



# RESIDENTIAL GENERATOR REQUIREMENTS

City of Lathrop  
Building Department

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**PLEASE REFER TO THESE REQUIREMENTS WHEN SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A PERMANENTLY INSTALLED RESIDENTIAL GENERATORS OR A PORTABLE GENERATOR WIRED INTO A RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEM**

## PERMIT SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Plans should include the following:

- Site Plan
- Line Diagram
- Noise Decibel Level
- Screening and/or Physical Protection
- Exhaust Termination Location
- Manufacturer's Installation Instructions
- Fuel Tank Supply or Natural Gas Line

## NOISE TESTS:

The Lathrop Municipal Code (LMC) requires a noise test for all new mechanical equipment placed outdoors or when it may be heard outdoors. Before any final inspection request for such equipment, the property owner or contractor must submit a report showing that the equipment meets the allowable sound levels per Chapter 8.20 (Noise) of the LMC.

## GENERATOR LOCATIONS:

Generators are not allowed in the front yard. Generators are allowed in rear yards and side yards, and must maintain a minimum of 3 feet clearance for emergency access.

## ROOF INSTALLATIONS & SLAB SUPPORTS:

Mechanical equipment may be installed on the roof when the following conditions are met:

Engineered plans are submitted and approved for the construction of the screening and adequacy of the roof support and equipment anchorage. Screens and anchorage shall be designed for all California requirements for structural design including wind and seismic loads. Adequacy of the roof support and equipment anchorage shall consider the vertical and lateral load capacities of the latest California Residential Code and California Building Code. Generator slab or footing supports must be designed to resist all vertical and lateral loads.

## PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

The Permit Application valuation is based on all labor and materials, including the generator, automatic transfer switch (ATS) or manual transfer switch (MTS), and a fuel tank (if applicable). Please refer to the current California Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Fire

Codes for detailed code requirements. San Joaquin Air Pollution District approval may be required for large diesel and gas-fired generators.

Please also refer to the General Building Permit Submittal Guidelines for instructions on proper applications to the City.

Please submit a site plan or survey at the time of application. The Site Plan must include:

- Clearly marked proposed location of installation
- Location of the fuel tanks
- Indication of all dimensions from property lines and distances from adjacent dwelling structures
- Indication of any easements
- Indication that the generator exhaust is not installed any closer than ten feet from any opening into the dwelling structure
  - This includes doors, windows and attic ventilation openings, including neighboring openings
- The Flood Zone and Base Flood Elevations; all generators, electrical equipment and fuel tanks shall be installed 12 inches above the Base Flood Elevation

A copy of the Manufacturer's Specifications/Cut Sheets for the generator, the ATS/MTS, and any fuel storage tanks must be submitted, showing listings from a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

A separate Gas Permit for natural gas, LP, or diesel fuels will be required. Gas contractors can apply for and obtain this permit. Gas riser diagrams must be included. Gas piping tests shall be required.

An Electrical Permit must include a complete riser diagram showing the locations of electrical equipment, grounding and how the system is to be installed. See California Electrical Code Sections 225.31 – 225.39, Article 702, 445 and all other applicable codes.

- Along with the Electrical Permit submittal, load calculations for automatic means of transfer systems must be submitted. General lighting receptacle loads may be derated per CEC. All heating appliance and motor loads shall be figured at 100% unless automatic load shedding is provided. All continuous loads (3 or more hours) shall be figured at 125%. Intended loads shall be indicated on load calculations and/or panel schedules.
- Manual means of transfer: Loads may be chosen by the user, per CEC Section 702.2. Loads shall not exceed rating of generator output.