

**From:** [James Clinch](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Cc:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Env. Advisory Board Questions: Solar Panels  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 1, 2018 11:38:50 AM

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Mercedes,

Can you please transmit this information to the Environmental Advisory Board as provided by Greg Schneider the Deputy Building Official. These were some specific questions they had regarding Solar Panel permitting and costs.

Thank You!

1. What are the different permit types required for the installation of solar panels (both residential and commercial)?

There are no differences between residential and commercial permitting for PV, solar water heating and solar pool heating. There are specific permits required such as a PV system needs just an Electrical permit and whereas solar water heating and solar pool heating will generally need a Plumbing permit with an Electrical sub-contractor.

2. What are the typical permit fees for the installation of solar panels (both residential and commercial)?

Again, no difference between residential and commercial. Fees are based on the project valuation and with a plan review fee. Below is a link to the Permit Fee Estimator. The calculator is for general information purposes only in estimating the permit fee and should not be construed as the final figure.

[http://venicegov.net/Municipal\\_links/Building\\_Code/permit\\_fee.asp](http://venicegov.net/Municipal_links/Building_Code/permit_fee.asp)

3. Are solar panels built to the same hurricane standards as the rest of the building?

Any solar system, PV, solar water heater or solar pool heater, the attachment of the panels to the structure are required to meet the Florida Building Code, Section 1609, Wind Loads, as they pertain to Component & Cladding, I.e. asphalt shingles, concrete tile, roof vents, siding, windows, doors, etc. The minimum wind speed of 152 mph V-ult, height of the roof above grade, slope of the roof, and surrounding terrain exposure are used in determining the anchoring design. An engineer provides these site specific plans and details for the attachment design.

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