



Regional Codes Coordinating Committee
Opinion Statement
2021 International Energy Conservation Code Appendix RB and
2021 International Residential Code Appendix AT
Solar-Ready Provisions – Detached One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Townhouses

The **2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) [Appendix RB](#) and 2021 International Residential Code (IRC) [Appendix AT](#)**, Solar-Ready Provisions – Detached One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Townhouses, herein referred to as “Solar-Ready Provisions”, are voluntary and cities are not required to adopt these appendices if they adopt the 2021 IECC or IRC. The Regional Codes Coordinating Committee (RCCC) of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) recommends that if jurisdictions adopt the Solar-Ready Provisions of the 2021 IECC and IRC, that no amendments are needed.

The Solar-Ready Provisions apply to new construction and do not require solar systems to be installed at the time of construction. Both appendices do require the space(s) for installing such systems, called a Solar-Ready Zone, which is a section or sections of the roof or building overhang designated and reserved for future installation of a solar photovoltaic or solar thermal system. Adoption of the Solar-Ready Provisions can make future PV system installations more cost-effective by reducing the need for future infrastructure upgrades, ensuring technical feasibility, and planning for system optimization.

Jurisdictions interested in reducing the barriers to solar adoption can consider adoption of the Solar-Ready Provisions to streamline their jurisdictional processes and provide consistency amongst local governments in the region. NCTCOG’s Go Solar Texas website (gosolartexas.org) has additional resources for local governments, such as a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System Permit Application Checklist. Furthermore, 2021 IRC Section R324 Solar Energy Systems provides parameters associated with solar installation permits.

For questions regarding the contents of this Opinion Statement, please contact the NCTCOG Environment and Development Department at EandD@nctcog.org or (817) 695-9210. Additional NCTCOG Recommended Codes and Regional Amendments can be found here: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/regional-building-codes/amendments>.