

Energy Labelling and MEPS program Regulatory Ruling

Ruling Number: 029

Revision A

Revision Date 20 May 2010

This ruling has been prepared on behalf of all regulators for energy labelling and MEPS for electrical appliances in Australia and New Zealand. This ruling represents an agreed interpretation of the relevant regulations. This interpretation shall be recognised in all Australian and New Zealand jurisdictions.

Product Type: Solar-boosted air-conditioners
Relevant Standard AS/NZS 3823.2:2009
Relevant Clause/s 1
Initial Date of Draft Ruling: 20 May 2010
Date of Standard Amendment TBA

	NSW	QLD	SA	VIC	NZ
Accepted By	T Aldrich	B Richardson	J Corbett	A Murdoch	T Collins
	Department of Water and Energy	Department of Justice and Attorney-General	Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure	Energy Safe Victoria	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority
Date Accepted	11/06/2010	09/06/2010	11/06/2010	16/06/2010	09/06/2010

Subject:

Scope of standard for Air Conditioners and heat pumps.

Ruling:

- That air-conditioners of the vapour compression type are **not** exempted from labelling and/or MEPS requirements under clause 1.1 of AS/NZS 3823.2:2009, unless they are excluded under Clause 1.2 of AS/NZS 3823.2:2009.
 - Air conditioners that have an enhancement included or option to assist the operating energy efficiency are not excluded from this Standard.
 - Solar-boosted air conditioners that rely on sunlight or external ambient air temperatures are an example of such product that would have operating conditions where the solar boost feature offers little or no additional energy efficiency benefit.
- Air conditioners claiming exemption from energy labelling as per clause 1.2 (f) have to meet the requirements of that clause before being granted an exemption. An air conditioner can only claim an exemption if it is exclusively designed for commercial installation. An air conditioner that has no design feature preventing it from being installed in a residential installation cannot claim the exemption of “designed for and used only in non-residential applications” on the basis of a claim the product is only to be sold for commercial installation.

Definitions

Solar-boosted air-conditioner:

- ‘A single-phase or three-phase non-ducted or ducted air conditioner of the vapour compression type up to a rated total cooling capacity of 65 kW, having provision for the input of energy from a solar source and which can be configured to operate as an air source air conditioner or heat pump (with little or no solar input).’

Proposed revisions to the Standard

- (i) The following paragraph shall be added to sub-clause **1.3 APPLICATION**

‘Solar-boosted air conditioners and heat-pumps fall within the scope of this Standard and shall meet the relevant labelling and/or MEPS requirements for the cooling and/or heating function when configured to operate as an air source air conditioner or heat pump (with any solar input minimised or disconnected, as far as possible). For these products, the cooling and heating performance shall be determined and declared in accordance with AS/NZS 3823.1.1 and AS/NZS 3823.1.2 as applicable.’

- (ii) The above definition of Solar-boosted air conditioner shall be added as sub-clause 1.6.30