

## Residential Home Energy Retrofit – When is a Permit Required?

### Purpose of this guide:

Home energy retrofits often include renovations to multiple parts of the building which may require different permits. To support those undertaking home energy retrofits, this guide summarizes when building permits are required for different retrofit projects.

Improving energy efficiency in your home is an effective way to save money, make your home more comfortable and reduce both energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, which is necessary for Regina to become a renewable, net-zero city by 2050. Regina’s Energy & Sustainability Framework outlines that all existing residential homes need to be retrofitted to use 50 per cent less energy for heating and cooling, and 10 per cent less electricity to meet our community energy reduction targets.

### What home energy retrofit projects require a City of Regina building permit?

Project type		Building Permit Required	Additional Comments
Building Envelope	Window or door replacement (no new or changing opening size)	No <sup>1</sup>	
	Window or door replacement (new or changing opening size)	Yes <sup>1</sup>	See <a href="#">Alteration Permit Requirements</a>
	Spray foam or foamed plastic insulation	Yes	See Spray Foam <a href="#">Application Checklist</a>
	Insulation (no change to air or vapour barriers)	No <sup>2</sup>	See <a href="#">Residential Exterior Insulation Guide – Energy Retrofit</a>
	Changes to air or vapour barriers	Yes	See <a href="#">Alteration Permit Requirements</a>
Heating/Cooling	Solar Panels	Yes <sup>3</sup>	See <a href="#">Alteration Permit Requirements</a>
	Heat pump replacement	No <sup>3</sup>	
	Electric water heater replacement	No <sup>3</sup>	
	New heat recovery ventilator (HRV)	Yes <sup>3</sup>	See <a href="#">Alteration Permit Requirements</a>
	Electrical panel upgrades	No <sup>3</sup>	
	Decommissioning gas lines	No <sup>3</sup>	
	Battery storage system installation	No <sup>3</sup>	Permit may be required for building alterations required for new system

<sup>1</sup> Ensure bedroom windows meet minimum clear opening and operation requirements (no awning style)

<sup>2</sup> Permit required if not following the [Residential Exterior Insulation Guide – Energy Retrofit](#)

<sup>3</sup> A gas or electrical permit may be required through TSASK