# SIGN12 – Information Sheet

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**Version 1.0**

## Overview

**CER Checklist item: SIGN12**

Where the installed PV System is DC, the site information at the Main Switch Board and/or Meter Box does not include all required information.

**Standard reference:** AS/NZS 5033:2021 Clause 5.6.1.1.

## 1. Introduction

SAA has analysed Clean Energy Regulator (CER) inspection data to identify the most common areas of non-compliance. Based on these insights, we have developed educational resources that highlight where issues typically arise and offer practical guidance to support installers in achieving compliance. This document should be read in conjunction with the relevant Standard(s).

**SIGN12 shall comply with the requirements of AS/NZS5033:2021 Clause 5.6.1.1.**

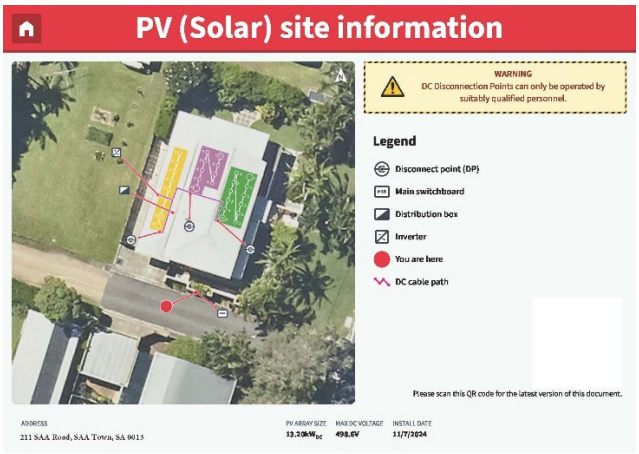


***Figure 1: Compliant Site Information Sign containing all additional d.c. requirements of Clause 5.6.1.1.***

This document outlines the key requirements for correct installation of equipment and includes examples of observed non-compliances to highlight common installation errors and help prevent their recurrence.

## 2. Key Requirements for compliant SIGN11 & SIGN12

**AS/NZS 5033:2021 Clause 5.6 Recording of solar system layout**

### SIGN 11 Requirements

**AS/NZS 5033:2021 Clause 5.6.1 General**

Solar system layout shall be shown on a plan (map or drawing) located at the main switchboard and/or meter box, fire panel.

The site information sign shall—

a) be legible and be sufficiently durable for the location, i.e. be laminated or protected by a solid clear sheet (Perspex, etc);
b) be fixed permanently in a manner appropriate for the location;
c) be in English;
d) be labelled “PV (Solar) site information” in white letters with a red background;
e) show the location address as recorded for the installation;
f) contain a plan view of the building showing the location of the PCE, the PV array(s);
NOTE 1 An elevation plan view of the building may also be included for more complex installations.

g) contain a legend for the map or clearly label to identify key components and building reference points;
h) identify the location of the site information sign with the words “you are here”;
i) be as accurate as practicable ensuring the various components on the drawing are indicative of the actual installation; and
j) installation date
NOTE 2 See Figure A.5 for example.
NOTE 3 In addition to the requirements of this Clause, electronic links such as QR codes may be added to provide additional information.

### SIGN 12 Requirements

**AS/NZS 5033:2021 Clause 5.6.1.1 Additional information for PV d.c. systems**

Additional site information for PV d.c. systems shall include:

a) the path of the d.c. cabling;
b) the location of d.c. disconnection point(s) indicated by “DP”;
c) the location of additional load break disconnector(s);
d) PV array size;
e) d.c. Voltage; and
f) contain a warning where d.c. disconnection type(s) can only be operated by suitable qualified personnel.

EXCEPTION — These requirements do not apply for systems with a calculated PV d.c. circuit maximum voltage is less than 120 V d.c. and where the inverter is located within 1.5 m of the connected PV module using d.c. disconnection consistent with Clause 4.5.3.1.

## 3. Common non-compliances identified with CER checklist item

Given the comprehensive requirements that apply to the solar system layout, compliance can only be achieved when all criteria are met in full.

Partial compliance is not accepted; therefore, the absence or inaccuracy of even one required element may result in a defect being recorded.

