

A Guide to Understanding the Installation of Solar Panels and Building Permit Requirements

A building permit is not required for solar panel installation when:

- 1. The panel is less than 5m² (50ft²) in area and not installed on a building.**
- 2. Is not attached to the plumbing system.**
- 3. Is not connected to the mechanical heating system.**

Below are three types of solar panel systems that require a building permit

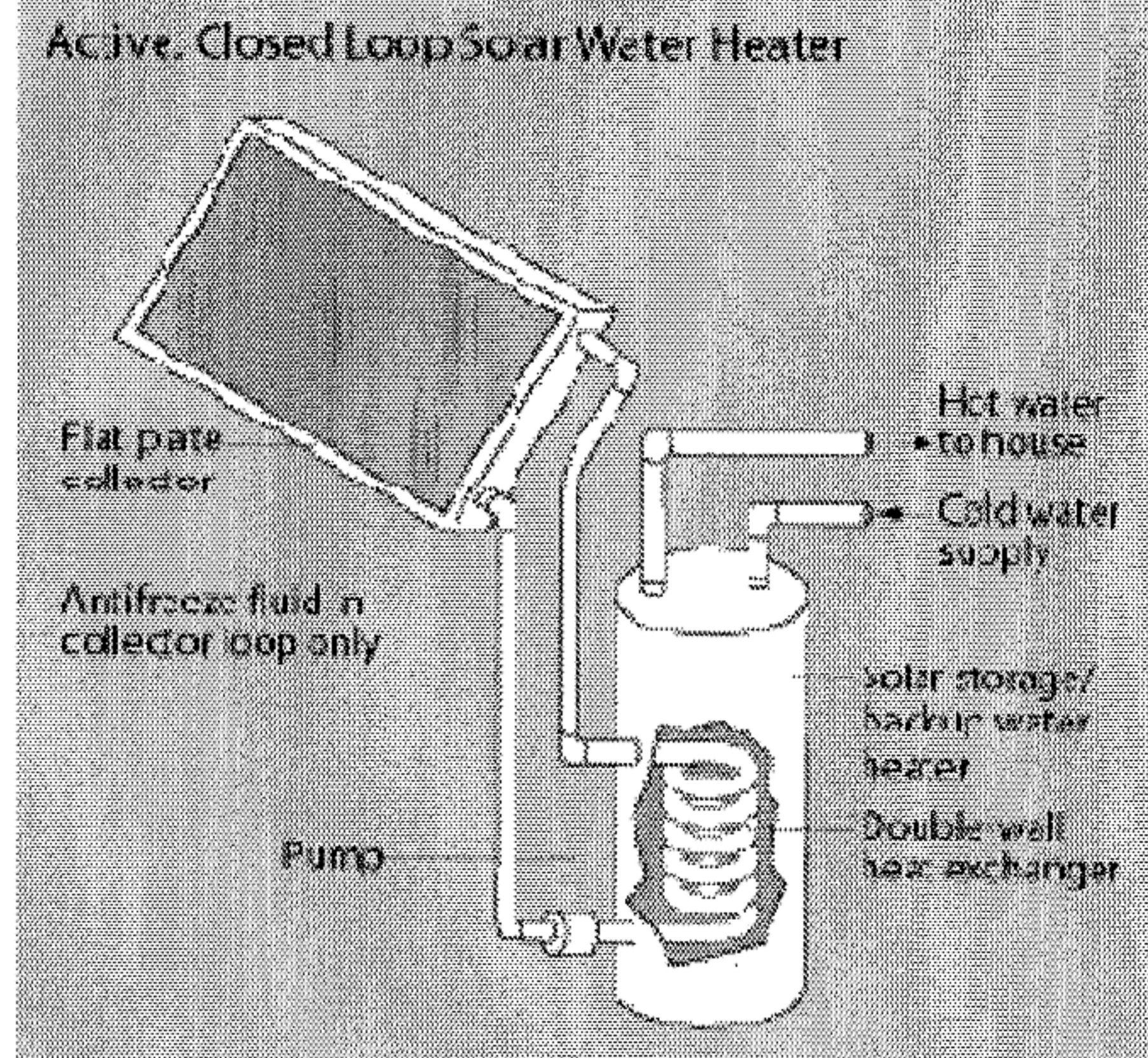
1. Solar Domestic Hot Water(SDHW) – Heats up Water

SDHW- Non-packaged

>5m² (50ft²) Building Permit required
Designed by Professional Engineer to CSA F379
Drawings required

