

ESS Reference Table

29 August 2025

The *Energy Savings Scheme (Amendment No.1) 2025* commences on **12 September 2025**. Detailed changes are set out in the table below.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
All methods and activities – changes start on commencement		
Makes unsolicited doorknocking ineligible – Clause 5.4 (r), 10 - Definitions	An activity connected with unsolicited doorknocking will not be a recognised activity and will therefore not be able to create certificates.	Update your training material. Make it clear that third-party marketing contractors must not do any unsolicited doorknocking from 12 September 2025 .
Adds "Banned End-User Equipment" clause and definitions – Clause 6.10, 10 - Definitions	ACP must not create ESCs for an implementation that involves the installation of a new or replacement "Banned End-User Equipment". This change is consistent with the current requirement in the PDRS Rule.	Stay up to date with notices published by IPART. If a banned equipment notice is published, review the notice to understand what equipment has been banned and the time period for the ban. Ensure you don't create certificates from implementations that include banned equipment.
Eligibility for accreditation clauses removed from the Rule – Clause 5.6, 5.7, 5.8	The <i>Electricity Supply (General) Regulation 2014</i> sets out grounds for refusal for an application for accreditation.	No action needed.
Climate zone definitions – Clause 10 Definitions Also see new table headings for Tables A26 and A27	Clarifies which climate zones apply to heat pump hot water and air conditioner activities.	Check you understand which table and climate zone to use for your activity.
BASIX definition updated – Clause 5.4 (b)	Updated to clarify jurisdiction references, define an Instrument and refer to the correct Schedule in the regulation.	No action needed.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
Updates Acts, instruments and standards reference and definitions – Clause 10.4A.1, 10.4A.2	Clarifies that any reference to a standard (subject to clauses 5.3 (d) and 10.4A.2), an Act or an Instrument is taken to be a reference to that document as in force from time to time.	Keep track of changes to various standards, Acts, or Instruments that are relevant to your activities.
Suspended activities are not eligible – Clause 6.11	An ACP cannot create certificates for suspended activities.	Make note of activities that have been suspended and don't create certificates from any suspended activities.
HEER Method – multiple start dates (in chronological order)		
Introduce monthly reporting requirement for HEER in the Rule – Clause 6.12	Requires ACPs to report implementations in a calendar month by the end of the following month. Note that ACPs are already required to report on HEER implementations as a condition of accreditation.	Keep reporting by end of following month. If you have no activities to report, submit an email titled "NIL RETURN FOR HEER ACTIVITIES [INSERT REPORTING MONTH]", to ensure you have complied with requirements. If you also have a IHEAB accreditation, report HEER and IHEAB data in the same spreadsheet.
Air conditioner activity (D16) Lifetimes increased from 10 to 12 years – Activity Definition D16 – Lifetime table	Impacts ESCs calculation	Update internal systems and processes to correctly calculate energy savings from air conditioner implementations from 12 September 2025 .
Pool pump (D5) Deemed Activity Electricity Savings definitions have been updated. – Activity Definition D5 – Activity Energy Savings	Changes data used to calculate capacity for pool pumps to use 'Maximum Tested Input Power' from the GEMS Registry instead of 'Nameplate Input Power'. Note that Maximum Tested Input Power is also known as High in the GEMS Registry Projected Annual Energy Consumption (PAEC) is also known as Labelled Energy Consumption in the GEMS Registry	Update internal systems and processes to correctly calculate energy savings for pool pump implementations from 12 September 2025 .
'Where required' added to Implementation Requirements – Activity Definition D5 – Implementation Requirement #3	Clarifies that qualified licence holders are required in certain scenarios to comply with the relevant standards and legislation. For instance, if the old pool pump was hardwired but the new one is plugged-in: then work to remove the old one should be performed by a licenced electrician.	Make sure appropriate installers carry out installations for pool pumps. Where electrical work is required, you must ensure that it is done by a licenced electrician, this is listed in your installer register and you support that with evidence.
Heat pump water heater activities D17 and D19 A new implementation requirement for split system heat pump water heater with refrigerant flows between the evaporator and tank added – Activity Definitions D17, D19 – Implementation requirement #4	Where the replaced equipment is a split system with refrigerant flows between the evaporator and tank, the location requirements of AS/NZS 5149.3:2016 and manufacturer installation recommendations must be followed.	Make sure licensed tradespeople carry out installations appropriately and in line with the Australian Standard and manufacturer installation recommendations from 12 September 2025 .

