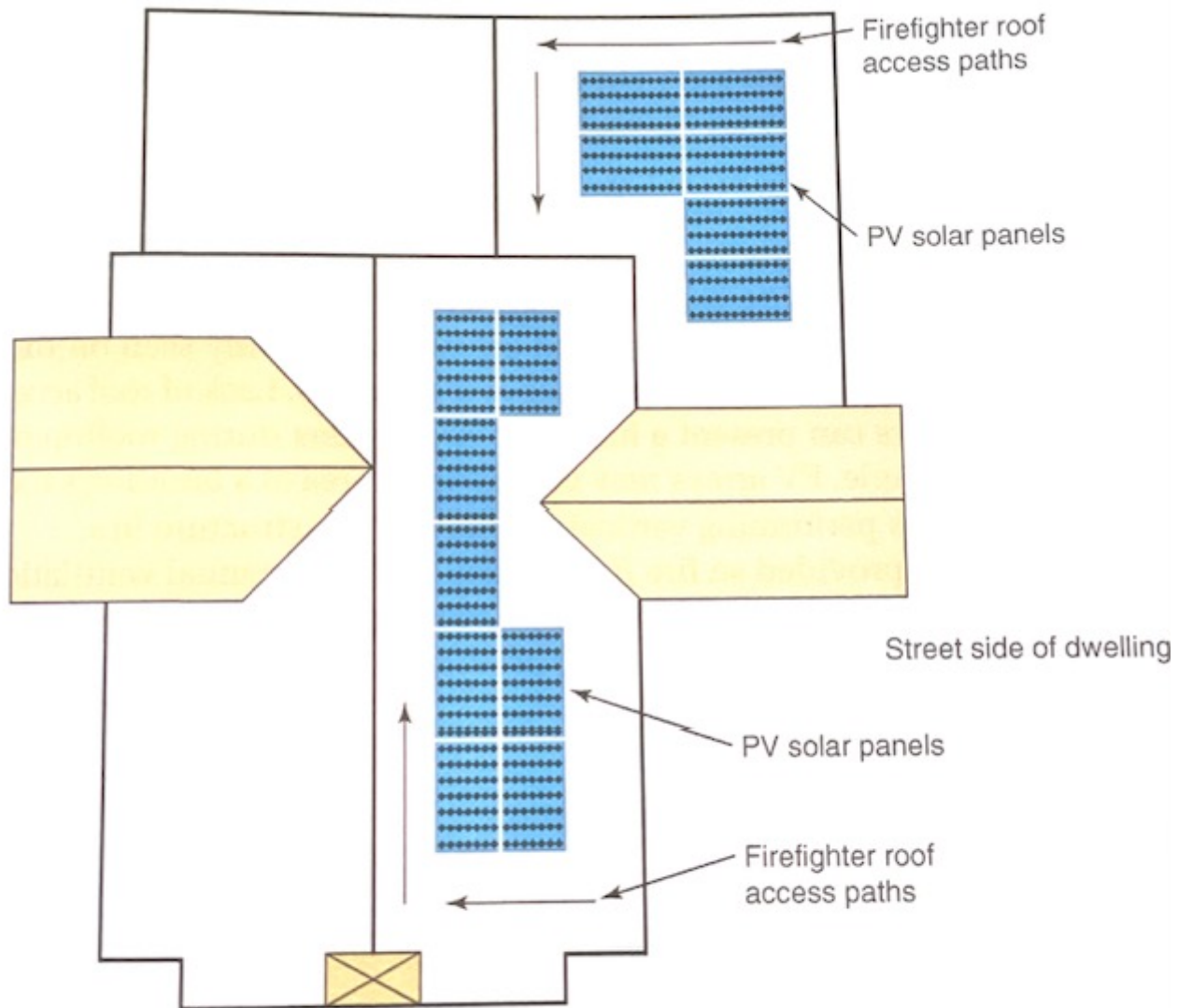


2020 FBC-Residential Emergency Solar Access R324.6 Roof Access for PV Energy Systems



Required roof access and pathways for fire fighters for roof-mounted PV solar systems

The photovoltaic (PV) solar energy has presented a problem and hazard for the access to the roof by fire fighters due to the lack of roof access and clear pathways during rooftop operations. The new code reference now requires the PV installation to allow the fire fighters the ability to perform manual ventilation by cutting one or more holes in the roof. Therefore this code section now addresses the requirements for:

- Emergency access to the roof
- Pathways to specific areas of the roof
- Smoke-ventilation opportunity areas
- Emergency egress from the roof
- Location of the PV to the ridge line