

1 [Urging Installation of Battery Energy Storage Systems by C-10 Electrical Contractor License-
2 Holders]

3 **Resolution urging the Contractors State Licensing Board to ensure that battery energy**
4 **storage systems are installed by valid C-10 Electrical Contractor License-holders.**

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6 WHEREAS, Battery storage technology is instrumental in helping California meet its
7 clean energy and emissions reduction goals, and for expanding the adoption of solar, wind
8 and other clean energy sources; and

9 WHEREAS, The use of battery energy storage systems is rapidly expanding in
10 hospitals, schools, businesses and homes throughout the State of California; and

11 WHEREAS, Battery energy storage systems pose unique fire, electrical and public
12 safety risks to installers, consumers, utility workers and emergency personal if not installed
13 and maintained correctly by highly-qualified and licensed C-10 electrical contractors; and

14 WHEREAS, Regulations of the Contractors State Licensing Board specifically require a
15 C-10 license in order to “install, erect or connect any electrical wires, fixtures, appliances,
16 raceways, conduits, solar photovoltaic cells or any part thereof, which generate, transmit,
17 transform or utilize electrical energy in any form or for any purpose”; and

18 WHEREAS, Ambiguity in the regulations has allowed C-46 solar contractor licensees to
19 install battery energy storage systems when paired with a solar photovoltaic system; and

20 WHEREAS, Battery energy storage systems are distinct electrical systems from solar
21 photovoltaic systems, and C-46 solar contractors do not possess the electrical training or
22 expertise required for the safe installation of battery energy storage systems; and

23 WHEREAS, C-10 licensed electrical contractors are required to submit to an electrical
24 contractor test and have at least one year of employment as an electrical journeyman prior to
25 certification allowing them to install battery energy storage systems; and

1 WHEREAS, While C-46 licensed solar contractors may be qualified to install solar
2 panels and test and configure photovoltaic systems, they are not specifically qualified to safely
3 install more complex battery energy storage systems; and

4 WHEREAS, The Contractors State Licensing Board regulations specifically prohibit C-
5 46 solar contractors from installing standalone battery energy storage systems; and

6 WHEREAS, The Contractors State Licensing Board is meeting on March 21, 2019 in
7 part to review concerns about the appropriate license classifications to install energy storage
8 systems; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
10 urges the Contractors State Licensing Board to uphold its mission to protect public safety and
11 consumers by ensuring battery energy storage systems are installed by contracts who hold a
12 valid C-10 electrical contractors license; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
14 Francisco urges the Contractors State Licensing Board to uphold safety standards by
15 disallowing C-46 contractors from installing battery energy storage systems.

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