



# Information Regarding the Installation of Solar Panels and Building Permit Requirements

## A building permit is required for solar panel installation when:

1. The panel is greater than 5m<sup>2</sup> (50ft<sup>2</sup>) in total area **and** installed on a building.
2. Is attached to the plumbing system.
3. Is connected to the mechanical heating system.

## A building permit is not required for solar panel installation when:

1. It is installed on a structure which is not defined as a building.

## Below are three types of solar panel systems that require a building permit:

### 1. Solar Domestic Hot Water(SDHW) – Heats up Water

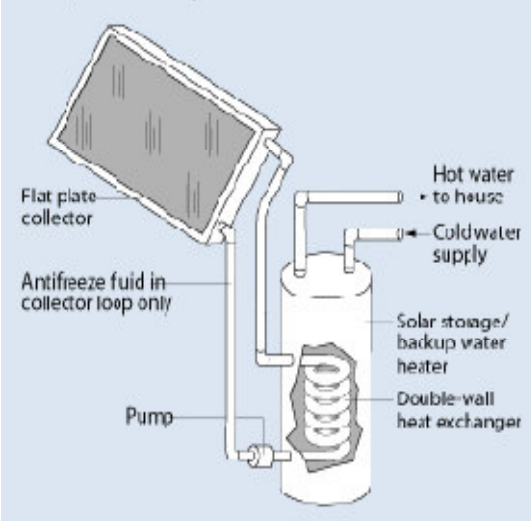
#### SDHW- Non-packaged

>5m<sup>2</sup> (50ft<sup>2</sup>) Building Permit required  
Designed by Professional Engineer to CSA F379  
Drawings Required

#### SDHW- Factory packaged

Size >5m<sup>2</sup> (50ft<sup>2</sup>)- Building Permit Required  
CSA Approval (F379) Certificate Required  
Drawings Required

Active, Closed Loop Solar Water Heater

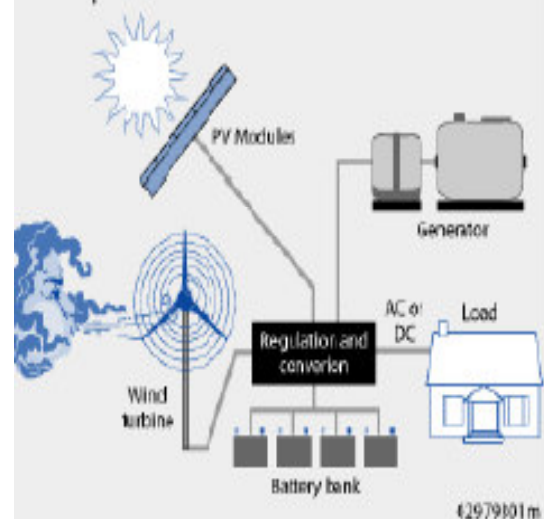


### 2. Photovoltaic Cells – Produces Electricity

Size >5m<sup>2</sup> (50ft<sup>2</sup>) and Attached to a Building  
Building Permit Required  
Designed by Professional Engineer  
Drawings Required

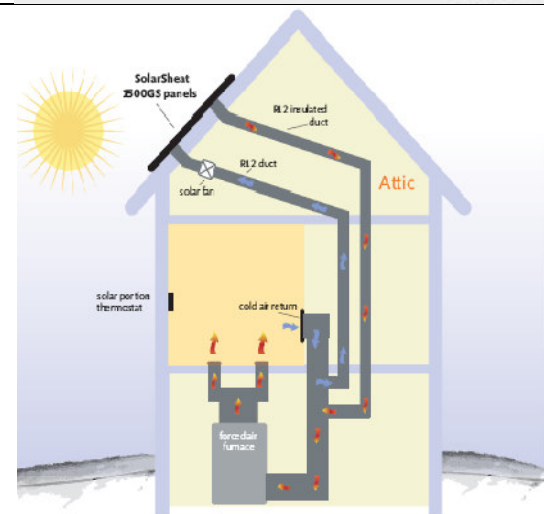
Hybrid Power Systems

Combine multiple sources to deliver non-intermittent electric power



### 3. Solar Thermal (Air Heating Systems) – Heats up Air

Size >5m<sup>2</sup>- Building Permit Required  
Designed by Professional Engineer  
Drawings Required  
Mechanical System Design



Electrical permit may be required. Please contact the Electrical Safety Authority directly at 1-877-372-7233. Please contact the County of Lambton Building Services Department for more information at 1-866-324-6912 or 519 845-5420.