

51.00: continued

SECTION AU102 (RB102) GENERAL DEFINITIONS

SOLAR-READY ZONE. A section or sections of the roof or building overhang designated and reserved for the future installation of a solar photovoltaic or solar thermal system.

SECTION AU103 (RB103) SOLAR-READY ZONE

AU103.1 (RB103.1) General. New detached one- and two-family dwellings, and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) with not less than 600 ft² (55.74 m²) of roof area oriented between 110° and 270° of true north shall comply with sections AU103.2 through AU103.8 (RB103.2 through RB103.8).

EXCEPTIONS:

1. New residential buildings with a permanently installed on-site renewable energy system.
2. A building with a solar-ready zone that is shaded for more than 70% of daylight hours annually.
3. Buildings and structures as designed and shown in construction documents that do not meet the conditions for a solar-ready zone area.

AU103.2 (RB103.2) Construction Document Requirements for Solar-ready Zone. Construction documents shall indicate the solar-ready zone where applicable.

AU103.3 (RB103.3) Solar-ready Zone Area. The total solar-ready zone area shall consist of an area not less than 300 ft² (27.87 m²) exclusive of mandatory access or set back areas as required by 527 CMR: *Board of Fire Prevention Regulations*. New multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) three stories or less in height above grade plane and with a total floor area less than or equal to 2,000 ft² (185.8 m²) per dwelling shall have a solar-ready zone area of not less than 150 ft² (13.94 m²). The solar-ready zone shall be composed of areas not less than five feet (1,524 mm) in width and not less than 80 ft² (7.44 m²) exclusive of access or set back areas as required by 527 CMR.

AU103.4 (RB103.4) Obstructions. Solar-ready zones shall consist of an area free from obstructions, including but not limited to vents, chimneys, and roof-mounted equipment.

Note: Nothing in AU103.4 (RB103.4) shall require any construction documents to be redesigned or reconfigured so as to create a solar-ready zone area.

AU103.5 (RB103.5) Roof Load Documentation. The structural design loads for roof dead load and roof live load shall be clearly indicated on the construction documents.

AU103.6 (RB103.6) Interconnection Pathway. Construction documents shall indicate pathways for routing of conduit or plumbing from the solar-ready zone to the electrical service panel or service hot water system.

AU103.7 (RB103.7) Electrical Service Reserved Space. The main electrical service panel shall have a reserved space to allow installation of a dual pole circuit breaker for future solar electric installation and shall be labeled "For Future Solar Electric." The reserved space shall be positioned at the opposite (load) end from the input feeder location or main circuit location.

AU103.8 (RB103.8) Construction Documentation Certificate. A permanent certificate, indicating the solar-ready zone and other requirements of this section, shall be posted near the electrical distribution panel, water heater or other conspicuous location by the builder or registered design professional.

Appendix AA STRETCH ENERGY CODE

AA101 Purpose and Adoption. The purpose of the stretch energy code is to provide a more energy efficient code alternative for new buildings. The stretch energy code may be adopted or rescinded by any municipality in the commonwealth in the manner prescribed by law.

AA102 Applicability. Municipalities that have adopted the stretch energy code shall use the energy efficiency requirements of this appendix as provided in AA103 and AA104. These requirements replace all previous stretch energy code requirements.