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**September 30, 2019**

**CSLB #19-09**

## **New Requirements for Solar Providers Take Effect September 30th**

**SACRAMENTO** – The decision to go solar by adding a photovoltaic solar energy system can be an exciting but confusing one for homeowners. To help, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has issued new requirements for utilities that will impact CSLB-licensed solar providers. These requirements are designed to protect consumers and discourage contractors from using manipulative sales tactics.

Beginning September 30, 2019, solar providers of residential solar systems in certain regions of California will be required to upload a series of documents in a local utility's interconnection portal after executing a solar photovoltaic (PV) contract with the owner of a single-family residence:

1. The first four pages and the last page of the CPUC's [Solar Consumer Protection Guide \(click here to view\)](#) that are initialed and signed by the homeowner with a date that precedes or matches the contract execution date;
2. A completed CSLB [Solar Energy System Disclosure Document \(click here to view\)](#); and
3. A copy of the executed contract for the installation of the solar system.

The documents must be uploaded if the homeowner is a customer of Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), or San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). The utilities will require these documents to be uploaded during the application process. The utilities will also require the solar providers to enter a valid CSLB license.

Solar providers also should be aware that CPUC and the utilities will conduct spot audits and reviews of uploaded documents.

For contracts issued before September 30, 2019, solar providers do not have to upload these customer documents. Instead, they are required to upload the customer-signed and dated solar installation contract as proof that the contract execution was prior to September 30, 2019.\ The new requirements involve contractors that install *rooftop* residential solar systems (or solar systems installed on a residential property) and carry at least one of the following CSLB license classifications:

- **"B" – General Building contractors (click here to view)** are authorized to install solar energy systems within the definition of **B&P Code section 7057 (click here to view)**, since a solar energy system constitutes the use of two unrelated building trades or crafts.
- **C-10 – Electrical contractors (click here to view)** are authorized to perform any solar projects that generate, transmit, transform, or utilize electrical energy in any form for any purpose.
- **C-46 – Solar contractors (click here to view)** install, modify, maintain, and repair thermal and photovoltaic solar energy systems. A licensee in this classification shall not undertake or perform building or construction trades, crafts or skills, except when required to install a thermal or photovoltaic solar energy system.

For more information on these new requirements, head to the CPUC's **solar guide website (click here to view website)**. If you'd like materials to help your customers be "solar smart" visit CSLB's **Solar Smart page (click here to view)**.