

May 2021

Harnett County

Property Owner: Edward McLaurin

Property Address: 15 Wood Point Drive, Lillington, NC 27546

**RE: Photovoltaic System Roof Installations**

I have reviewed the existing structure referenced above to determine the adequacy of the existing structure support the proposed installation of an array of solar panels on the roof.

Based on my review, the existing structure is adequate to support the proposed solar panel installation. This assessment is based on recent on-site inspection by SunPro Solar inspectors and photographs of the existing structure. The photovoltaic system is designed to withstand uplift and downward forces; our assessment is regarding the structure's support of the array. Stresses induced by the introduction of individual mount loads on the rafters are within acceptable limits as shown on the attached calculations. The structural considerations used in our review and assessment include the following:

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Applied Codes: ASCE 7-10      "PEBC 2018      NETC 2018      "P GE 2017  
Risk Category: II  
Design Wind Speed (3-second gust): 117MPH  
Wind Exposure Category: B  
Ground Snow Load: 10 PSF  
Seismic Design Category: D

**Existing Structure:**

Roof Material: Shingle  
Roofing Structure: 2x6 rafters @ 24" O.C.  
Roof Slope: 12/12

**Connection of Array to Structure:**

Manufacturer: UNIRAC  
Mount: Flashloc Comp Kit  
Mounting Connection: Flashloc Comp Kit 5/16" lag screw w/min 2.5" embedment into framing  
Zone 1: 2 rails 4'-0" o.c. mounts  
Zone 2: 2 rails 4'-0" o.c. mounts  
Zone 3: 2 rails 4'-0" o.c. mounts



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**Effect of the Solar Array on Structure Loading:**

Gravity Loads:

Per IBC Section 1607.12.5.1, the areas of the roof where solar panels are located are considered inaccessible, and therefore not subject to roof live loading. Live load in these areas is replaced by the dead load of the solar array, 3 psf. The total gravity load on the structure is therefore reduced and the structure may remain unaltered. Connections of the mounts to the underlying structure are to be installed in a staggered pattern, except at the array ends, to distribute the loading evenly to the roof structure. The stresses within the rafters due to the introduction of discrete mount loads are within acceptable limits, as shown on the attached calculations.

Wind Load:

The solar panel array will be flush mounted (no more than 6" above the surrounding roof surface, and parallel to the roof surface. Any additional wind loading on the structure due to the presence of the array is negligible. The array structure is designed by the manufacturer to withstand uplift and downward forces resulting from wind and snow loads. The attached calculations verify the capacity of the connection of the solar array to the roof to resist uplift due to wind loads, the governing load case.

Snow Load:

The reduced friction of the glass surface of the solar panels allows for the lower slope factor ( $C_s$ ) per Section 7.4 of ASCE 7-10 resulting in a reduced design snow load for the structure. This analysis conservatively considered the snow load to be unchanged.

Seismic Load:

Analysis shows that additional seismic loads due to the array installation will be small. Even conservatively neglecting the wall materials, the solar panel installation represents an increase in the total weight of the roof and corresponding seismic load of less than 10%. This magnitude of additional forces meets the requirements of the exception in Section 11B.4 of ASCE 7-10. The existing lateral force resisting system of the structure is therefore allowed to remain unaltered.

Conclusion:

To the best of my professional knowledge and belief, the subject construction and photovoltaic system installation will be in compliance with all state and local building codes and guidelines in effect at the time of our review.

Limitations:

Engineer's assessment of the existing structure is based on recent field reports and current photographs of the elements of the structure that were readily accessible at the time of inspection. The design of the solar panel racking (mounts, rails, connectors, etc.), connections between the racking and panels, and electrical engineering related to the installation are the responsibility of others. The photovoltaic system installation must be by competent personnel in accordance with manufacturer recommendations and specifications and should meet or exceed industry standards for quality. The contractor is responsible for ensuring that the solar array is installed according to the approved plans and must notify the engineer of any undocumented damage or deterioration of the structure, or of discrepancies between the conditions depicted in the approved plans and those discovered on site so that the project may be reevaluated and altered as required. Engineer does not assume any responsibility for improper installation of the proposed photovoltaic system.

