



**2012 BC Building Code Requirement:  
“Solar Hot Water Ready Regulations”**

**No.: PERMITS-51**  
**Date: 2014-03-26**  
**Revised: 2016-04-05**

**Purpose:**

To inform owners, designers and contractors of a requirement in the 2012 British Columbia Building Code (BCBC).

**Background:**

- Regulation of buildings in Canada is the responsibility of the Provincial and Territorial Governments. British Columbia enacts building regulation through the Local Government Act and the Local Community Charter, which also grants authority to enforce these building regulations to municipalities and regional districts. The Building Policy Branch of the Ministry of Forest and Range and Minister Responsible for Housing, is responsible for developing and maintaining the building regulations.
- The 2012 BCBC includes the “Solar Hot Water Ready Regulations”, requiring single and two family dwellings to be solar hot water ready.
- Richmond has adopted these regulations; therefore, buildings containing one dwelling unit or one dwelling unit and one secondary suite, must be designed and constructed to accommodate the “Solar Hot Water Ready Regulations”.
- A copy of the regulations is attached.

**Implementation:**

- All building permit applications submitted must comply with the “Solar Hot Water Ready Regulations”.

Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions concerning this bulletin, please contact either the Supervisor, Permits Section at 604-276-4278; Supervisor, Building Inspections at 604-276-4354; or Supervisor, Plumbing/Gas Inspections at 604-276-4323.

see attached →



**PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**REGULATION OF THE MINISTER OF ENERGY, MINES AND NATURAL GAS**  
**AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR HOUSING AND DEPUTY PREMIER**

*Local Government Act*

Ministerial Order No. **M 085**

I, Rich Coleman, Minister of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas and Minister Responsible for Housing and Deputy Premier, order that,

- (a) effective June 21, 2013, the Solar Hot Water Ready Regulation, B.C. Reg. 101/2011, is amended as set out in the attached Appendix, and
- (b) an applicant for a building permit referred to in Part 21 of the *Local Government Act* or Part 2 of the *Community Charter* is exempt from the Solar Hot Water Ready Regulation in respect of a building permit application submitted before June 21, 2013.

**MAR 28 2013**

Date



Minister of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas  
and Minister Responsible for Housing and  
Deputy Premier

*(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)*

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: *Local Government Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 323, s. 692

Other: M145/2011

March 12, 2012

R/182/2013/27

## APPENDIX

1 *Section 1 of the Solar Hot Water Ready Regulation, B.C. Reg. 101/2011, is amended by striking out "2006" and substituting "2012".*

2 *Section 2 is repealed and the following substituted:*

### Application

2 This regulation applies to the local government jurisdictions set out in the Schedule.

3 *Section 4 is repealed and the following substituted:*

### Structural requirements

4 (1) Except as permitted by subsection (2) of this section, structural members located in areas referred to in section 3 (1) must be designed to accommodate

(a) a uniform dead load of 0.24 kPa, in addition to design loads required by the British Columbia Building Code, and

(b) anticipated point loads where it is known that the solar collectors for a solar domestic hot water system will not be directly surface-mounted.

(2) Roof trusses located in areas referred to in section 3 (1) must be designed to accommodate the anticipated load, including

(a) a uniform dead load of 0.24kPa, in addition to design loads required by the British Columbia Building Code, and

(b) point loads resulting from the uniform dead load referred to in paragraph (a).

4 *Section 5 (1) is amended by striking out "Two straight, continuous" and substituting "A minimum of 2".*

5 *The following Schedule is added:*

## SCHEDULE

(Section 2)

Local Government Jurisdictions
Cariboo Regional District
City of Abbotsford
City of Campbell River
City of Chilliwack
City of Colwood
City of Cranbrook

<b>Local Government Jurisdictions</b>
<b>City of Dawson Creek</b>
<b>City of Duncan</b>
<b>City of Fernie</b>
<b>City of Fort St. John</b>
<b>City of Kelowna</b>
<b>City of Kimberley</b>
<b>City of Langley</b>
<b>City of New Westminster</b>
<b>City of North Vancouver</b>
<b>City of Penticton</b>
<b>City of Pitt Meadows</b>
<b>City of Port Coquitlam</b>
<b>City of Port Moody</b>
<b>City of Richmond</b>
<b>Corporation of Delta</b>
<b>Cowichan Valley Regional District</b>
<b>District of Coldstream</b>
<b>District of Elkford</b>
<b>District of Hudson's Hope</b>
<b>District of Invermere</b>
<b>District of Maple Ridge</b>
<b>District of Metchosin</b>
<b>District of North Vancouver</b>
<b>District of Peachland</b>
<b>District of Sechelt</b>
<b>District of Sparwood</b>
<b>District of Tofino</b>
<b>District of West Vancouver</b>
<b>Greater Vancouver Regional District</b>

<b>Local Government Jurisdictions</b>
<b>Municipality of North Cowichan</b>
<b>Resort Municipality of Whistler</b>
<b>Squamish-Lillooet Regional District</b>
<b>Sunshine Coast Regional District</b>
<b>Town of Qualicum Beach</b>
<b>Town of Sidney</b>
<b>Town of View Royal</b>
<b>Township of Esquimalt</b>
<b>Township of Langley</b>
<b>Village of Ashcroft</b>
<b>Village of Kaslo</b>
<b>Village of Midway</b>
<b>Village of Valemount</b>