

# NCC 2022 Energy Efficiency Volume 2

## Q&A

*The following answers have been provided to questions asked during the [NCC 2022 Energy Efficiency Volume 2 webinar](#) on 7 September 2023.*

*The answers provided are correct as of 18 September 2023.*

### **Where can I find a copy of the presentation slides?**

A copy of the presentation slides and recording of the webinar are available from the [VBA website](#).

### **Specification 44 contains the method of calculating the applicable limits. The calculations require "heating degree hours", "cooling degree hours", and "dehumidification gram hours". How do we find these figures?**

The figures can be located using the CSIRO Typical Meteorological Year weather files for building energy modelling, available on the CSIRO website: <https://aqdatashop.csiro.au/future-climate-typical-meteorological-year>

### **Can we use the calculator supplied by ABCB for the new energy rating?**

Yes, the ABCB calculator can be used to calculate the new energy rating.

### **With Australia using just NatHERS/first rate 5, will the regulations change for us to use the Eco assessment feature within Archicad software from Graphisoft?**

The ABCB can help determine if that software is appropriate and public consultation is an integral part of the Australian Building Code Board's commitment to delivering contemporary and evidence-based standards and schemes and for review of suggestions. You can contact the ABCB by visiting this website: <https://abcb.gov.au/support>

### **Does Climate Zone 6 and 7 require underfloor insulation, even when using NatHERS? Subsequent question, is this an 'average' as I wouldn't insulate under edge and intermediate beams? Has anybody calculated the R value of 200mm thick B Grade crushed rock? Are 'insulation' manufacturers calculating an 'average' for their products?**

As far as we are aware, crushed rock R values have not been calculated. Regarding manufacturers, the appropriate method to check this would be to request the data and specification details for the product to ascertain its insulation value.

### **What should I do if the requirements of the local planning scheme regarding roofs with a Solar Reflective Value (SRV) of less than 0.5 contradict the National Construction Code (NCC)?**

Under certain circumstances there may be exemptions, however we would recommend contacting the local municipal council in regard to the relevant process.



### **Will the Universal Certificate address the S42C4 DTS provisions?**

Please refer to the guidance on the requirements using the following links from the ABCB:  
<https://www.abcb.gov.au/resources/videos/ncc-2022-webinar-series-ncc-2022-and-nathers-tools>  
[https://www.nathers.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-07/NatHERS\\_2023\\_Certificate\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.nathers.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-07/NatHERS_2023_Certificate_Guide.pdf)

**B6D2 and B7D4 of Vol 3 require a rainwater tank. Why does the webinar say we don't need one in Victoria? Can you also confirm if B6D2/B7D4 apply to all class 1 – e.g., extensions, alterations etc, or just to new dwellings like the 2019 requirements.**

The intent of the transitional provisions is to support plumbers who install a SWH to a new Class 1 building after 1 May 2024, where the Class 1 building has a building permit issued in accordance with BCA V2 2019 and proposed to have a SWH installed to comply with the Vic variation. This would allow the plumber to install the SWH – rather than having to comply with PCA 2022, or they can still opt to install a rainwater tank instead for the purposes of complying with the Vic variation. We will be releasing further information regarding this topic in October 2023.

**Explain the motive as to why Victoria does not require a rainwater tank or solar water heating anymore?**

Information about this policy are provided by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). More information is available at: <https://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/>

**Is the new NCC documented keeping in mind that there won't be gas in Victoria's new buildings.**

The objective of the NCC energy efficiency changes is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and the process of removal of gas has been considered in the latest editions of the NCC.

**When will Blower Door Tests become mandatory on every house built?**

We are not aware of when this will occur, however you can raise your concerns and instigate a change with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water using the following webpage: <https://www.nathers.gov.au/contact-us>

**The VBA have acknowledged that there are inconsistencies in EE-04. Are these going to be updated? I get building surveyors asking for different methodologies for basically the same project.**

The Practice Note is currently under review and will be updated to further clarify the energy requirements.

*For further information or clarification please contact the Technical and Regulation Team via [technicalenquiry@vba.vic.gov.au](mailto:technicalenquiry@vba.vic.gov.au)*

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