

**FPB POLICY
P-16-12**

**PHOTOVOLTAIC ROOF ACCESS AND
PATHWAYS FOR ALTERNATE VENTILATION
CRC Sec. R331.4 Exception 2**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify acceptable placement of photovoltaic panels for firefighter safety during ventilation of the roof.

II. SCOPE

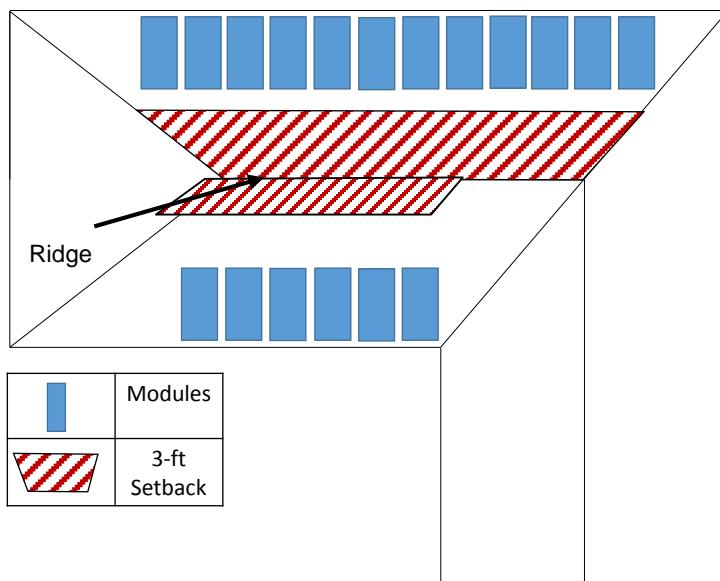
This policy shall apply to photovoltaic installations for single family homes and duplexes in the City of San Diego.

III. PROCEDURES

Application for a photovoltaic permit can be obtained from the City of San Diego, Development Services Department. The following diagrams serve as a guide to show examples of acceptable panel placement:

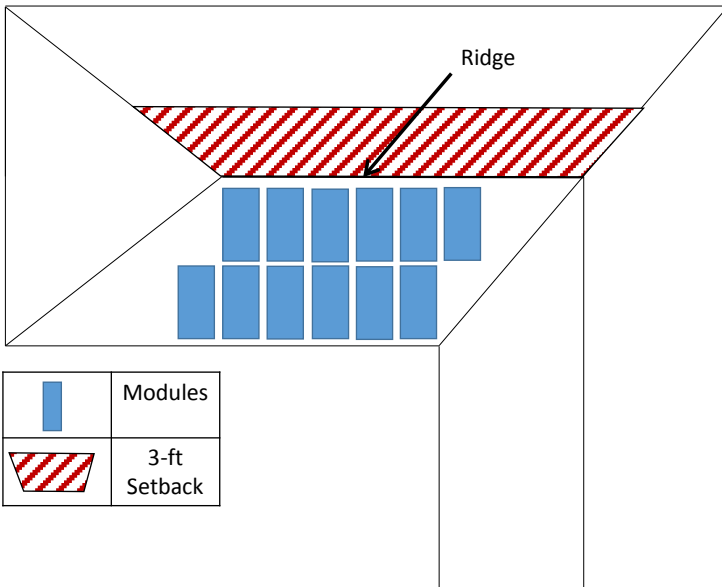
Acceptable

Case 1: Ridge clearance of 3ft on both sides.



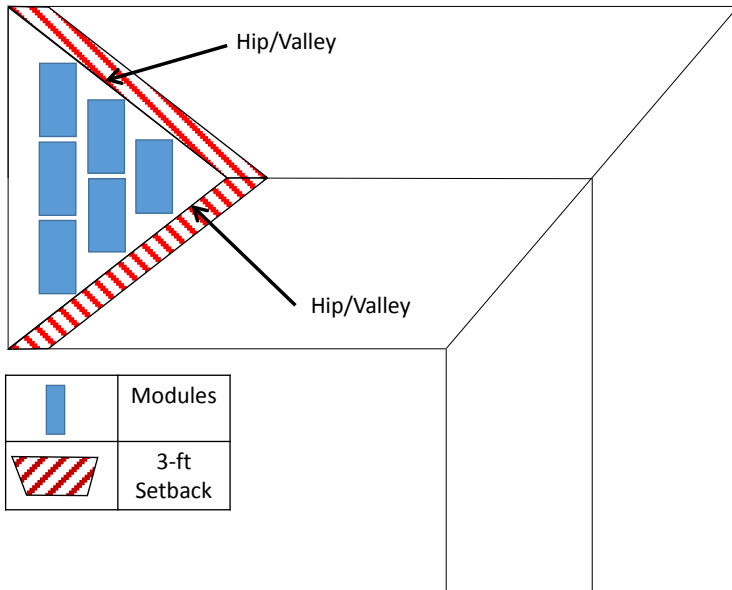
Acceptable

Case 2: Ridge clearance less than 3ft on one side but other side of ridge has 3ft of clearance.