## Uplift and Wind Downforce Calculation Summary (ASCE 7-10, 30.5 Part 2)

### Mount, Rack, & Panel Proportioning

Property Owner:	Edward McLaurin	Max. Individual Panel Dimensions		
Project Address:	15 Wood Point Drive	Length (in)	Width (in)	Area (sf)
City, State:	Lillington, NC 27546	77	39	20.85

Building Characteristics, Design Input, and Adjustment Factors				
3-Sec Gust Wind Speed:	117	From ASCE 7-10, Fig. 26.5-1A		
Exposure Category:	B	Para 26.7.3		
Risk Category:	II			
Effective Wind Area (sf):	10	(Area per individual fastener)		
Roof Dimensions:	Length: 70			
	Width: 55	Least Dimension: <input style="width: 50px;" type="text" value="55"/>		
Roof Height (h):	15	Must be less than 60		
Pitch: <input style="width: 50px;" type="text" value="12"/> on 12 =	45.0	degrees; must be less than 45		
Ht. & Exposure Adjustment ( $\lambda$ )	1	Fig. 30.5-1		
Importance Factor (I)	1			
Topographic Adj. ( $K_{zt}$ )	1	Fig. 26.8-1		



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Roof Zone Strip (a), in ft, Fig. 30.5-1, Note 5	
1 - Least Roof Horizontal Dimension (L or W) x 0.10	5.5
2 - Roof Height x 0.4	6
3 - Least Roof Horizontal Dimension (L or W) x 0.04	2.2
4 - Least of (1) and (2)	5.5
5 - Greater of (3) and (4)	5.5
6 - Greater of (5) and 3 feet	<b>a= 5.5</b>

Net Design Pressures, Components & Cladding					
Allowable Stress Design, Use 0.6W (2.4.1)					
	Uplift (-psf)		Down (psf)		
	$P_{30net}$	$ K_{zt}P_{30net} $	$P_{30net}$	$ K_{zt}P_{30net} $	
Zone 1	21.5	21.5	19.5	19.5	Interior Roof Area
Zone 2	25.0	25.0	19.5	19.5	Strip of (a) ft wide at roof edge
Zone 3	25.0	25.0	19.5	19.5	Corner intersection of strips

	Uplift (-psf)		Down (psf)		
	$W_{asd} = 0.6P_{30}$		$W_{asd} = 0.6P_{30}$		
Zone 1	<b>12.9</b>		<b>11.7</b>		Interior Roof Area
Zone 2	<b>15.0</b>		<b>11.7</b>		Strip of (a) ft wide at roof edge
Zone 3	<b>15.0</b>		<b>11.7</b>		Corner intersection of strips

<b>UNIRAC &amp; Rail Selection (FS=3.0) (SolarMount)</b>		
Manufacturer:	UNIRAC	<b><u>Perpendicular Panel Orientation</u></b> <b><u>Allowable Scheme by Uplift Pressure</u></b>
Model:	SolarMount	
Ultimate Uplift (lb):	1913	
<b><u>Parallel : Mounts per Individual Panel</u></b>		< 60 psf 2 rails, 4'-0" OC mounts
# Mounts/ Panel for FS=3.0		60-90 psf 2 rails, 2'-0" OC mounts
Zone 1	0.7	90-150 psf 3 rails, 2'-0" OC mounts
Zone 2	0.8	150-170 psf 4 rails, 2'-0" OC mounts
Zone 3	0.8	170 psf +, panel clip capacity exceeded
<i>(From rail analysis, allowable spacing/rails controlled by individual mount pullout before rail bending)</i>		

  
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