Operation of Generators Policy

Permanent Generators

The Town of Ross does not prohibit the installation of a generator provided the generator complies with the following:

1. The generator will need to conform to the Town’s setbacks (e.g., front, rear, side) or request a Minor Exception per Chapter 18.45 for the Ross Municipal to allow the generator to be installed in a side yard or rear yard setback in conformance with the Minor Exception regulations (see attachment for reference).

2. Ensure the generator would not exceed the Town’s noise standard of 55 decibels at the property lines. Noise attenuation of the generator would most likely be required to ensure conformance with the Town’s noise standards.

3. Conform to all floodplain and California Mechanical Code requirements.

Operation of Generators During Power Outages

The operation of permanent and portable generators during power outages and Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events is allowed and may exceed the Town’s noise standard. The following requirements are applicable:

1. The placement of generators must comply with the setbacks of the applicable zoning district and be placed in an area that is least disruptive to neighbors.

2. Operation of generators at night should be kept to a minimum.

3. An electrical permit and installation of a transfer switch is required before any generator can be connected to a building’s electrical system.