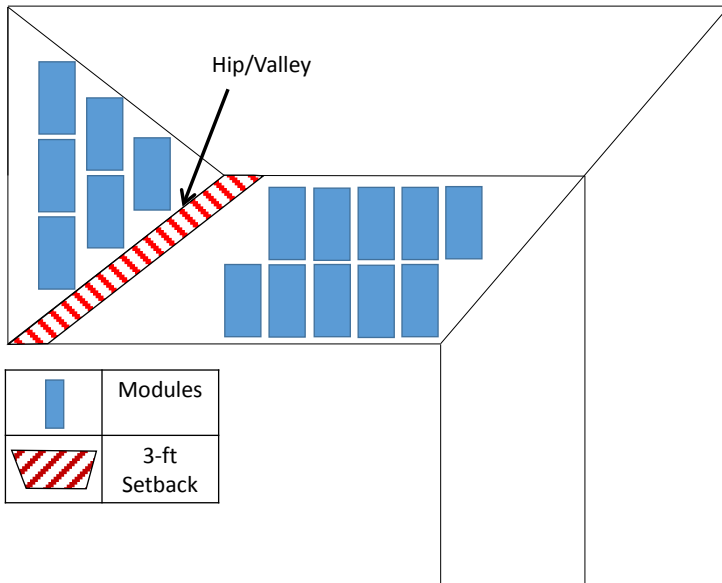
Acceptable

Case 3: Hip/valley clearance is less than 1.5ft but other side of hip/valley has no panels installed.



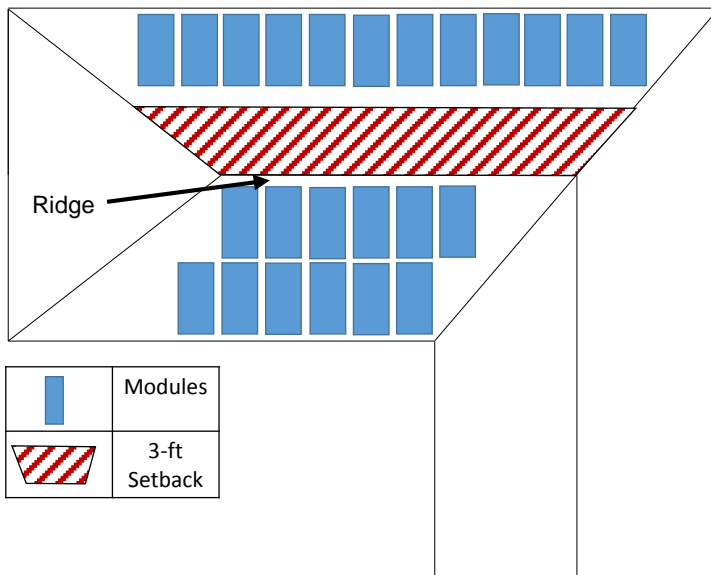
Acceptable

Case 4: Hip/valley clearance is less than 1.5ft and modules present on other side of hip/valley but one side of hip/valley has 3ft of clearance.



Acceptable

Case 5: Ridge clearance less than 3ft and modules are on the other side of ridge but other side of ridge has 3ft clearance.

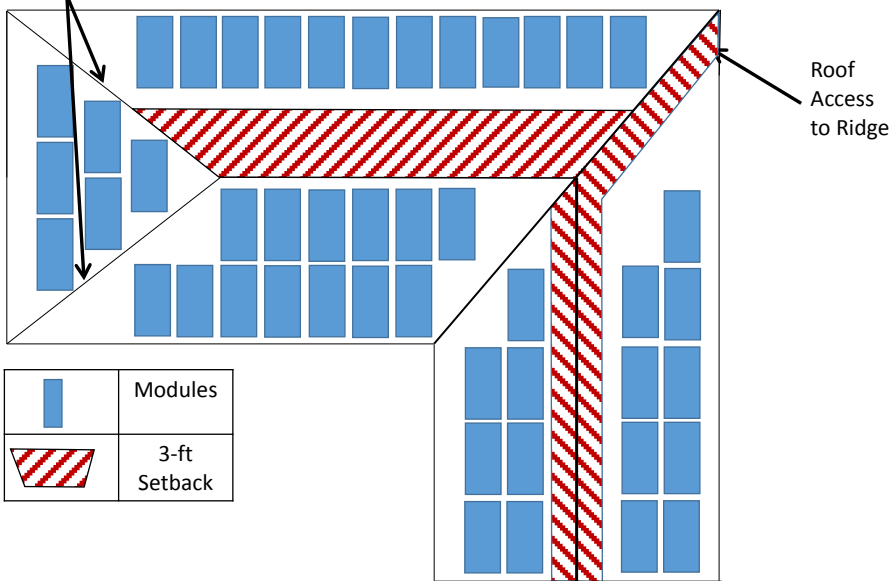


The following diagrams are not acceptable and Fire Department approval is required prior to the issuance of a construction permit.

