



Director's Order on OESC Rule 2-010 – Background

What is changing: ESA is increasing the threshold for when a Plan Review is required from 10 kW to 12 kW.

Why this change matters: This change is an example where ESA applies our proportional and risk-based oversight, while maintaining alignment within the industry, and providing cost reduction to customers on the process to adopt small-scale distributed energy resources.

When this takes effect: The updated threshold will come into force on July 6, 2026. Please see the Director's Order [posted on ESA's website](#).

What this means for Licensed Electrical Contractors and Distributed Energy Resource (DER) installers,

- Installations 12 kW and under will no longer require a Plan Review.
- You can still request a Plan Review voluntarily.
- ESA inspectors will continue to assess installation safety through notifications.
- This change aligns with the Ontario Energy Board's recent update and ensures ESA oversight strikes the right balance to enhance public safety while reducing regulatory burden where possible. It also reflects the growing trend of standard inverter sizes now commonly exceeding 10 kW.
- This change is anticipated to provide cost savings to stakeholders who are doing installations under 12 kW as they will not be required to undertake the Plan Review process.
- If you have any questions or would like to discuss how this change may affect your current or upcoming projects, do not hesitate to reach out to ESA Plan Review at plan.review@electricalsafety.on.ca