

Title: Nfpa 855 fire

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Is NFPA 855 a fire safety standard?

In a recent article on grid-scale battery energy storage system (BESS) fire safety for our quarterly journal PV Tech Power (Vol.43), Drew Bandhauer, BESS engineer at developer Leeward Renewable Energy, described NFPA 855 as "the primary fire standard guiding BESS site design and installation" for the industry. The latest is the 2026 edition.

What's new in NFPA 855?

First, the new 2026 edition of NFPA 855 has stricter fire and explosion testing protocols. Note that NFPA 855 refers to testing as "fire and explosion testing protocols" instead of just the "large-scale fire test" terminology that the IFC uses.

What are NFPA 855 requirements for energy storage systems?

Electrical and Wiring Safety - Proper electrical wiring and connections are critical for fire safety in energy storage systems. NFPA 855 outlines specific requirements for cable management, grounding, and circuit protection to ensure that electrical components do not pose a fire risk.

What is NFPA 855 fire and explosion testing?

Note that NFPA 855 refers to testing as "fire and explosion testing protocols" instead of just the "large-scale fire test" terminology that the IFC uses. The requirements are relocated from Section 9.1.5 to Section 9.2, and titled "Fire and Explosion Testing."

Learn how to comply with NFPA 855 battery fire code requirements for energy storage systems. Key rules, spacing, UL 9540A testing, and documentation steps.

NFPA just released the 2026 edition of their fire code. This article explains the changes in NFPA 855: Standards for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems.

This standard provides the minimum requirements for mitigating the hazards associated with ESS.

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The BESS market is accelerating--but so is regulatory scrutiny. High-profile incidents have reshaped how the industry approaches fire safety, and NFPA 855 has become the definitive ...

NFPA 855 outlines specific requirements for cable management, grounding, and circuit protection to ensure that electrical components do not pose a fire risk. The standard also ...

NFPA 855: Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems (ESS), produced in updated form on a three-year cycle, provides minimum installation requirements for ...

While NFPA 855 is a standard and not a code, its provisions are enforced by NFPA 1, Fire Code, in which Chapter 52 outlines requirements, along with references to specific sections in NFPA 855.

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