

Summary of guideline changes

The following table provides a summary of the updated changes from the guidelines released in May 2021.

Section	Change
Transitioning to all-electric facilities	<p>No change to policy on all-electric buildings. Links transition to all-electric buildings with 100% renewable electricity commitment by 2025.</p> <p>Acknowledgement that it may not always be viable to deliver all-electric buildings on sites that already have gas.</p>
Design targets: buildings eligible for NABERS ratings	No change to overall design target. Replacement of carbon and water design targets per OBD with a requirement to use the NABERS reverse calculator.
Design targets: buildings ineligible for NABERS ratings	No change to overall design target. Greater clarity on measuring building performance through percentage improvement of Section J though deemed to satisfy. No set percentage improvement requirements.
Waste management	<p>No change to space allocations for waste infrastructure.</p> <p>Addition of requirement for sustainability consultant to work with health services to map waste flows, using a standard template, to assist with identifying necessary space allocation for waste.</p>
Delivering climate resilient facilities	Addition of a requirement to prepare a draft Climate Adaptation Plan in line with GreenStar for sites that have a significant climate risk.
Section J compliance	<p>Clarifies that deemed to satisfy can be used for section J compliance other than building sealing, which must use JV4 method (air tightness testing).</p> <p>At least 10% of the building is to be tested and standards not met, a second test area is required.</p> <p>Clarifies who is responsible for each component of section J and sustainability consultant must review documentation prior to submission.</p>

Section	Change
Application of the guidelines on existing projects	Provided clarity that projects that were in SD or DD prior to 1 July 2020 should endeavour to meet the guidelines where the budget and design allows.
Quality assurance	Addition of sustainability control points in VHBA's Project Management Framework.