Unacceptable

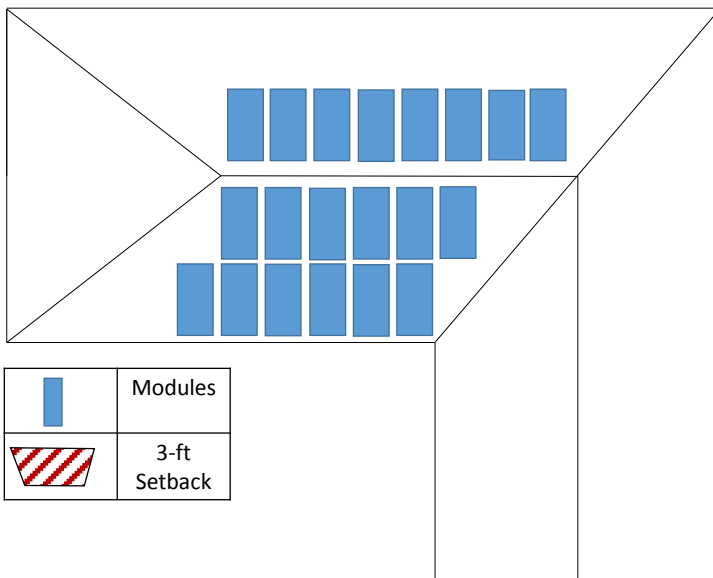
Case 1: Not enough clearance on two of the hip/valleys so not sufficient fire access.

Not Enough Clearance



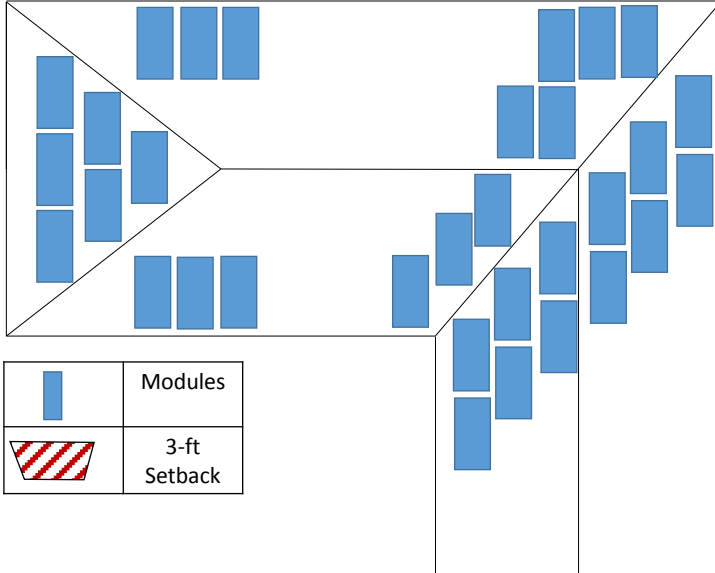
Unacceptable

Case 2: Not sufficient ridge clearance.



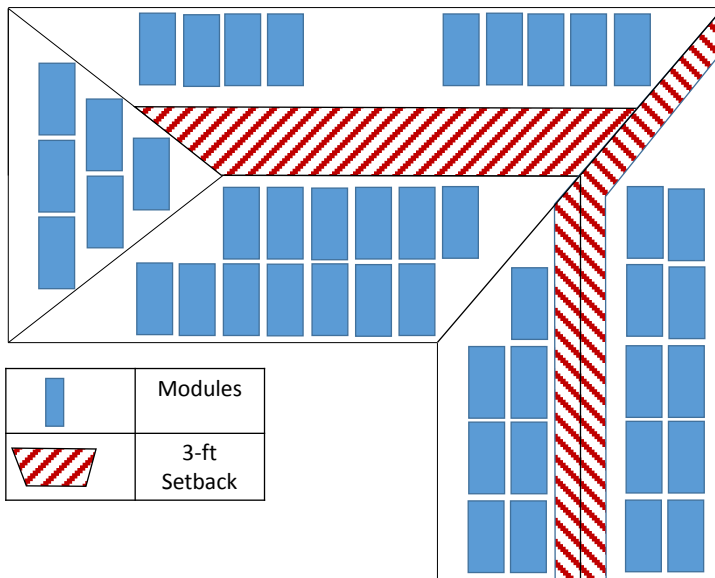
Unacceptable

Case 3: Not sufficient fire access and clearances



Unacceptable

Case 4: Not sufficient roof access.



- A. Plans submitted within the acceptable guidelines will be approved by the Development Services photovoltaic plan reviewer.
- B. Plans that are determined not to be acceptable will be routed to Fire Department plan check and may require corrections and resubmittal.

Promulgated by: _____

Date: _____

Rev. 8-25-16