Advisory Note



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BCA 2010 - Energy efficiency changes in Western Australia

The Building Code of Australia (BCA) 2010 will include new national provisions to increase the energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings. These relate to Section J in Volume 1 and Part 2.6 and Part 3.12 in Volume 2.

Residential Buildings

The BCA 2010 will contain a Western Australian variation for residential buildings (Class 1, sole occupancy units of a Class 2, Class 4 parts of buildings and associated Class 10 buildings) that will defer the national provisions until **1 May 2011**, which is in line with requests from the building industry for sufficient time to adapt to the new provisions.

Commercial Buildings

The energy efficiency requirements contained in the BCA 2010 for all other Classes of building will commence on **1 May 2010**.

Both residential and commercial buildings are subject to an additional 12-month transitional period available in the *Building Regulations 1989*, at the discretion of the approval authority. The Building Commission recommends that approval authorities utilise this transitional period.

The Australian Building Codes Board and the Building Commission will run Information Seminars in April and May 2010 detailing the new provisions and variations.

For further information on the variations and the seminars, please visit the Building Commission website – www.buildingcommission.wa.gov.au

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