



Washington State Building Code Council

Improving the built environment by promoting health, safety and welfare

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STATE BUILDING CODE OPINION NO. 24-33

CODE: 2021 Washington State Energy Cod

SECTION: C404.2/C403.3.2 Service Water Heating Equipment Efficiency

Background: Gas heat pump water heaters (GHPWH) are a technology that uses natural gas as the primary fuel source and incorporates the absorption cycle to extract additional heat energy from the surrounding area to achieve a higher overall equipment efficiency.

QUESTION 1: Table C404.2 Footnote i states that “*There are no minimum efficiency requirements for electric heat pump water heaters greater than 12 kW or for gas heat pump water heaters.*” Do gas heat pump water heaters fall within the category of fossil fuel service water heating equipment?

ANSWER 1: **Yes. Gas heat pump water heaters are to be included in the project calculations and documentation as a fossil fuel service water heater equipment type.**

QUESTION 2: What equipment efficiency documentation is required for gas heat pump water heaters?

ANSWER 2: **Section C403.3.2 states that if no certification program exists for an equipment type, the equipment efficiency rating shall be supported by data furnished by the manufacturer. Section C404.2 contains the same provision.**

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: King County