### 3.1 Site information sign is incomplete/missing key information or displays incorrect information

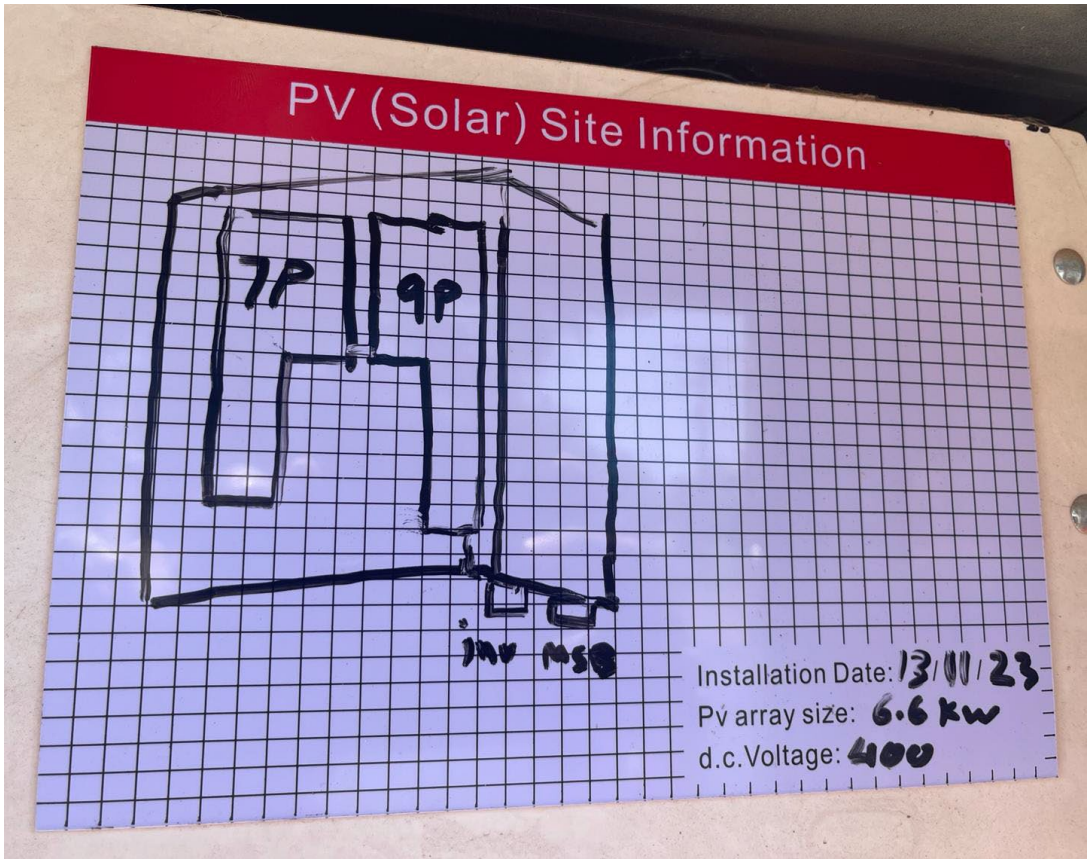


***Figure 2: Non-compliant Site Information sign is missing key information for a PV d.c. system.***

a) **Non-compliance:** The extensive requirements of Clause 5.6.1.1 often result in installers inadvertently omitting one or more mandatory elements, leading to a defect being recorded on the inspection report. In Figure 2, the site information sign is incomplete, as it does not identify the DC cable path, fails to include the required warning that certain DC disconnection types may only be operated by suitably qualified personnel, and does not clearly identify the locations of DC disconnection points.

   A complete and accurate site information sign is essential for providing homeowners, inspectors, and future electricians with a clear and reliable layout of the system's key components. It also ensures that emergency services personnel have immediate access to critical information, including the locations of PV array isolation points and the DC cabling routes between the inverter and the PV array.

Failure to provide a fully compliant site information sign increases risk during emergency situations, where rapid identification of isolation points is critical, and makes future maintenance, fault-finding, or system modifications unnecessarily difficult for those attending site.

b) **Best Practice:** The solar system layout must be completed upon finalisation of the installation, making it one of the final steps in the installation workflow. To ensure this critical requirement is not overlooked, it should be formally embedded as a standard, non-optional part of the installation process.

The two simplest and most effective methods for achieving this are:

1. Carry hand-drawn solar system layout templates in the work vehicle, allowing them to be clearly completed with a permanent marker at the end of each job, in accordance with Figure 3.
2. Bring a laptop and laminating equipment to site, enabling the solar system layout to be updated digitally using appropriate software, printed, laminated, and immediately fixed to the main switchboard and/or fire panel before leaving site.

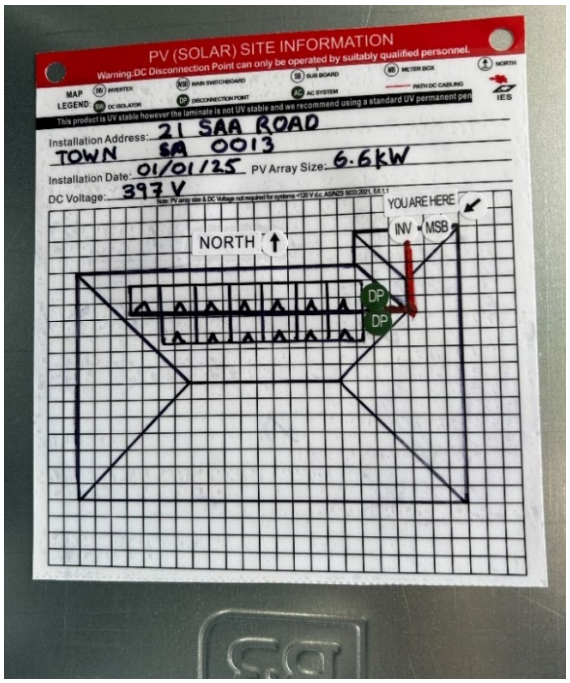


***Figure 3: Hand drawn site information sign is compliant with all requirements.***

Installers should not leave site with the intention of returning later to install the solar system layout. This task is easily forgotten and significantly increases the likelihood of non-compliance being identified during inspection, potentially impacting accreditation outcomes.

Making completion and installation of the solar system layout a non-negotiable part of the workflow supports both safety and compliance. The solar system layout should be fixed using a construction adhesive suitable for the mounting surface to ensure it remains securely in place for the life of the system and is not damaged, dislodged, or lost during normal operation.