



## Project Explanation

Local Practice Project – BCA Part 3.12 Energy Efficiency

### DTS (ELEMENTAL PROVISIONS) COMPLIANCE REVIEW

**ABLE Web ref:** *Current Projects*

Published: **09 December 2012**

Page 1 of 1

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As-Built Learning Exchange (ABLE) undertakes Local Practice Projects to develop resources that support better local practice compliance and workmanship outcomes.

When a compliance and/or workmanship issue is discovered that is likely lead to a useful local outcome ABLE posts a project explanation ([www.asbuillearningexchange.com.au/current-projects](http://www.asbuillearningexchange.com.au/current-projects)) and invites regulators, businesses and experts-in-their-field to contribute to the project.

Projects are undertaken when the required support and resources are in place, and outcomes are published as Open Exchange resources on the ABLE website.

#### PROJECT OUTLINE

The Energy Efficiency Research Group (EERG) provides research support to ABLE when investigating the BCA Part 3.12 Energy Efficiency provisions and the application of House Energy Rating Software (HERS) calculations.

Recently completed Local Practice Projects have reported on a range of 6-Star issues related to new building work (see sidebar). This research suggests that the DTS or “elemental provisions” will not provide the most efficient and effective assessment option.

This project will review DTS (elemental provisions) compliance to determine how it compares with the House Energy Rating Software (HERS) option, as these options are likely to apply to single storey project housing. The project will review:

- If the DTS option provides for predictable compliance outcomes.
- The capacity of each method to handle multiple orientations for the same house plan.
- The likely work practice differences between DTS and HERS assessment.
- An indicative comparison of 5-to-6-Star construction cost for DTS and HERS compliance.
- The viability of using a 6-Star version of the current Glazing Calculator “Add-Ons” worksheet to report compliance when the “Elemental” option (3.12.0(a)(i)) is used.

#### PROJECT OUTCOME

This project will provide the side-by-side review of each of the compliance options that will ensure industry is fully informed when choosing their 6-Star compliance option.

ABLE undertakes to publish a Local Practice Note explaining the findings of this project and issues discovered that are likely to provide for better assessment outcomes.

#### PROJECT CONTRIBUTOR INVITATION

The project will require \$3,500+GST to complete.

ABLE invites Building Commission to be the Project Contributor for this project.

Project Contributors are recognised in the Contributor Registry, in Local Practice Note publications and at industry Briefing Sessions ([www.asbuillearningexchange.com.au/contributor-registry](http://www.asbuillearningexchange.com.au/contributor-registry)).

Regards

**James Bertram** BArch Hons  
As-Built Learning Exchange

#### Energy Efficiency Research Group

The EERG emerged from the experience that assessors had when participating in recent 6-Star Local Practice Projects.

**ABLE Web ref:** *Research Groups*

#### Local Practice Notes

6-Star: DTS or Modelling?

6-Star: Planning for Better Outcomes Project Outline

6-Star: Compliance Reporting & Pre-Start

**ABLE Web ref:** *Compliance & Workmanship Information*

ABLE Defined Terms

Local Practice Projects, Local Practice Resource, Open Exchange, Building Professionals

**ABLE Web ref:** *Conditions of Use*