

No. 780

28 September 2012

**NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS ACT  
(ACT 5 OF 2008)**

**COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR INTEGRAL AND CLOSE-COUPLED DOMESTIC  
SOLAR WATER HEATERS, AND THERMAL COLLECTORS FOR DOMESTIC SOLAR  
WATER HEATING SYSTEMS  
(VC 9004)**

It is hereby made known under Section 13 (4) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, (Act 5 of 2008), that Dr. Rob Davies the Minister of Trade and Industry, on the recommendation of the NRCS Board, intends to promulgate a Compulsory Specification for integral and close-coupled domestic Solar Water Heaters, and Thermal Collectors For Domestic Solar Water Heating Systems, as set out in the attached Schedule.

Any person who wishes to comment on the intention of the Minister to promulgate the Compulsory Specification concerned shall submit their comments, in writing, to the Chief Executive Officer, National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications, Private Bag X25, Brooklyn, 0075, on or before the date two (2) months after the date of publication of this notice.



Dr. Rob Davies, MP

**MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**SCHEDULE****VC 9004****COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR INTEGRAL AND CLOSE-COUPLED DOMESTIC SOLAR WATER HEATERS,  
AND THERMAL COLLECTORS FOR DOMESTIC SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEMS****1. SCOPE**

This compulsory specification covers the requirements for integral and close-coupled solar water heaters for use in domestic, dwelling and similar applications.

This compulsory specification also covers thermal collectors for domestic solar water heating systems.

**2. DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this compulsory specification the definitions in SANS 1307 *Domestic solar water systems*, the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act 103 of 1977 and regulations thereto, regulations relating to Compulsory National Standards and Measures to Conserve Water as published in GN R509 in GG 22355 of 8 June 2001 under the Water Services Act (Act 108 of 1997) and the following shall apply:

**2.1 applicant:**

A manufacturer, importer, supplier or system integrator applying for approval of solar water heaters or specified components thereof. The manufacturer or importer shall be an existing legal entity within the Republic of South Africa.

**2.2 approval:**

Confirmation by the NRCS that a solar water heater or a specified component satisfies the requirements of this Compulsory Specification.

**2.3 Domestic solar water heater:**

A solar water heating system that supplies hot water to a dwelling intended to house one or two family units.

**2.4 manufacturer:**

Entity that manufactures solar water heating systems and/or components thereof.

**2.5 Minister:**

The Minister of Trade and Industry.

**2.6 NRCS:**

The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications, established by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008).

**2.7 system integrator**

Entity that supplies domestic solar water heating systems to an installer.

### **3. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

3.1 Integral and close-coupled domestic solar water heaters shall comply with the requirements of SANS 1307 *Domestic solar water heaters*.

3.2 Thermal collectors for domestic solar water heaters that are imported or sold as separate components of a domestic solar water heating system shall comply with the requirements for collectors in Section 4.5 of SANS 1307.

3.3 The applicant shall ensure that every type of solar water heater and/or thermal collector has been approved by the NRCS in accordance with the requirements of Annex A of this compulsory specification before manufacture, import, sale or supply.

3.4 The applicant shall ensure that approved solar water heaters and/or thermal collectors continue to conform to the mandatory requirements of this compulsory specification.

3.5 The applicant shall inform the NRCS of any change in the material, method of manufacture, design or components affecting any mandatory requirement of this compulsory specification. In the event of such change/s the NRCS may, at its discretion, demand the submission of fresh evidence of conformity or a new application for approval.

### **4. CONFORMITY TO REFERENCED STANDARDS**

For the purposes of this compulsory specification, a new edition of a referenced standard shall become effective 12 months from the date of publication as a South African National Standard. When a new edition of a referenced standard is published, products originally approved in accordance with the previous edition of that standard may on application have their approval extended by the NRCS.

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**ANNEX A - APPROVAL OF INTEGRAL AND CLOSE-COUPLED DOMESTIC SOLAR WATER HEATERS, AND COLLECTORS FOR SOLAR WATER HEATERS****A.1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL**

The applicant shall apply to the NRCS for approval of every type of solar water heater. The application shall be accompanied by the following:

**A.1.1** Technical specifications and drawings compiled in sufficient detail to identify the type and model of the solar water heater, method of assembly, and materials of construction.

**A.1.2** Details of the manufacturing plant/s where the solar water heater is produced;

**A.1.3** Evidence of conformity including test reports by a conformity assessment body recognized in terms of the NRCS's Conformity Assessment Policy issued less than 12 months before the date of submission to the NRCS, that prove compliance with all the requirements of this compulsory specification;

**A.1.4** The markings to be applied to each type and model of solar water heater;

**A.1.5** Information for users including instructions for use;

**A.1.6** Information to the satisfaction of the NRCS regarding the measures taken by the applicant to ensure ongoing conformity with the mandatory requirements of this compulsory specification; and

**A.1.8** Any reasonable additional information as may be requested by the NRCS.

**AA.2 APPROVAL**

**A.2.1** The NRCS shall assess the evidence of conformity supplied by the applicant and shall grant approval when the mandatory requirements have been met.

**A.2.2** The NRCS shall assign a unique number to each approved type and model of solar water heater and collector.

**A.2.3** The NRCS shall confirm that approval has been granted by means of a Letter of Authority certificate bearing the approval number referred to in paragraph A.2.2.

**A.2.4** The approval granted with respect to solar water heaters and collectors pursuant to this compulsory specification may be withdrawn by the NRCS at any time, by giving written notice to the applicant, if the requirements have not been met or maintained.