

LADBS – Electrical Plan Check

Energy Storage System (ESS) Conditions of Approval

(Ver 2.1)

1. Attach a copy of the *Los Angeles Fire Department* (LAFD) ESS Memo to the Electrical plan dated 5/2/23.
 2. Provide a response letter addressing each condition of the Fire Department's memo. The response letter shall be titled **"ESS Installation Checklist"** and shall clearly and completely explain how the ESS complies with each of the LAFD's conditions.
 3. Provide an elevation drawing per ESS conditions.
 4. Provide a note on the electrical plans that state: ***"Energy Storage System (ESS) installation shall meet LAFD memo effective 5/10/2023"***
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If Energy Storage System (ESS) installation does not meet the LAFD Memo conditions, then plans shall be submitted to LAFD for approval.

LAFD Plan Check Submittal Procedure:

For LAFD Fire plan check review and services, see below for directory:

For general plan check questions or for technical support with your FIMS customer account, please email LAFD.fdsapplication@lacity.org.

[Click here for instructions for how to submit plans and/or Mods to plan check for review](#)

Link: https://www.ladbs.org/docs/default-source/publications/misc-publications/lafd-plan-and-mod-submittal-instructions.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=6f1c253_3/LAFD-Plan-and-Mod-Submittal-Instructions.pdf

You may also contact the Los Angeles Fire Department with your questions about the LAFD-ESS Memo at: LAFD.fdsapplication@lacity.org

Energy Storage System (ESS) Checklist

Project Address: _____ Elect. Permit #: _____

ESS MFG Name: _____ Model #: _____

Electrical Ratings: _____ Number of ESS installed: _____

LAFD Conditions:

1. Location of ESS: _____ [] Interior, [] Exterior

Note: (For **Interior Installations** obtain approval from LAFD)

2. Distance of ESS from any openings: _____ (Doors, Windows, Etc.)
- a. _____ (Dryer Vents or Kitchen Exhaust)
 - b. _____ (Underfloor Ventilations)
 - c. _____ (Underfloor Access Panels)

3. Distance between ESS and main electrical panel: _____

➤ Distance between ESS to any obstruction on either side of ESS: _____

Note: See LAFD Memo Dated May 2nd, 2023

4. Distance from ESS Disconnect: _____ (5 Feet)

Note: Provide a Sign on Disconnect: "**ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AC DISCONNECT**"

5. Access Pathway: _____

6. Subject to Physical Damage: _____ (If Yes, Provide Protection)

The installation of the (ESS) shall comply with the attached LAFD memo effective: 5/10/2023

Contractor's Name: _____ Lic# _____ Signature: _____

(PRINT - First & Last Name)

(Contractor's Signature)

<< **LADBS Inspector** >>

The installation of Energy Storage Unit (ESS):

[] Complies With LAFD Memo

[] DOES NOT Comply With LAFD Memo

Inspector's Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____


LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

KRISTIN M. CROWLEY
FIRE CHIEF

May 02, 2023

TO: FDS Inspectors and Plan Checkers

FROM: Hani G. Malki, Senior Fire Protection Engineer
Fire Development Services Section

SUBJECT: Energy Storage System (ESS) on R3 occupancy building

Effective May 10, 2023, to facilitate the installation of Energy Storage Systems (ESS) on R3 occupancy buildings, Fire Development Services has provided revised guidelines for installers. These guidelines shall supersede all previously issued guidelines. When ESS are installed in accordance with ALL of the following guidelines, an electrical application from LADBS would not need additional Fire Department review.

1. ESS battery unit(s) are for exterior installation(s)
2. Surfaces of ESS unit(s) to be greater than 3' from any openings (e.g., windows, doors, attic vents, dryer vents, kitchen exhaust, under floor openings, etc.).
 - Dryer vents or kitchen exhausts within 3' of these batteries shall be metal with a functional damper
 - Underfloor ventilations within 3' of these batteries are to have metal finned louver screens.
 - Underfloor access panels within 3' of these batteries shall have a noncombustible finish (e.g. 26-gauge sheet metal)
3. Surfaces of ESS unit(s) to be not less than 3' from the main electrical panel. Provide a minimum 5' clear space on each side of the ESS to any obstructions that extends 18" beyond the wall surface (rain barrels, tool shed, a/c units, hot water tanks, etc...) to ensure hose stream access.
4. ESS disconnect to be no closer than 3' from ESS. Proper signage(s) shall read "ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AC DISCONNECT".
5. Access pathway(s): one 3' wide minimum unobstructed pathway (e.g., clearance from air conditioning units, parked cars, rain barrels, trees, heavy vegetation) to access the ESS unit(s) or two 30" unobstructed pathways are provided to access the ESS unit(s) from opposite directions.

6. If equipment is subject to physical damage (e.g., motor vehicles etc.), it shall be protected with an approved barrier system. (e.g., bollards)

**Provide an elevation diagram (see sample below) and a site plan for all conditions listed above. **

Hani G. Malki, Sr. Fire Protection Engineer
Fire Development Services Section

