

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO
REPEALING RESOLUTION 2009-011 & PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE INCENTIVES FOR CERTAIN
PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) AND OR SOLAR SYSTEM INSTALLATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners approved resolution 2009-011, replacing resolution 2008-034, and pertaining to certain incentives for the use of renewable energy fixtures; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Department has implemented a permitting and refund process for alternative energy projects since July 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has received testimony from local area professionals representing the alternative power industry, that the permitting process is onerous and unnecessarily delays construction schedules; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has received testimony from the Land Use Staff that the time spent on permitting, inspections, and processing refunds is likely in excess of the net income from Solar Permits, and is therefore not an equitable process for the county; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has received testimony from the Land Use Staff that PV/Solar systems are the most common alternative energy structure built in Ouray County, and that other types of systems are rarely permitted; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to continue providing an incentive to the citizens of Ouray County that wish to install PV/Solar systems on their property; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes that a complete exemption from permitting requirements may result in negative outcomes in regard to:

- visual impacts within the view corridors defined within the Visual Impact Regulations
- potential construction occurring within a flood plain
- potential construction of large scale commercial systems; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners that:

1. In order to simplify and expedite the permitting process for PV/Solar system installers, and to eliminate a permitting/rebate program that is inequitable to the County, Resolution 2009-011 is hereby repealed.
2. As a continued incentive to incorporate alternative energy systems into county homes, in particular solar energy, residential PV/Solar systems, shall be exempt from the building permit process. Any other form of alternative energy fixtures/installations, such as wind turbines, and commercial PV/Solar systems, will still be required to obtain a building permit prior to construction.
3. Construction incorporating alternative energy systems, including PV/solar, shall comply with all Land Use Code regulations, including visual impact and flood hazard regulations. Staff is directed to implement a Site Plan Review process, by which the Land Use Staff may review and ensure compliance of all proposed PV/solar system installations, and shall establish a fee for such review to cover the direct and indirect costs of staff time in providing such review.
4. Citizens of Ouray County that have been issued a permit for a solar system installation, prior to the date of this resolution, may still apply for and receive the rebates specified in Resolution 2009-011.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Voting for:

Voting against:

RESOLUTION No. 2017-016

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO

Attest:

Ben Tisdell, Chair

Don Batchelder, Vice-Chair

Michelle Nauer, Clerk and Recorder
By: Hannah Hollenbeck, Deputy Clerk of the Board

John E. Peters, Commissioner