

# Quality and Market Standards

NY-Sun



The Quality and Market Standards Team manages a network of third-party inspectors to verify a sampling of projects for compliance with program and technical requirements.

This fact sheet is part of a series aimed at helping contractors become knowledgeable about common nonconformances in the NY-Sun Commercial and Industrial Program.

## Have questions?

Please email  
[inspections@nyserda.ny.gov](mailto:inspections@nyserda.ny.gov)

## Above Ground Conductor Management System Guidance

Above ground conductor management systems may consist of cable tray, ladder tray, messenger wire systems, or other approved conductor management systems.

NYSERDA has prepared this guide to ensure code compliant installations. The guide addresses the concern related to above ground conductors where subject to physical damage as outlined in NEC Articles 225.20, 392.12, 396.12, etc.

### Site Plan

NYSERDA requires a site plan to clearly delineate and note all wire runs where above ground conductors are proposed for review and approval prior to installation.

NYSERDA will accept incidental jumps of a reasonably short length between rows of arrays or along the array rows, preferably under the array, when properly supported and protected from physical damage.

Above ground conductors must be installed at the highest elevation above grade possible without interfering with tracker operations, if applicable, or a minimum of 3 feet above grade.

### Permanent Warning Signage

Permanent warning signage is required and must be installed on a driven post or messenger wire. If unable to drive a post due to site conditions such as a landfill or shallow bedrock, warning signage can be installed on a concrete ballasted post.

The signage must be:

- mounted approximately 4 feet above grade.
- located at the midpoint between each row stating "DANGER – HIGH VOLTAGE."
- have minimum sign dimensions of 10 inches by 14 inches with lettering a minimum of two inches tall.

The signage must be attached to the post or messenger wire using permanent methods. Plastic zip ties, including UV resistant are NOT acceptable. When above ground conductors are installed along array rows or any other location not under the array, signage is required at a minimum of every 25 feet.



## Above Ground Cable

NYSERDA will NOT accept the use of above ground cable in locations that extend more than 3 feet beyond the outside edge of the array footprint and that are routed any significant distance to adjacent arrays, balance of system, or other service equipment components, except on a case-by-case basis such as wetlands or landfill/brownfields.

It is NYSERDA's position that above ground conductors installed in open areas are subject to physical damage. Physical damage could occur during mowing activities, snow removal or other maintenance operations.

Please provide NYSERDA with the following information on the site plan.

- Delineate all proposed above ground conductor locations.
- Elevation view of signage installed between rows.
- Above ground conductor minimum height above grade.
- Detail of signage with "DANGER – HIGH VOLTAGE" language.
- Material specifications of post and signage and signage mounting to post or messenger wire.

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