



Growth Management Queensland

Installation of air conditioners in Queensland

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Tomorrow's Queensland:
strong, green, smart, healthy and fair

Toward 
Tomorrow's Queensland

 **Queensland**
Government



Queensland's issues and drivers

- There are now >1 million air conditioners installed in South-east Queensland. Recent Energex research shows almost 80,000 homes with 4 or more systems.
- Around 1500 air conditioners are currently being installed every week.
- Energy utilities are spending several million dollars each year to build and maintain electricity network infrastructure to cope with increasing 'peak demand' that is required only 1-2% of the year. This is a major driver increasing electricity bills.
- Queensland Government's 'Toward Q2' strategy aims to cut by one-third Queenslanders' carbon footprint by 2020.



Legislative context

- **June 2008** – Improving Sustainable Housing in Queensland discussion paper. 95% of submissions supported improving the energy efficiency of air conditioners (equal highest of 11 proposed measures).
- **July 2009** – National Strategy on Energy Efficiency (Measure 2.2.1)
Increase April 2010 MEPS levels for air conditioners by 10% from October 2011.
- **1 September 2009** – QLD minimum 2.9 EER installation requirement in houses (class 1 buildings) and units (class 2 buildings) under the Queensland Development Code 4.1- Sustainable buildings (QDC 4.1).
- **1 September 2009** – QLD temporary 1 year sales ban on all air conditioners <2.9 EER.
- **October 2009** – Australian/New Zealand Standard 3823.2 released with revised MEPS and new energy labels, including AEER testing method (calculating with standby and crankcase power) and report if system has demand response capabilities.



Legislative context (cont.)

- **June 2010** – National Consultation RIS released for stakeholder comment.
- **1 September 2010** – QLD minimum 2.9 EER installation requirement extended to all building classes (1 to 10) under QDC 4.1, effectively removed ‘grandfathering’ capability for the sale of air conditioners <2.9 EER.
- **December 2010** – National Decision RIS approved by Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE). Industry advised of increased MEPS levels for 1 October 2011.
- **1 April 2011** – MEPS based on AEER (no longer EER).
- **1 October 2011** – increased MEPS levels commence.



Queensland's proposed installation requirement

Unchanged

- The updated QDC would continue to apply to:
 - all air conditioners required to be tested under AS/NZ 3823.2 i.e. single or triple-phase systems to 65kW – split systems, ducted systems and wall/window box units.
 - not evaporative, portable or multi-split systems.
 - new and replacement systems in all classes of buildings (1 to 10).

New requirement

- The proposed QDC would:
 - allow minimum 2.9 EER **or** relevant AEER level under MEPS (for type & size of system) up until 1 October 2011
 - from 1 October 2011, remove the minimum 2.9 EER from the QDC; **and**
 - adopt the minimum specified AEER levels under MEPS as the installation requirement.



Queensland's proposed installation requirement from 1 October 2011

- *Next steps...*
 - consult stakeholders about the proposed QDC amendment (letter sent 8 June 2011 + presentation at AIRAH event 15 June 2011)
 - consider stakeholder responses
 - publish amended draft QDC on DLGP website
 - publish final version of QDC on DLGP website
 - issue Building Newsflash



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