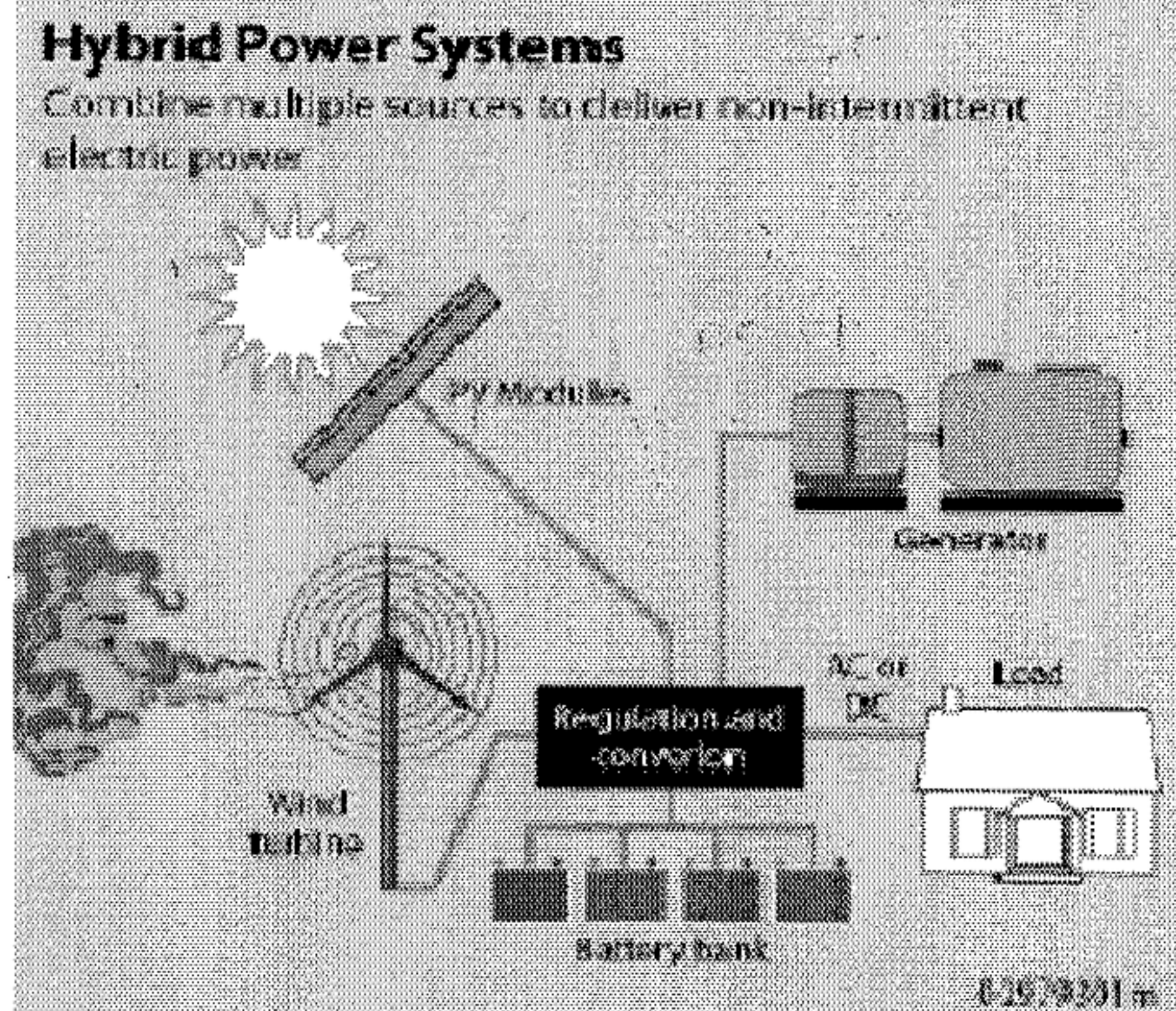
SDHW- Factory packaged

Size >5m² (50ft²)- Building Permit required
CSA Approval (F379) Certificate required
Drawings required



