

HAWAII PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 1, 2009

### **The Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission Establishes Solar Water Heater Systems Standards for New Single-Family Homes**

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC) announced today that it has established Solar Water Heater Systems Standards (standards) as required under Act 204, passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor Linda Lingle in 2008.

Under Act 204, effective January 1, 2010, no building permit can be issued for a new single-family dwelling that does not include a solar water heater system that meets the standards established by the PUC, aside from a limited exception. Thus, as of January 1, 2010, new single-family homes will be required to include a solar water heater system that meets these standards. As a result of Act 204, Hawai'i becomes the first state requiring energy-saving homes.

The Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Hawai'i Electric Light Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Limited, Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative, the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawai'i Solar Energy Association and Honeywell International Inc. participated in a recent docket proceeding to assist the PUC in establishing the standards.

The Solar Water Heater Systems Standards can be viewed at the PUC's offices located on O'ahu, Maui and Kaua'i and on the PUC's website:

[hawaii.gov/budget/puc/](http://hawaii.gov/budget/puc/)

The PUC will be instituting a comment period from July 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009, to receive comments pertaining to the standards via e-mail at [Hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov](mailto:Hawaii.PUC@hawaii.gov) or by mail addressed to: Public Utilities Commission, State of Hawai'i, 465 South King Street, Room No. 103, Honolulu, HI 96813. Those who wish to send comments should reference Docket No. 2008-0249 in the letter or e-mail sent to the PUC.

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