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
Introduce minimum 5 years 'warranty against defects' for heat pump water heaters unit and tank – Activity Definitions D17 and D19 – Implementation requirement #5 See Clause 10 for a definition of warranty against defects.	From 1 December 2025 heat pump water heaters with an insulated storage volume of 700L or less must have a warranty of at least 5 years against defects. If the person giving the warranty is not in Australia, the name and contact details of who to contact in Australia, in the event of product failure, is required.	Talk to your water heater manufacturer. Make sure 5-year warranties are in place for the relevant heat pump units and tanks installed from 1 December 2025. Warranties must include an Australian contact in case the product fails. Keep evidence of the warranty.
Gas-fired water heater / boiler / space heater activities D11, D12 and D21 discontinued from 1 July 2026 – Clause 9.8.6. See also Activity Definitions D11, D12 and D21 for end dates.	Implementations and certificate registrations for D11, D12 and D21, will not be allowed after 30 June 2026.	Complete implementations and certificate registrations for D11, D12 and D21 by 30 June 2026.
IHEAB Method – multiple start dates (in chronological order)		
Introduces and sets monthly reporting requirements for IHEAB – Clause 6.12	Requires ACPs to report implementations carried out in a calendar month by the end of the following month. IPART will determine manner and form of information required to be provided. Reporting to commence for October implementations. First report to be provided to IPART by 30 November 2025	Develop systems and processes to ensure you can meet monthly reporting requirements. Send your first report to IPART by 30 November 2025 for October implementations (even if you did not do any activities in October). Use the ESS Example Template to report, save it as CSV file, and send it via email to ess.compliance@ipart.nsw.gov.au, or If you have no activities to report, submit an email titled "NIL RETURN FOR IHEAB ACTIVITIES [INSERT REPORTING MONTH]", to ensure you have complied with requirements. If you also have a HEER accreditation, report HEER and IHEAB data in the same spreadsheet.
Air conditioner lifetimes increased from 10 to 12 years – Activity Definition F4 - Lifetime	Increases energy savings.	Update internal systems and processes to correctly calculate energy savings from air conditioner implementations from 12 September 2025.
Refrigerated Display Cabinets (RDC) – F1.1 and F1.2	Previously all classes of RDCs were suspended under F1.1.	Only use eligible RDC product classes from 12 September 2025.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
RDC remote units under Class 12 to 15, reactivated for F11. RDC integral units under Class 1 to 11 are suspended for F1.2 – Clause 6.11 (a) and (b)	• Replacements of remote RDCs are reactivated for Classes 12 -15 under F11. • New installations of integral RDCs are suspended for Classes 1-11 under F1.2. • Only remote units for Classes 12 -15 are allowed under F1.2.	
Increased minimum co-payment - Clause 9.9.1(e). RDCs with more than 1 display side are no longer eligible – Activity Definition F1.1 and F1.2 – Equipment Requirements #3.	Co-payment increased from \$200 to \$1,000 per implementation. 2-4 sided units are no longer allowed.	Only use eligible RDC product classes with 1 display side to create certificates from 12 September 2025.
Gas-fired steam boilers (F8) and water heater / boiler (F9) discontinued from 1 July 2026 - Clause 9.9.6 See also Activity Definitions F8 and F9.	Implementations and certificate registrations for F8 and F9, will not be allowed after 30 June 2026.	Complete implementations and certificate registrations for D11, D12 and D21 by 30 June 2026. Make sure you have all evidence requirements and information necessary for certificate creation. Certificate registrations and pre-registration audits involving these gas activities must be completed by 30 June 2026.
Hot water heat pumps (F16 and F17) Increased minimum co-payment - Clause 9.9.1(e). Limit the number of ESCs that can be created to 5,000 for each heat pump implementation - Clause 9.9.5.	Co-payment has been increased from \$200 to \$1000 per implementation. A maximum of 5,000 ESCs can be created from one heat pump hot water implementation. An implementation is one heat pump OR two or more heat pumps joined by manifold.	From 12 September 2025 you must: Collect a minimum of \$1,000 co-payment for each implementation.
Introduce a confidence factor in energy savings calculations and update definitions in Activity Definitions F16 and F17 – Equipment Energy Savings	The new Confidence Factor and limit of 5,000 ESCs per implementation, will reduce certificate creation.	Update your certificate calculation methods to include the confidence factor, updated definitions and limit certificates from a single implementation to 5,000.
Addition to implementation requirement for split system heat pump water heaters with refrigerant flows between the evaporator and tank – Activity Definitions F16 and F17 Implementation requirements #4	Where the replaced equipment is a split system with refrigerant flows between the evaporator and tank, the location requirements of AS/NZS 5149.3:2016 and manufacturer installation recommendations must be followed.	Make sure licensed tradespeople carry out installations appropriately and in line with the Australian standard and manufacturer installation recommendations from 12 September 2025.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
Introduce minimum 5 years 'warranty against defects' for heat pump water heater unit and tank – Activity Definitions F16 and F17 Implementation requirements #5. See Clause 10 for definition of warranty against defects and Average Insulated Storage Volume.	From 1 December 2025, heat pump water heaters with an Average Insulated Storage Volume 700L or less must have a warranty of at least 5 years against defects. If the person giving the warranty is not in Australia, the name and contact details of who to contact in Australia, in the event of product failure, is required.	Talk to your water heater manufacturer. Make sure 5-year warranties are in place for the relevant heat pump units and tanks installed from 1 December 2025.
