

# SIGN 7.2.1 – Information Sheet

Date published: 26 March 2026

Version 1.0

## Overview

### CER Checklist item: SIGN 7.2.1

A 100 mm diameter circular green reflector PV sign with the letters AC , DP, or SW indicating the isolation method is not installed or is incorrectly installed on or adjacent to the meter box and switchboard, or is not readily available to be seen by approaching emergency workers.

**Standard reference:** AS/NZS 5033:2021 Clause 5.4

## 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).

**SIGN7.2.1 shall comply with the requirements of AS/NZS 5033:2021 5.4.**

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.



**Figure 1: Compliant Fire and emergency information label displaying 'DP' as the method of isolation used at the PV array.**

## 2. Key Requirements for compliant SIGN 7.2.1

### AS/NZS 5033:2021 Clause 5.4 Fire and emergency information

PV systems shall have a circular green reflector sign at least 100 mm in diameter with the letters “PV” on or immediately adjacent to the main metering panel and main switchboard, to be readily visible to approaching emergency workers. Below the “PV” lettering shall include the following:

- a) “AC ” - For inverters where the calculated PV d.c. circuit maximum voltage is less than 120 V d.c. at the inverter PV input, and the PV modules are within 1.5m of the inverter are installed.
- b) “DP” – Where a disconnection point is used as the isolation method.
- c) “SW” – Where a load break disconnection device is used as the isolation method.

NOTE See Figure A.3.



**Figure 2: Example of signs for fire and emergency information.**

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

Due to the extensive requirements to ensure a compliant site information sign has been installed, non-compliance may be identified if any aspect of these requirements is missing.

Even if seven out of eight criteria are met, a single error can result in a defect being recorded, as the sign would not fully comply with the standards.

Each item below will outline the common pitfalls for SIGN7.2.1 and we will then provide:

- a) Regulation requirement
- b) Common issues
- c) Best practice to ensure compliance

#### 3.1 The green “PV” reflector sign is not sufficiently durable

- a) **Non-compliance:** Poor-quality labels are prone to early failure, as shown in Figure 3. These labels commonly peel away from their backing over time and may ultimately detach completely.

When labels fail or are missing, the main switchboard is left without a clear and reliable indication of the PV array disconnection method. This compromises the ability of emergency services personnel to quickly and correctly identify the isolation method, increasing risk during emergency response situations and undermining the intent of the labelling requirements.

- b) **Best Practice:** Ensure you purchase labels from a reputable seller, and that labels are tested in accordance with the Australian standards.



**Figure 3: Non-compliant as label not sufficiently durable for the lifetime of the system.**

### 3.2 Incorrect label diameter



**Figure 4: Non-compliant as the label must be at least 100 mm in diameter.**

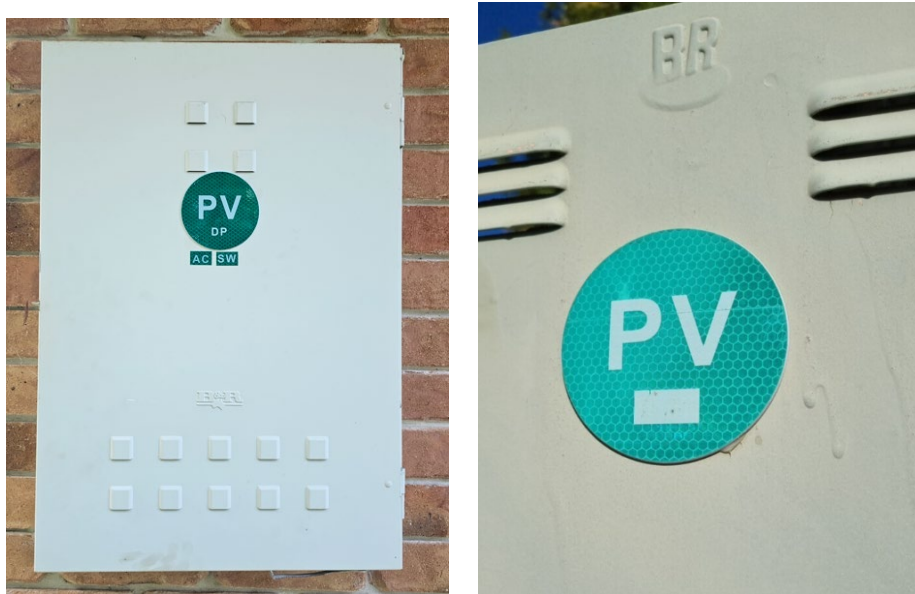
- a) **Non-compliance:** It is commonly observed that installers leave the existing green PV label in place when upgrading or replacing an existing system. These legacy labels are **non-compliant with current standards**, as they are typically **70 mm in diameter**, whereas the standard requires a **minimum diameter of 100 mm**.

In addition, older labels do not provide the ability to clearly identify the **disconnection method used at the PV array** (e.g. AC, DP, or SW). The absence of this information reduces the effectiveness of the label and fails to provide emergency services personnel with clear and unambiguous guidance on the correct isolation method.

When undertaking system upgrades or replacements, installers must ensure that all PV identification labels are replaced with labels that fully comply with current requirements, including correct size, visibility, and accurate identification of the PV array disconnection method.

- b) **Best Practice:** Ensure labels are replaced and meet the current standards, including all key requirements within this document.

### 3.3 Incorrect identification of the disconnection method used



**Figure 5: Non-compliant due to incorrect identification of disconnection method used at the PV array.**

- a) **Non-compliance:** It is frequently observed that installers incorrectly apply **all disconnection method options** beneath the “PV” text on the green reflector label. This approach is non-compliant, as it does not clearly identify the **actual disconnection method used at the PV array**, reducing the effectiveness of the label for emergency services personnel.

In other instances, the incorrect disconnection method has been selected, or the field has been left blank altogether. These outcomes fail to provide clear and unambiguous guidance on how the PV system is to be safely isolated and may result in a defect being recorded during inspection.

- b) **Best Practice:** Installers should ensure that **only the correct disconnection method** used at the PV array (AC, DP, or SW) is clearly identified beneath the “PV” text on the green reflector label. Where labels provide multiple options, all unused options should be removed, covered, or left unmarked. Labels that use stickers or allow for marking with a handheld engraver should be completed accurately and legibly to ensure emergency services personnel can immediately and confidently identify the correct isolation method.