

**STAFF REPORT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
April 14, 2010**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Loomis Town Council  
**FROM:** Dave Larsen, Town Attorney  
**SUBJECT:** Regulation of Solar Collectors

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Loomis Town Council hold second reading and adopt the proposed ordinance establishing height and setback requirements for solar collectors.

**DISCUSSION:**

The proposed ordinance incorporates the changes you made just prior to holding first reading. Town staff believes this ordinance is ready for second reading and adoption.

# TOWN OF LOOMIS

## ORDINANCE NO. 246

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING SETBACK AND HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR COLLECTORS

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Loomis wishes to add setback and height requirements for ground mounted solar collectors to the Loomis Municipal Code in order to lessen the impacts of such devices on adjacent neighbors;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Town Council of the Town of Loomis ordains as follows:

Section 1. Section 13.30.110G.6 is hereby added to the Loomis Municipal Code to read in its entirety as follows:

**“6. Ground mounted solar collectors in residential zones.** All ground mounted solar collectors in residential zones shall comply with the setback requirements of this section.

a. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, a “ground mounted solar collector” means a fixed device, structure, or part of a device or structure that is used primarily to transform solar energy into thermal, chemical, or electrical energy and is installed on the ground.

b. **Setbacks.** Ground mounted solar collectors shall comply with the applicable front, side-interior, side-corner and rear setback requirements set out in Table 2-3 and 2-4 of Section 13.24.040.

Notes:

(i) In addition to complying with the above setback requirements, one should refer to the State law entitled “Solar Shade Control Act” (Public Resources Code §§ 25980 et al.) which contains other setback & additional requirements which must be complied with to protect your solar collector to the extent allowed from shade caused by neighbors’ landscaping & trees.

(ii) On a related note, the maximum allowable height of a ground mounted solar collector is set out in § 13.30.050 D.4.”

Section 2. Section 13.30.050 D.4 is hereby added to the Loomis Municipal Code to read in its entirety as follows:

“4. The maximum height for a “ground mounted solar collector” as that term is defined in Section 13.30.110 G.6. shall be fifteen (15) feet, measured from the natural pre-development grade, to the top of the array.”

Section 3. The Town Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published as required by law in the Loomis News, a newspaper of general circulation, and posted at three (3) locations within fifteen (15) days of the certification to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Town.

The foregoing Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Loomis duly held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010, and was approved and enacted at a duly held regular meeting of the Council held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Attorney