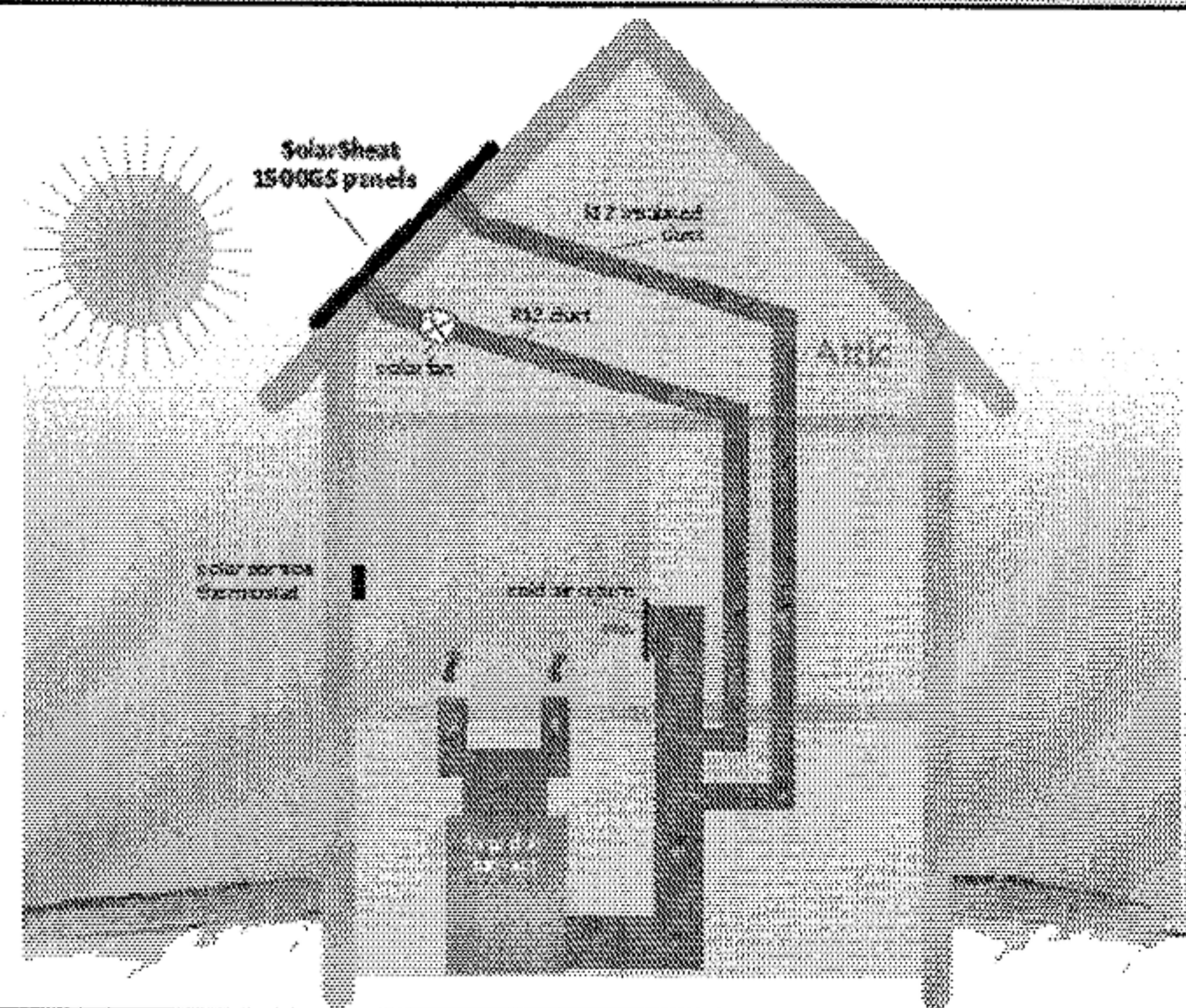
2. Photovoltaic Cells – Produces electricity

Size >5m² (50ft²) -Building Permit required
Designed by Professional Engineer
Drawings required



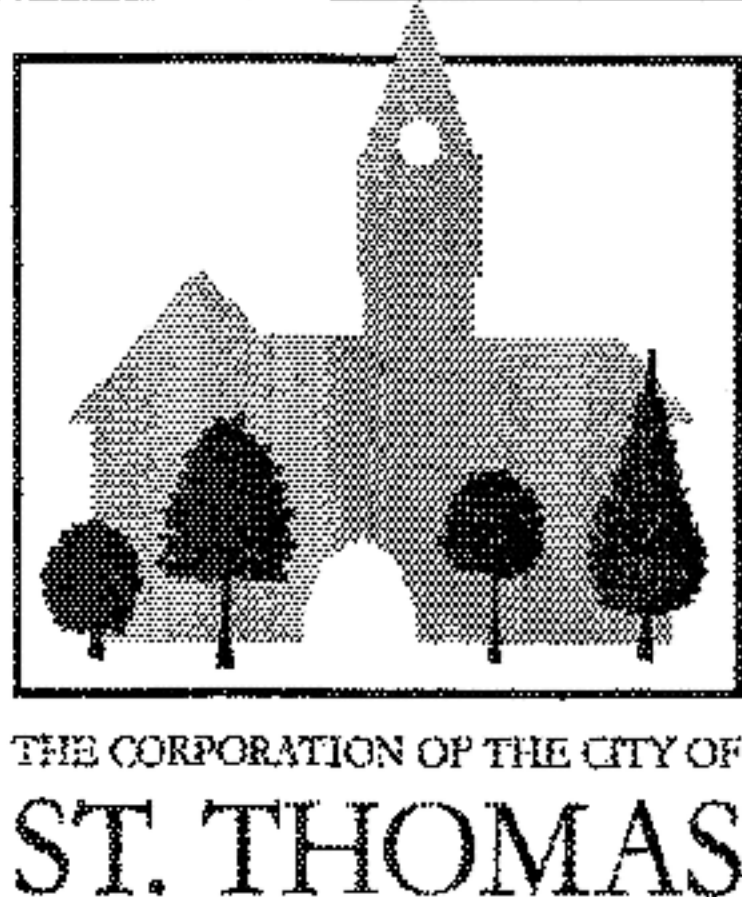
3. Solar Thermal (Air heating systems) – Heats up Air

Size >5m²- Building Permit required
Designed by Professional Engineer
Drawings required
Mechanical system design



Electrical permit may be required (1 877-372-7233)

Please contact St. Thomas Building Services for further information at (519) 631- 9587



Environmental Services Department – Building Services

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Solar Panel Permit Requirements

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