

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

TOWN OF OAKFIELD FOND DU LAC COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The Town Board of the Town of Oakfield, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1: Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide a regulatory scheme for the construction and operation of Solar Energy Systems in the Town of Oakfield, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. All regulations contained herein are adopted to preserve and protect the public health and safety.

Section 2: Definitions

A Solar Energy System is defined as equipment which directly converts and then transfers or stores solar energy into usable forms of thermal or electrical energy. This definition does not include solar powered low level light fixtures that are ground or wall mounted, solar powered electric fences, roof mounted solar energy panels of a non-reflective material or any other solar powered units that are designed primarily for personal, private use.

Section 3: Special Use Permit Required

No Solar Energy System, as defined in this ordinance, may be installed or maintained in the Town of Oakfield without a special use permit granted pursuant to this ordinance.

Section 4: Application

Every application for a Solar Energy System special use permit shall be made in writing and shall include the following information:

- a. Name and address of the applicant
- b. Evidence that the applicant is the owner of the property involved or has the written permission of the owner to make such an application
- c. Scaled drawing of the Solar Energy System and its dimensions, its height above ground level, orientation, and slope from the horizontal
- d. Site plan showing lot lines and dimensions of the Solar Energy System user's lot and neighboring lots that will be affected by the Solar Energy System
- e. Documentation showing that no reasonable alternative location exists for the Solar Energy System that would result in less impact on neighboring lots
- f. Documentation showing that removing or trimming vegetation on the applicant's lot will not permit an alternative location for the Solar Energy System that would result in less impact on neighboring lots
- g. Such additional information as may be reasonably requested

Any of the information required by this section may be waived by the Town at its discretion.

Section 5: Review of Solar Energy System Special Use Permit Application

The Town will consider each Solar Energy System on a case-by-case basis. The Town may deny a special use permit for a Solar Energy System or may impose restrictions on a Solar Energy System if the Town finds that the denial or restrictions satisfy one of the following conditions:

- a. The denial or restriction serves to preserve or protect the public health or safety

- b. The denial or restriction does not significantly increase the cost of the system or significantly decrease its efficiency
- c. The denial or restriction allows for an alternative system of comparable cost efficiency

Section 6: Solar Energy System Restrictions

The Town may impose restrictions on a Solar Energy System relating to any of the following:

- a. Setbacks from inhabited structures, property lines, public roads, communication and electrical lines, and other sensitive structures and locations
- b. Wiring and electrical controls of the Solar Energy System
- c. Reimbursement for emergency services required as a result of the Solar Energy System
- d. Solar Energy System ground clearance
- e. Solar Energy System height
- f. Any other matters that the Town finds appropriate

Section 7: Revocation

Any special use permit granted for the installation or maintenance of a Solar Energy System may be revoked by the Town if the permit holder, its heirs, or assigns, violates the provisions of this ordinance or the provisions of a special use permit granted pursuant to this ordinance.

Section 8: Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect and be in force upon its passage and publication as required by law.

Section 9: Directive to Town Clerk and Town Attorney

The Town Clerk and the Town Attorney are directed to make all changes necessary in the current text of the Zoning Ordinance to implement the terms of this ordinance.

Adopted this 22nd day of September, 2014.

TOWN OF OAKFIELD

By: Russ Ratkowski

Town Chairperson

Attest:

Alex Strupp

Town Clerk