



**Illinois Solar for All**

# Approved Vendor Photo Guide

2025-2026 Program Year

# Introduction

This guide provides Approved Vendors with visual examples of photos that exemplify the standards expected from photo documentation provided as part of the Part I and Part II project approval processes. Approved Vendor Managers review photos to understand existing site conditions before the photovoltaic (PV) system is installed during the Part I application, and to see installed equipment post-installation as part of the Part II application. Since the Approved Vendor Manager is not present at the site assessment or system installation, site photos help demonstrate roof conditions and orientation, electrical system condition, shading impacts, available area, and verify installed equipment. There are times when photos outside of those listed within this guide are needed to verify the Part II Submitted site plan or one line.

Clear, well-lit, and composed photos can expedite the application review process, while blurry, incomplete photo sets will result in requests for additional photos, prolonging the review process. Aerial photos are helpful as they provide a panoramic view, allowing the reviewer to see the proposed site location and the surrounding area.

Close-up photos of components and their labeling should be legible. Take time to compose a quality image and review it onsite, as this reduces the need to retake photos. Please reach out to your Vendor Manager with any questions about ILSFA project photo requirements.



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# Part I

## Site Assessment



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# Part I Site Suitability: Roof Condition

## Pitched Roof



## Flat Roof

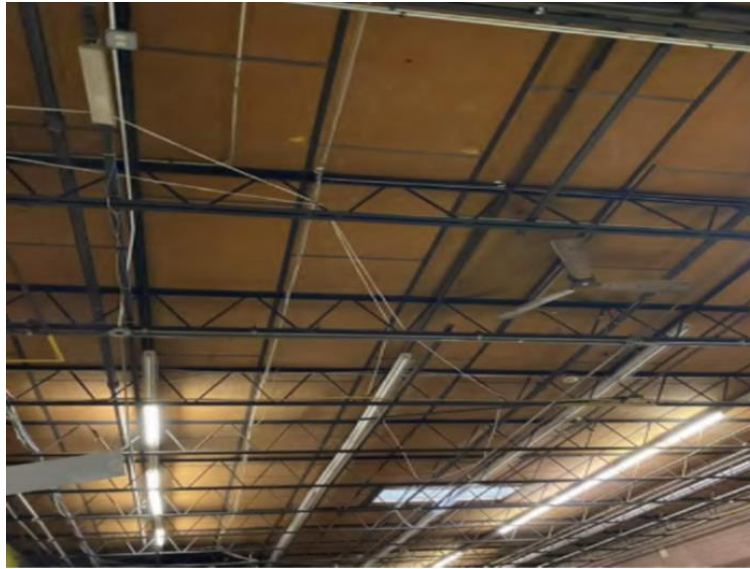


As part of the Site Suitability submission, photos are to be submitted of the overall roof condition. As shown here, Aerial shots of the location are ideal, capturing the entirety of the proposed location. Should you be unable to submit aerial photos, submit photos showing all sites.





## Part I Site Suitability: Interior Roof Components



Photos showing interior roof components are submitted to ensure the integrity of the roof prior to installation. See the Structural Assessment section of the Site Suitability Guidelines for more information regarding these photos.



## Part I Site Suitability: Ground Condition

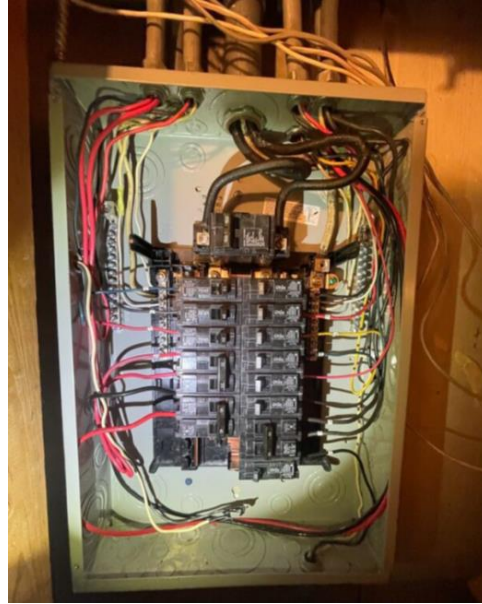
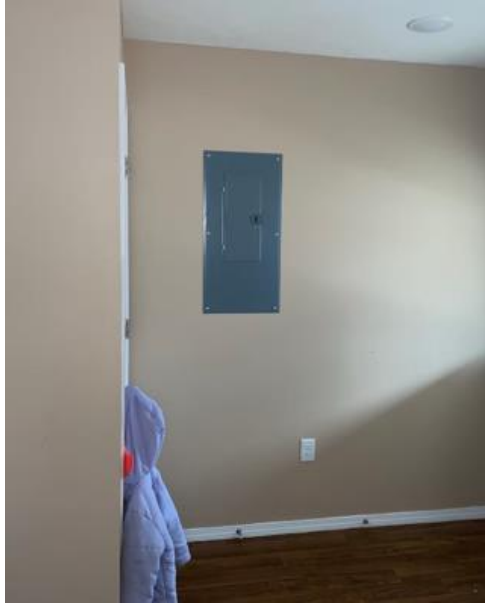


For Ground Mount systems, submit photos showing the conditions of the site to be utilized for ground mount installation. See the Ground–Mount Siting Assessment section of the Site Suitability for more details.





