

**CITY OF RICHLAND  
SOLAR SYSTEMS PERMIT**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby acknowledge and agree to the established design standards, permitting requirements,  
penalties, and method of installation determined by TITLE VII, Chapter 8 of the  
Richland Municipal Codebook of Ordinances.

**FACILITY OWNER SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRACTOR/INSTALLER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION OF INSTALL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY CLERK:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **TITLE VII SPECIAL ORDINANCES**

### **CHAPTER 8 RULES FOR RESIDENTIAL SOLAR SYSTEMS**

**7-8-1 Purpose**

**7-8-2 Systems**

**7-8-3 Design Standards**

**7-8-4 Permitting**

**7-8-5 Removal**

**7-8-6 Penalty**

#### **7-8-1 PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this regulation to promote the safe, effective and efficient use of solar energy systems installed to reduce the on-site consumption of utility supplied energy and/or hot water was a permitted accessory use while protecting the health, safety and welfare of adjacent and surrounding land uses through appropriate zoning and land use controls. A solar energy system shall be permitted as an accessory to a principal use herein and subject to specific criteria as set forth below.

#### **7-8-2 SYSTEMS**

The design standards, permitting requirements, and penalties outlined in this ordinance are related to any solar system intended for residential use, including photovoltaic solar electric systems and solar water and pool heating systems.

#### **7-8-3 DESIGN STANDARDS**

The installation and construction of a solar energy system shall be subject to the following development and design standards:

- A. A solar energy system must be roof mounted. Ground-mounted systems are not permitted.
- B. A system may be mounted on a principal building or accessory building. A system, whether mounted on the principal building or accessory building, may not exceed the maximum principal building height or accessory building height specified for the building type in the underlying zoning district. In no instance shall any part of the solar energy system extend beyond the edge of the roof, nor shall the top of the solar panel exceed 12" above adjacent finish roof surface.
- C. A system should always consist of any array of panels that matches the shape (square, rectangle, or following the lines of the roof) and proportion of the roof, and should be placed on the rear-facing roof it will not significantly reduce the effectiveness of the system.
- D. A system attached to an accessory building shall not be located within the required front yard setback.

- D. The design of the solar energy system shall conform to applicable industry standards. All wiring shall comply with the application version of the National Electric Code (NEC). The local utility provider shall be contacted to determine grid interconnection and net metering policies. The Applicant shall submit certificates of design compliance obtained by the equipment manufacturer from a certifying organization and any such design shall be certified by an Engineer registered in the state of Iowa. [Please note that the existing roof structure and the weight of the solar energy system shall be taken into consideration when applying for a solar energy system permit].
- E. The solar energy system shall comply with all applicable City of Richland Ordinances and Codes so as to ensure the structural integrity of such solar energy system.
- F. Before any construction can commence on any solar energy system the property owner must acknowledge that he/she is the responsible party for owning and maintaining the solar energy system.

#### **7-8-5        REMOVAL**

If you wish to remove an existing solar energy system, whether you or a previous homeowner installed it, you must:

- A. Repair any roof damage resulting from the removal of a roof-mounted system.

#### **7-8-6        PENALTY**

Violation of any provision of the Ordinance may be the subject to a fine or penalty in the maximum amount of \$3000, per each notice of violation.