

Issued January 30, 2015, the California Public Utilities Commission *Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Policies, Procedures and Rules for the California Solar Initiative, the Self-Generation Incentive Program and Other Distributed Generation Issues* (pg. 79-80) lists the minimum standards GRID Alternatives had to meet in California when a third-party ownership (TPO) model was adopted under the Single Family Affordable Solar Homes (SASH) program. Source: [California Public Utilities Commission Rulemaking 12-11-005/Decision 15-01-027](#)

- Ensure Single Family Affordable Solar Homes customers receive at least 50% of the savings, as compared to standard utility rates, from the solar generating equipment;
- Reduce or eliminate barriers for customers with poor credit (low FICO scores) to qualify and participate;
- Address concerns that homeowners may have about moving or selling their home during the TPO contract term;
- Cover maintenance, operations, inverter replacement, and monitoring;
- Prohibit liens on homes;
- Minimize the risk to the low-income customer that the solar system would be removed for delinquent payments;
- Ensure that all costs are apparent and up front and that there is no risk that the TPO deal would result in an additional financial burden to the family;
- Standardize financial terms for low-income customers where possible;
- Protect the customer against terms that could change after contract signing;
- Require that TPO agreements note the potential for additional costs associated with the contract, if applicable;
- Require the TPO provider to clearly explain that rate changes will affect the economics of a power purchase agreement; and
- Require that TPO agreement provisions spell out what happens in the event that the solar financing company defaults.