

EECA Insulation Product Approval Policy

Introduction:

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) maintains a List of Accepted Insulation Products that may be installed under the New Zealand government's Warmer Kiwi Homes programme and under voluntary targeted rate schemes of local councils. The List of Accepted Insulation Products is published on EECA's website: www.eeca.govt.nz.

This policy sets out the criteria and outlines the process applied by EECA for assessing whether insulation products – ceiling, wall and underfloor insulation, and hot water cylinder wraps – are eligible for inclusion in EECA's List of Accepted Insulation Products.

Suppliers (manufacturers, importers and service providers) have obligations under the Fair Trading Act 1986, Consumer Guarantees Act 1993 and other Acts, Regulations, Codes and Standards. This policy applies in addition to any statutory requirements. In the case of a conflict between this policy and a statutory requirement, the latter will prevail.

Purpose:

The purpose of the policy is to:

- Establish expectations with the Supplier completing the EECA Insulation Product Assessment (IPA1) form of this policy.
- Ensure the use of quality products that achieve the outcomes and deliver the benefits expected of stakeholders.
- Provide a choice of products that service providers can choose from.
- Provide the industry with a level playing field by clearly and transparently setting out the requirements for products eligible for use under a programme administered by EECA.

Insulation product performance criteria:

EECA must be satisfied that an insulation product meets the following criteria:

- **Product must meet the Building Act and New Zealand Building Code requirements.**
- **Product must perform to its claimed R-value.** Product must meet the testing and labelling requirements of AS/NZS 4859.1:2002 *Materials for the thermal insulation of buildings* - General criteria and technical provisions. Testing must be completed and certified by an independent laboratory that has been accredited for testing thermal transmission properties of materials in accordance with AS/NZS 4859.1 by IANZ or an equivalent laboratory accreditation body that is a full signatory member of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and/or the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC). EECA will accept a current BRANZ appraisal as an alternative means of demonstrating AS/NZS 4859.1:2002 compliance.
- **Product must be able to be installed correctly.** Product must be able to be installed so that it consistently conforms to NZS 4246 and manufacturer's instructions. EECA will not accept a product that cannot be shown to be able to be installed consistently to achieve its claimed R-value in situ.
- **Product must perform over a lifetime of at least 50 years.** Some reduction in performance over time is inevitable with many products. However, EECA will not accept a product with the potential to deteriorate significantly over time, or a product with the potential to be damaged easily, e.g. in the course of regular home maintenance, during installation or repair work.

- **Product, as installed, must be amenable to independent check testing.** Check testing is a recognised mechanism to monitor the performance of products. Installed product sections must be able to be removed, transported and replaced easily exactly as installed. The process of removing product must not compromise the integrity and performance of the remaining product in situ.
- **Product, during installation and as installed, must not endanger the health and safety of installers and occupants.** The process of installing the product must not expose installers or occupants to health or safety risks that are unreasonable or difficult to manage. The product, once installed, must not pose a risk to the health and safety of occupants. The product, once installed, must not expose trades people carrying out maintenance or repair work to health or safety risks that are unreasonable or difficult to manage
- **Product must not cause deterioration or damage to any part of the house.** For example, a product must not increase the possibility of damage to the building structure (e.g. weather tightness, fire hazard). A product should promote reduced maintenance where possible.

Product Approval Process:

Suppliers must complete the attached IPA1 form for each product and supply the supporting documents. Applications can be sent by email:

E-mail: [warmerkiwihomes@eeeca.govt.nz](mailto:warmmerkiwihomes@eeeca.govt.nz)

EECA will assess each application against the requirements of this policy. A Supplier must satisfy EECA in its application that a particular product, as typically installed, meets all of the above criteria.

EECA may, at its discretion:

- Accept information such as test reports from an IANZ accredited laboratory, BRANZ appraisals or installation trials, in support of a Supplier demonstrating compliance with the above criteria.
- Request further information in respect of any of the above criteria if, in EECA's view, the information supplied in an application is insufficient to demonstrate compliance.
- Refuse to accept a product for use if, in EECA's view, a product fails to comply with one or more of the above insulation product performance criteria

Following a decision to accept or not accept a product for use, EECA will formally write to the Supplier to advise of the outcome and the reasons for EECA's decision. If a product is eligible for use, EECA will, within one week, add the product to the List of Accepted Products and EECA's GEM database.

Maintaining compliance with the Insulation Product Approval Policy:

- **Annual requirement to disclose conformance with AS/NZS 4859.1:2002**
By 1st March of each year, suppliers must submit a test report or a current BRANZ appraisal that demonstrates R-value conformance for each ceiling, wall and underfloor insulation product on the List of Accepted Products. The test report must not be older than two years (e.g. a test report submitted on 1 March 2019 must be dated 1 March 2017 or later) and must be certified by a laboratory that has been accredited for testing thermal transmission properties of materials in accordance with AS/NZS 4859.1 by IANZ or an equivalent laboratory accreditation body that is a full signatory member of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and/or the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC). Cylinder wraps are exempt from this requirement.

- **Disclosure of changes to accepted products or non-conformance**
Suppliers must inform EECA immediately about any changes to accepted products that could affect their ability to meet the insulation product performance criteria of this policy. This includes but is not limited to material changes in the manufacturing process or changes to the product's technical literature and installation instructions.
- EECA may, at its discretion remove, or retest at the supplier's or EECA's expense, an already eligible product from the List of Accepted Insulation Products and EECA's GEM database if serious concerns are raised about its ability to meet the insulation product performance criteria of this policy, its AS/NZS 4859.1:2002 compliance is not maintained or disclosed to EECA, or if, in EECA's view, it fails to perform in situ.

Application Form for EECA Insulation Product Acceptance (IPA1)

This page completed by applicant

Applicant Name	
Address	
Telephone	Email
Website	Date
Name of manufacturer	
Product name and R-value	
Product application ☐ Ceiling insulation ☐ Underfloor insulation ☐ Wall insulation ☐ Cylinder wrap	
Product description	
History of product use in NZ and relevant references	
Copy of AS/NZS 4859.1:2002 test certificate no older than two years from an IANZ or equivalent accredited laboratory attached (if applicable)?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Copy of current BRANZ appraisal attached (if applicable)?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Copy of product label attached?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Manufacturer's specification sheets attached?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Manufacturer's installation instructions attached?	☐ Yes ☐ No
When installed, complies with Building Act/ Building Code requirements?	☐ Yes ☐ No
When installed, product will perform over a life time of at least 50 years?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Complies with Health & Safety requirements under NZ statutes?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For underfloor and wall insulation: Is the product non-combustible or does it have a Group Number no higher than 3 as defined in Appendix A of NZ Building Code Verification Method C/VM2 (if so attach evidence)?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For underfloor insulation: Is the product suitable for installation in open-perimeter floor spaces?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For wall insulation: Is the product suitable for insulating walls that remain unlined on the side facing a ceiling or subfloor space, and do manufacturer's installation instructions cover such situations?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Comments / Additional information attached (please list)	

I declare the information I have supplied is correct, that this product meets the insulation product performance criteria set out in EECA's Insulation Product Approval Policy and agree to comply with the conditions outlined in EECA's Insulation Product Approval Policy.

Name

____/____/_____
Date

Signature