## Part I Site Suitability: Electrical System



Photos showing the condition of the electrical panel at a Residential Solar (Small) location and Non-Profit Facility. It is important to show multiple photos. One with the Main Service Panel cover on and visible and another with the cover removed exposing the service and branch wiring. See the Electrical Assessment section of the Site Suitability Guidelines.





# Part I Site Suitability: Space and Accessibility



**Area Clear of Obstruction:** Photos showing the condition of the area surrounding the electrical panels. It is important to show multiple photos. Additional work to ensure a clear work area should be noted as part of the site's suitability.



# Part I Site Suitability: Shading



Photo showing proposed array location for a single-family residence. This one aerial photo would satisfy requirements when multiple arrays are placed on the different directional facing pitches of the roof. However, photos taken from 6' above the roof will not capture all the proposed arrays, in which case multiple photos will need to be presented.



Photo showing potential obstructions. This photo attempts to show the impact of the two large trees to the south of the array location. This shading can influence REC quantity and incentive amounts and could justify alternative design methods.



Photo showing potential obstructions to the proposed array in the HVAC units on the roof of this building. These items are verified in the project's submitted System Design.



Photo showing proposed array location for a Nonprofit project. While not an aerial photo, this, too, would satisfy requirements as the multiple arrays are being installed on the two roof faces shown here.





## Part II

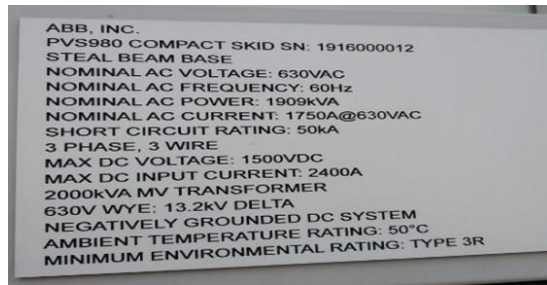
# Site Inspection



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## Part II Photos: Inverter - DC Inverters and Combiner Boxes



**String Inverter:** Photo showing String Inverter information label with the model number shown.



**DC Disconnect:** Photo showing wiring inside of DC Disconnect enclosure (within inverter or isolated).

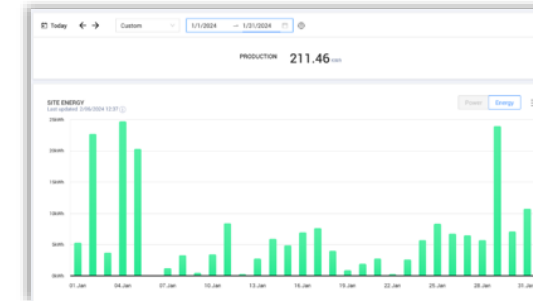




## Part II Photos: Metering



**Revenue Grade Meter:** Photo showing cumulative lifetime meter reading of Revenue Grade Meters installed by Approved Vendor.



**Metering:** When Revenue Grade Meter is unavailable, a photo showing the cumulative production from a monitoring platform will be accepted as an alternative. For validation, this photo should also include site information.



## Part II Photos: Modules



**Project:** Photo showing installed modules. Aerial photos will satisfy requirements when placed on a building with multiple arrays placed on different directional facing pitches. When aerial photos are not available a photo of each array must be submitted.



**Module Information:** Photo must show module label with model number matching submitted final as-built, single line and Part II Submitted.



## Part II Photos: General Electrical – Safety Labeling



**Labeling:** Photos showing clear and accurate labeling is present as necessary on inverters, disconnects, conduit, Main Service Panel, and other electronics. As part of the review, additional labeling photos may be requested as part of the system review.

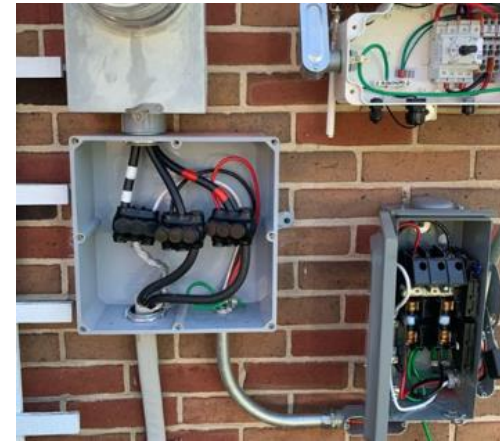


## Part II Photos: Point of Interconnection

**Point of Interconnection:** A photo must be submitted showing the method of interconnection.



**Load Side connection:** photo showing the wiring connection of the PV system through a UL listed and properly rated back-fed breaker in the main service panel.



**Supply Side:** a photo showing a properly rated, UL listed tap was performed for the connection to the switch board or main service panel.





## Part II Photos: Mounting and General Structure – Mounting Structure and Tilt



Photo showing the angle utilized for applicable ground mounted project. This angle should be consistent with all submitted project design documentation.



**Mounting System Anchoring:** Before modules are placed, a photo showing the ground penetration techniques utilized for applicable ground mounted projects must be captured.



## Part II Photos: Shading



**Obstructed Array Sections:** Submit photos if shading is present of obstructions such as trees, chimneys, HVAC or other such items. If no shading is present, no additional photos are needed outside of general structure photos.

