

THE ENERGY (SOLAR WATER HEATING) REGULATIONS, 2012



- **Overview**

1. **All premises** within the jurisdiction of local authorities with hot water requirements of a capacity exceeding **one hundred litres per day** shall install and use solar heating systems;
2. The Regulations provide a method to calculate hot water demand and the same is summarized as follows:

<i>Type of Building Premises</i>	<i>Specific Daily Hot Water Demand (DHWD) in litres per day at 60 °C</i>
Domestic residential houses	30 per person
Educational institutions such as colleges and boarding schools	5 per student
Health institutions such as Hospitals, Health Centres, clinics and similar medical facilities	50 per bed
Hotels, Hostels, Lodges and similar premises providing boarding services	40 per bed
Restaurants, Cafeterias and similar eating places	5 per meal
Laundries	5 per kilo of clothes

3. In calculating demand for domestic residential houses, the number of persons shall be taken to be equal to the number of bedrooms x 1.5. This therefore means that domestic residential houses with three (3) or more bedrooms are required to install the solar water heating systems as the hot water demand will be 135 litres per day or more.

i.e 3 bedrooms x 1.5 persons= 4.5 persons
4.5 persons x 30 litres per person= 135 litres

4. The Regulations required that by April 2017 all premises with hot water demands above 100 litres a day were required to have installed the solar water heating systems. If an owner has not complied with this requirement, then the owner can seek for an extension to comply with the installation requirement;
5. The Regulations further require that the **owner of the premises, Architect and an Engineer** engaged in **the design, construction, extension or alteration** of the premises shall incorporate solar water heating systems in **all new premises designs and extensions or alterations to existing premises;**
6. As per the Regulations an electric power distributor or supplier should not provide electricity supply to premises where a solar water heating system has not been installed in accordance with the Regulations;
7. The Solar Water Heating Regulations has been implemented in liaison with the local authorities responsible for implementing Section NN31.5 of Planning and Building Regulations, 2009;
8. The design of the Solar Water Heating System and the requirements for installation, repair and maintenance has been provided for under the regulations;
9. For a person to undertake any solar water heating system installation work, the person must have the qualifications required by the regulations and further the person should be licensed by the Energy Regulatory Commission as a solar water heating system technician or a contractor.

✓ The qualifications are as follows:

	<i>Education (Academic)</i>	<i>Professional (Job)</i>
1	A graduate Engineer	Over 2 years' experience involving plumbing works
2	Higher National Diploma Engineer or Equivalent	2 years' experience involving plumbing Works
3	Government Trade Test Grade1	Over 3 years' experience of work experience involving plumbing works
4	Government Trade Test Grade2	Over 6 years' experience of work experience involving plumbing works

10. The commission may exempt certain premises from the regulations if they apply for the same through Form 1 of the First Schedule of the regulations. Some of the premises exempted are:

- ✓ Premises with technical limitations;
- ✓ Premises incapable of incorporating solar heating systems due to special circumstances;
- ✓ Premises that are supplied with hot water from a cogeneration plant (Combination of heat engine and power station to generate electricity);
- ✓ Premises using electricity generated from renewable energy and the excess is used to heat water; and
- ✓ Any other premises the commission may determine from time to time.

11. Any person that contravenes the provisions of the regulations commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one million shillings, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or both.

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