUBMITTED TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

SUBMITTED BY: Oliver Chi, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Scott M. Haberle, Fire Chief

Subject:

Approve for Introduction Ordinance No. 4231 adding Section 17.48.050 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Chapter to amend Subsection A of Section 690.13 of the California Electrical Code

Statement of Issue:

The City Council is requested to approve Ordinance No. 4231 to add Section 17.48.050 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Chapter, which will amend a subsection of the Section 690.13 of the California Electrical Code related to the requirement of exterior electrical disconnects for Photovoltaic Systems and Energy Storage Systems.

Financial Impact:

Not applicable.

Recommended Action:

Approve for introduction Ordinance No. 4231, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Adding Section 17.48.050 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Chapter to Amend Subsection A of Section 690.13 of the California Electrical Code."

Alternative Action(s):

Do not approve the ordinance and direct staff accordingly.

Analysis:

The adoption of the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Chapter 17.48.050 Section 690.13A requires the means to disconnect a photovoltaic and electrical energy storage system to be installed at a readily accessible location on the exterior of the building. This section also requires a visible, open, lockable AC disconnect to be located within three feet of the meter, photovoltaic disconnect, or as required by the Building or Fire Code Official.

Energy Storage systems, such as Tesla Powerwalls, are often installed in combination with photovoltaic systems. The California Fire Code and Electrical Code allow for energy storage systems' disconnect to be located directly on the storage system. In the event of a fire, this can be problematic as these battery systems are typically installed inside a building, which requires Huntington Beach Fire Department personnel to enter into a building to shut down any battery storage system that are back-feeding the electrical system.

The single disconnect will give Fire personnel the ability to de-energize the primary power, photovoltaic system, and energy storage systems at a single location outside the building.

The Legislative Draft showing the revisions to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code 17.48.050 Section 690.13A is included to Ordinance 4231 (Attachment 1).

Environmental Status:

The proposed ordinance amends existing Huntington Beach Municipal Code requirements related to electrical disconnects for Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Systems, and would not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment. As such, the proposed ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), which exempts activities where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Strategic Plan Goal:

Non Applicable - Administrative Item

Attachment(s):

1. Ordinance No. 4231, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Adding Section 17.48.050 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Chapter to Amend Subsection A of Section 690.13 of the California Electrical Code."