



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	December 16, 2014	Interpretation	14-012
Topic	Solar Photovoltaic Pathway Definitions		
Code Section(s)	2013 CFC 605.11.3.3.2 and 605.11.3.3.3		
Requested by	Sunistics, LLC Nicholas Mahalec, CEO		
Date Received	September 30, 2014		

Question: How should the use of “around” versus “bordering” in 2013 California Fire Code (CFC) §605.11.3.3.2 and §605.11.3.3.3 be interpreted? The code is clear in relation to skylights as it did not purposefully utilize the term “around” in this section of the code, but instead used “bordering.”

Answer: For the term “bordering” within CFC §6085.11.3.3.3(2.2), there must be a pathway that is on at least one side of the roof skylights or smoke and heat vents. The intent is to have the pathway to the skylights or smoke and heat vents for firefighter operations. The term “around” within §605.11.3.3.2.5, requires a clearance on all four sides of the rood access hatch.