



Electricians Examining Board
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MEMORANDUM

To: All Solar field/farm installers

From: Kern D. Butler, Senior State Electrical Inspector

Date: February 6, 2024

RE: Grounding of Support Structures on Solar Tracker systems

According to National Electrical Code Section 690.43(B)

All Metallic support Structures shall be bonded and shall have identified bonding jumpers installed between separate metallic sections.

On tracker systems the "Torque Tube" is usually grounded at the motor that drives it. This torque tube sits in nylon sleeves to allow it to rotate. These sleeves insulate the tube from the support structure.

According to the above referenced code section a bonding jumper must be installed between the torque tube and each upright support section.

The bonding jumper shall be a minimum size of #8-AWG and must be braided or fine stranded to allow for rotation of the torque tube.

A second method that can be used is to install a bonding wire the whole length of the row and connect it to each upright support structure and to the system ground at one point.