Commercial Lighting Energy Savings Formula (CLESF) method - multiple start dates (in chronological order)		
Applications for accreditation for the Commercial Lighting Energy Savings Formula (CLESF) will not be accepted on or after 12 September 2025 - Clause 5.10 CLESF product acceptance applications will not be accepted after 31 January 2026 - Clause 9.4.1 (f) CLESF method discontinued after 31 March 2026 - Clause 9.4.1(j) Implementations (Clause 9.4.1 (j)) and certificate registrations (Clause 9.4.5) must occur on or before 31 March 2026	Application for accreditations will not be accepted on or after 12 September 2025. CLESF product acceptance applications will not be accepted after 31 January 2026. Implementations and certificate registrations under CLESF not allowed after 31 March 2026.	Nothing, we will contact CLESF applicants to discuss the application. All product acceptance applications must be made by 31 January 2026. Complete all implementations by 31 March 2026. Register ESCs on or before 31 March 2026. Make you sure you have all evidence requirements and information necessary for certificate creation. Allow sufficient time to complete pre-registration audits and register certificates before the last date for registrations.
Sale of New Appliances (SONA) method		
Applications for accreditation for the SONA will not be accepted on or after 12 September 2025 - Clause 5.10 Sale of New Appliances (SONA) method discontinued after 30 November 2025 - Clause 9.3 Note Implementations (Clause 9.3.1(f)) and certificate registrations (Clause 9.3.7) must occur on or before 30 November 2025	Applications for accreditation for SONA will not be accepted on or after 12 September 2025. Implementations and certificate registrations under SONA not allowed after 30 November 2025.	Nothing, we will contact SONA applicants to discuss the application. Complete all implementations and register ESCs by 30 November 2025. Make you sure you have all evidence requirements and information necessary for certificate creation. Allow sufficient time to complete pre-registration audits and register certificates before the last date for registrations.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
PIAM&V and MBM methods – multiple start dates (in chronological order)		
PIAM&V Clause 7A.21 (b) has been updated and Clause 7A.21A has been deleted, MBM Clause 8.4A (b) has been updated and Clause 8.4B has been deleted - lighting product acceptance no longer required	Lighting product acceptance requirements for PIAM&V and MBM methods have been removed from 12 September 2025 . This has been replaced with a requirement for lighting products to meet safety or performance requirements as published by the Scheme Administrator.	Ensure that lighting equipment installed complies with any requirements relating to safety or performance published from time to time by the Scheme Administrator. Provide this evidence at audit. PIAM&V and MBM method guides will be updated at rule commencement. Please refer to the relevant method guide for information on how to comply with this requirement.
Gas-fired water heater / boiler / space heater activities discontinued from 1 July 2026 - Clause 5.4 (s).	Implementations for gas-fired water heater / boiler / space heaters will not be allowed after 30 June 2026 and includes these activities under PIAM&V and MBM.	Make sure you time your implementations to be completed by 30 June 2026 . There is no restriction on certificate registrations. Implementations that have already been completed can continue be used to create certificates, do top-up or annual creation. There are no changes to gas equipment efficiency activities.
Public Lighting		
Public Lighting - lighting product acceptance no longer required - Clause 9.4A.1 (c) (ii)	Lighting product acceptance requirements for Public Lighting, have been removed from 12 September 2025 . This has been replaced with a requirement for lighting products to meet safety or performance requirements as published by the Scheme Administrator.	Ensure that lighting equipment installed complies with any requirements relating to safety or performance published from time to time and provide this evidence at audit. The Public Lighting method guide will be updated on 12 September 2025 . Please refer to relevant method guides for information on how to comply with this requirement.
NABERS Baseline method		
Schools and Retail stores added – Clause 8.8.1 (xi), 8.8.1 (xii) , Also see Tables A20 and A21	Schools and retail stores are now eligible to use the NABERS Baseline method to calculate energy savings.	The NABERS baseline method guide will be updated on 12 September 2025 . Read the NABERS baseline method guide. It explains the types of buildings you can use to generate certificates using the NABERS ratings.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
Transitional arrangements		
ACPs must use the previous <i>Energy Savings Scheme (Amendment No.1) Rule 2024</i> for implementations with an implementation date before 12 September 2025 - Clause 11.23	Implementations before 12 September 2025 must use Energy Savings Scheme (Amendment No.1) Rule 2024 to calculate certificates.	Use the previous version of the Rule (ESS (Amendment 1) Rule 2024 to calculate ESCs for implementations before 12 September 2025 . Use ESS (Amendment 1) Rule 2025 to calculate ESCs on or after 12 September 2025 .

Calculation Method acronyms

SONA– Sale of New Appliances, HEER– Home Energy Efficiency Retrofits, IHEAB – Installation of High Efficiency Appliances for Business, RDUE– Reducing demand using efficiency, PIAM&V– Project Impact Assessment Measurement and Verification, MBM– Metered Baseline Method, NABERS– National Australian Built Environment Rating System.