

## Information bulletin – BCA classification questions and portable buildings

26 February 2018



BCA classification determinations for Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades are now available on the Register of BCA determinations published on the VEET website.

You should review this register if you are undertaking Schedule 34 lighting upgrades in space types which are not explicitly listed in the Principal Regulations.

Review the register and updated requirements in respect of portable buildings, which apply immediately.

### **We have established a Register of BCA classification determinations and our requirements for portable buildings**

#### **Overview**

Building Code of Australia (BCA) classifications are used in Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades of the *Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Regulations 2008* (the Principal Regulations) to determine the ‘annual operating hours’ to be used in the abatement calculations for an activity undertaken under this schedule.

We have received a number of enquiries from stakeholders enquiring about the correct BCA classification to apply for specific space types under Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrade activities not explicitly listed under the Principal Regulations.

## Who is impacted by these changes?

Accredited persons that undertake, or intend to undertake, prescribed activities under Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades.

### BCA classification decisions

#### Register of BCA classification determinations

We have published a [Register of BCA classification determinations](#) on the VEET website. This register clarifies the BCA classification applicable to various space types in response to queries we have received. You are required to apply the relevant BCA classification as detailed in the register for the corresponding space type when creating activities under Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades.

Going forward, all new determinations on BCA classifications will be published in this register. You should check the register in the first instance should you seek further clarification on any space types not listed in the Principal Regulations.

### BCA classification and compliance requirements for portable buildings

Portable buildings are eligible for Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades, provided certain compliance requirements are met. The space type or building classification for a portable building is to be determined based on its current use (in the same manner by which other buildings are classified for Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades).

#### Compliance requirements for permanent portable buildings

For Schedule 34 building based lighting upgrades undertaken in portable buildings which are permanently located, you must:

- take a geo-tagged photo showing that the building is permanent,
- provide evidence of the use of the building (as specified in our compliance requirements) which will indicate the appropriate space type or building classification, and
- provide a declaration, signed by the consumer, that the structure is permanent. The declaration must state that the building has been in its current position for at least one year before the activity was undertaken (detailing the precise period of time, where possible) and that it will remain so for the foreseeable future.

#### Compliance requirements for non-permanent portable buildings

When portable buildings are not permanently located, you are required to provide written evidence of a compliance regime which ensures adequate unique identification and tracking of the portable building structure. This must be approved by the commission prior to the activity being undertaken, and is in place to minimise the risk of duplicate activities occurring.

## What does this mean for stakeholders?

You must ensure that you understand the impacts of these changes on your business. You should review the [Register of BCA classification determinations](#) and the following updated explanatory notes:

- [Explanatory note – building based lighting upgrade - part 1: activity guidance](#)
- [Explanatory note – building based lighting upgrade - part 2: compliance requirements](#)

## Where to get help

If you have any questions with respect to matters set out in this information bulletin, please contact VEET support on (03) 9032 1310 or [veet@esc.vic.gov.au](mailto:veet@esc.vic.gov.au).

## Legal context for this document

This document should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal advice and should be read in conjunction with the *Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Regulations 2008* (the Principal Regulations). In the event of inconsistency between this document and the Principal Regulations, the content in the Principal Regulations takes precedence.



The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning develops policy for the [Victorian Energy Upgrades](#) program. The program provides incentives for Victorian households and organisations to make energy efficiency improvements that save money on their energy bills and reduce Victoria's greenhouse gas emissions.

The Essential Services Commission administers the program as the 'Victorian Energy Efficiency Target scheme' under the *Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Act 2007*.

For more information, visit [veet.vic.gov.au](http://veet.vic.gov.au).