Purpose

To encourage homeowners and developers to provide an alternative hot water heating source for houses.

Background

The District of North Vancouver was selected as a Solar Community at the Convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities in Penticton on September 24, 2008.

As one of six BC Communities designated a Solar Community, the District has received a grant from the province to promote the use of solar hot water systems within its community.

Promoting solar hot water systems dovetails particularly well with a number of initiatives District staff are currently working on including the development of both the Green Building Strategy and the Climate Change Action Plan. Sustainability and, in particular, a commitment to reducing greenhouse gases and the promotion of green building, has been a significant consideration for the District in the past few years.

As a Solar Community, the District has the opportunity to show leadership in promoting a clean, green, and effective energy alternative to residents, developers and business owners in the District. This program, with the associated grant and resources, will also assist the District in meeting its various targets and commitments for reducing energy usage, and CO2 emissions at both the community and corporate levels.

Related Requirements/Documents/Forms

To assist and encourage solar hot water heating installations, the District of North Vancouver will waive the required permit fee.

Permit Requirements

1. Two copies of plans and specifications that reflect the scope and installation of the system including:
   
   a. System components and specifications
b. Solar panel installation – loading and attachment details

c. Plumbing schematic

Installation Requirements

1. Installation of the system shall be undertaken by a qualified installer certified by the Canadian Solar Industries Association (www.cansia.ca). As an interim measure to obtaining installer certification from CanSIA, the installation shall comply with item 2 below.

2. A professional engineer shall be called to examine the final installation to ensure installation compliance with CAN/CSA-F383.

Contacts

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