

<b>Replace or Upgrade Water Heater; Residential and Small Energy Consuming Customers Only</b>	<b>Activity No.</b>
	<b>WH1</b>

## 1. ACTIVITY SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS

**Class 1 and class 2 dwellings** are as defined by the National Construction Code.

**Gas water heater or solar gas** means a water heater that has a primary or boost fuel source of natural gas (methane) or LPG.

**Small energy consuming customer** means a non-residential customer consuming less than 160 MWh of electricity per National Meter Identifier in the 12 months prior to any upgrade works credited under this specification.

## 2. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION (SUMMARY)

Install or replace a water heater.

## 3. ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- (1) A new or replacement water heater installed to service a South Australian:
  - established class 1 dwelling, or
  - class 2 dwelling (new or established), or
  - small energy consuming customer.
- (2) The following is excluded:
  - Installation of a water heater undertaken as part of class 1 building work requiring approval under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*. This includes a water heater installed to service a new class 1 dwelling.

## 4. INSTALLED PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS

- (3) Only gas, solar electric, solar gas or heat pump water heaters are included in the specification.
- (4) Gas water heaters shall be rated at a minimum of 5 stars in accordance with AS/NZS 5263.1.2 and listed in the Directory of AGA Certified Products.
- (3)(a) Solar electric and gas boosted solar systems with a tank size  $\leq 220$  litres installed before 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 10$  STCs for Zone 3.
- (3)(b) Solar electric and gas boosted solar systems with a tank size  $\leq 220$  litres installed on or after 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 8$  STCs for Zone 3.
- (4)(a) Solar electric and gas boosted solar systems  $220 < \text{tank size} \leq 400$  litres installed before 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 16$  STCs for Zone 3.
- (4)(b) Solar electric and gas boosted solar systems  $220 < \text{tank size} \leq 400$  litres installed on or after 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 13$  STCs for Zone 3.
- (5)(a) Solar electric and gas boosted solar systems  $400 < \text{tank size} \leq 700$  litres installed before 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 22$  STCs for Zone 3.
- (5)(b) Solar electric and gas boosted solar systems  $400 < \text{tank size} \leq 700$  litres installed on or after 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 19$  STCs for Zone 3.

- (6)(a) Heat pump water heaters installed before 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 16$  STCs when assessed under AS/NZS 4234 for Zone 3 and shall earn  $\geq 15$  STCs when assessed under AS/NZS 4234 for Zone 4.
- (6)(b) Heat pump water heaters installed on or after 1 January 2026 shall earn  $\geq 13$  STCs when assessed under AS/NZS 4234 for Zone 3 and shall earn  $\geq 13$  STCs when assessed under AS/NZS 4234 for Zone 4.

## 5. MINIMUM INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

- (1) The water heater must be installed in accordance with all relevant installation standards including, but not limited, to:
- (i) AS/NZS 3500 (Plumbing and drainage standards)
  - (ii) AS/NZS 3500.4 (Plumbing and drainage – Heated water services)
  - (iii) AS/NZS 5263.1.2 (Gas fired water heaters for hot water supply)
  - (iv) AS/NZS 5601.1 (Gas installations, Part 1: General installations)
  - (v) AS/NZS 60335.2.21 (Electric storage water heaters)
  - (vi) AS/NZS 60335.2.35 (Instantaneous water heaters).
- (2) The water heater must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s installation instructions and specifications.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (a), any replaced water heater must be removed from the premises.
- a) Where the replaced water heater is a low-pressure water heater installed in a roof cavity, the replaced water heater must be removed from the premises unless otherwise authorised by the Office of the Technical Regulator.
- (4) The activity must be completed and certified in accordance with any relevant code or codes of practice and other relevant legislation applying to the activity, including any licensing, registration, statutory approval, activity certification, health, safety, environmental or waste disposal requirements.
- (5) Where required, a Certificate of Compliance must be provided and retained for verification purposes.

## 6. NORMALISED REPS GIGAJOULES

The normalised REPS gigajoules achieved from undertaking this activity is equal to:

Normalised REPS Gigajoules = Productivity factor, as per the table below:

Activity Description	Productivity Factor	
	For a water heater installed to service an established class 1 dwelling that is not connected to a reticulated gas supply or a class 2 dwelling (new or established) or a small energy consuming customer	For a water heater installed to service an established class 1 dwelling that is connected to a reticulated gas supply
Install gas water heater with a rating of 5-stars or more	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>
Install a gas water heater with a rating of 6-stars or more	<b>58</b>	<b>5</b>

Install a solar electric water heater	<b>129</b>	<b>50</b>
Install a solar gas water heater	<b>146</b>	<b>66</b>
Install a heat pump water heater	<b>113</b>	<b>33</b>

## 7. GUIDANCE NOTES (INFORMATIVE ONLY – NOT MANDATORY)

- (1) This activity is to encourage households and small energy consuming customers to exceed, where applicable, water heater installation requirements. These requirements are given effect by the South Australian Water Heater Installation Requirements under the [National Construction Code Volume Three – Plumbing Code of Australia](#).
- (2) There may be restrictions on the use of roof mounted systems that use ethylene glycol (or other anti-freeze agents) where roof water is collected for human consumption.
- (3) Products listed by the Clean Energy Regulator can be found on <http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/>
- (4) The Office of the Technical Regulator may, in exceptional circumstances and as the Office of the Technical Regulator thinks fit, grant authorisation under clause 5(3). Refer to: <https://www.energymining.sa.gov.au/industry/regulatory-services/office-of-the-technical-regulator/plumbing-trades>
- (5) All reasonable endeavours should be used to recycle removed water heaters.
- (6) Mains gas, LPG and other gas systems as included in this specification are permitted under this specification.
- (7) AGA Directory, refer to [http://www.aga.asn.au/product\\_directory](http://www.aga.asn.au/product_directory).
- (8) For the solar water heater calculator, refer to Clean Energy Regulator’s web site: <https://www.rec-registry.gov.au/rec-registry/app/calculators/swh-stc-calculator>
- (9) A reference to a standard, code or legislative instrument is a reference to the version of the standard, code or legislative instrument in force at the time the activity is undertaken, including as amended or replaced.