



## Informational Bulletin

Date: March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Community Development Department

**Purpose: To clarify the type of permits a general contractor with a "B" license is able to obtain.**

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The [Business & Professions Code section 7057](#), defines a general building contractor as someone whose principal contracting business is in connection with any structure built, being built, or to be built, for the support, shelter, and enclosure of persons, animals, chattels, or movable property of any kind, requiring in its construction the use of at least two unrelated building trades or crafts, or to do or superintend the whole or any part thereof.

A general building contractor may take a prime contract or a subcontract for a framing or carpentry project. However, a general building contractor shall not take a prime contract for any project involving trades other than framing or carpentry unless; the prime contract requires at least two unrelated building trades, or crafts other than framing/carpentry, unless the general building contractor holds the appropriate license classification or subcontracts with an appropriately licensed specialty contractor to perform the work.

The general building contractor may not count framing or carpentry in calculating the two unrelated trades necessary in order for the general building contractor to be able to take a prime contract or subcontract for a project involving other trades.

### A "B" General Building Contractor Can:

- Enter a prime or sub-contract for a framing or carpentry project and self-perform the work.
- Enter a prime or sub-contract for two or more separate and unrelated trades and self-perform the work (framing and carpentry cannot count as one of the trades).
- Enter a prime or sub-contract for a single trade. However, unless the general contractor holds the appropriate specialty classification, the performance of the work (other than carpentry or framing that can be self-performed) must be subcontracted to a contractor that holds the appropriate classification.

For example; A project that includes re-roofing and new windows would be an acceptable project for a general contractor, roofing and window installation are two unrelated trades.

Conversely, a project for re-roofing that included a new electrical outlet or hose bib as a "second unrelated trade" would not qualify and would be considered an attempt to evade the license requirement.

### A "B" General Building Contractor Cannot:

- Enter a prime contract for any project involving trades other than framing or carpentry unless:
  - The prime contract requires at least two other, unrelated building trades or crafts; or
  - The "B" General Building contractor holds the appropriate license classification or subcontracts with an appropriately licensed specialty contractor to perform the work.
- Enter a sub-contract involving trades other than framing or carpentry unless:
  - The sub-contract requires at least two other, unrelated trades or crafts; or
  - The "B" General Building contractor holds the appropriate license classification.
- Include framing or carpentry in calculating the two unrelated trades necessary for the B General Building contractor to be able to take a prime or sub-contract for a project involving other trades.

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*Future Unlimited*

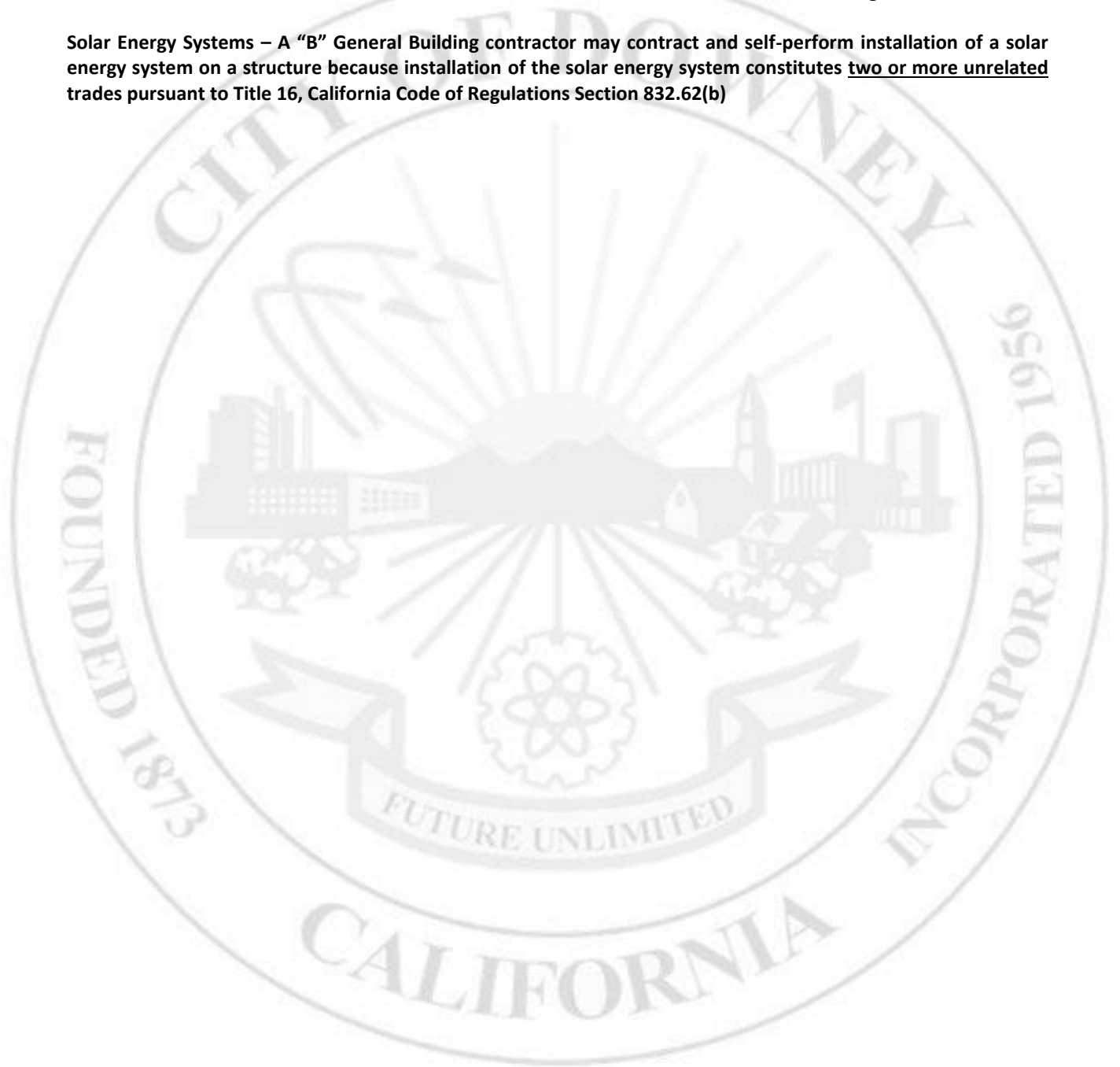
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### Example projects:

**Roofing** – A “B” General Building contractor may contract for projects that include roofing. However, they must subcontract to a C-39 roofing contractor if the roofing is a standalone contract, not included in a larger project that includes two unrelated trades, such as home construction, room addition, or remodeling.

**Solar Energy Systems** – A “B” General Building contractor may contract and self-perform installation of a solar energy system on a structure because installation of the solar energy system constitutes two or more unrelated trades pursuant to Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 832.62(b)



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