

18 Brahe Place, East Melbourne Proposed New Apartments Hot Water System Comparison

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Revision

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18 BRAHE PLACE, EAST MELBOURNE PROPOSED NEW APARTMENTS HOT WATER SYSTEM COMPARISON MAY 2012 1. Executive Summary

This Hot water comparison report for the Hydraulic Services has been prepared at the request of Microheat for the development of proposed apartments at 18 Brahe Place, East Melbourne, Victoria.

This report sets out the conceptual layout of the hot water comparison between a centralised gas boosted hot water plant Vs. individual continuous flow electric hot water units for a low rise apartment building.

The two options under consideration are:

1.1 Low Rise Building (4 Stories – 8 Apartments)

- Hot water via individual continuous flow electric hot water heaters in each apartment
- Hot water via a centralised gas boosted solar arrangement.

The main considerations that must be considered when weighing the two options are:

- Initial capital cost expenditure
- Ongoing operating costs (To be prepared by RMIT)

2.1 General Overview

There are 2 options provided for hot water service comparison.

- Hot water via individual continuous flow electric hot water heaters in each apartment
- Hot water via a centralised gas boosted solar arrangement.

Installation of individual continuous flow electric hot water heaters will typically entail providing space within the apartment to house the individual hot water unit. Metering can be provided on an apartment by apartment basis as electricity and cold water consumption to each apartment is already metered. Hot water temperature would be set to 50C outlet, hence eliminating the need for tempering valves¹.

Installation of a central plant consisting of gas boosters, hot water storage tanks, solar panels and solar storage tanks will typically entail providing a space external to the building for housing. The equipment may be located at ground level or at roof top. A spatial allocation on the roof for solar collectors will be required. Individual apartment metering would be achieved through the use of a proprietary Origin energy remote hot water metering solution that would meter the hot water consumption of each apartment and accordingly apportion the associated gas costs. Note, this applies to developments with more than 20 apartments. Developments with less than 20 apartments may be installed with body corporate hot water meters for internal system monitoring of hot water plant by the body corporate. These meters will not be read by a gas retailer for billing purposes, the will be read by the body corporate who will then appropriately apportion the gas costs to apartment tenants.

2.2 Continuous Flow Electric Hot Water Heaters (Low Rise and High Rise Buildings)

A Microheat CFEWH SERIES 2-27 continuous flow electric water heater would be of adequate size to serve an apartment with 1 bathroom. A Microheat CFEWH SERIES 2-27 continuous flor electric water meter would be of adequate size to serving an apartment with a maximum of 2 bathrooms. Note, these units are selected based on setting a outlet temperature of 50C and the use of low flow fixture 'Wels' rating tapware. The units could be located within the joinery beneath the kitchen sink or at bathroom of each apartment, unit size 206mm (W) x 123mm (D) x 308mm (H).

It should be noted that the electric hot water option does not include allowances for solar contribution. We are not aware of any planning permit requirements at this stage, but the Council may impose a solar hot water requirement which would make this option potentially difficult (and expensive) to configure to suit. Given this, we have not considered any solar contribution to this option.

2.3 Centralised Gas Boosted Hot Water Plant and Solar Storage (Low Rise)

A centralised gas boosted solar hot water that would be adequate to service 18 Brahe Place, consists of:

- Rheem MPE02K consisting of:
 - Free standing continuous flow gas heater manifold (2 x heaters)
 - 1 x Hot water flow and return pump
- Solar pre-heat plant:
 - 4 x Rheem or equivalent NPT200 Collectors
 - 2 x Double Variable pitch roof Frames
 - 2 x 410L Storage tanks
 - 1 x Solar Controller
- Flow and return hot water pumps
- Gas pipework and bulk meter
- Hot water meters

A centralised hot water system relies on a main hot water flow and return loop being constantly circulated throughout the building from which each individual apartment will draw from. A plant spatial will be required at ground floor with an approximate area of 6m². A roof top plat spatial area of approximately 15m² is required for the solar collectors. This area includes access for personnel maintenance.

Note, hot water plant outlet temperature would be set at 65C. All pipework will be of copper tube material and be lagged with 25mm Armaflex insulation or equivalent.

¹ It is assumed that the Microheat continuous flow water heater will comply with AS3498 and be clearly marked "THIS APPLIANCE DELIVERS WATER NOT EXCEEDING 50°C IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 3498" As required by AS3500.4, Clause 1.9.3.(b).(iii) \\WGE-MEL-FS-01\WGE_M\TECH\23700\08\H_RE_002_18_BRAHE_ST.DOC

3. Costs Associated With Hot Water Systems

3.1 Initial Capital Costs

We estimate the initial capital cost estimate of the individual electric water heater option to be approximately \$22,400

ltem	Quantity	Cost	Total
MicroHeat CFEWH SERIES 2-	8	\$1800	\$14,400
27 including installation			
Electrical Costs Per apartment			
-Additional apartment electrical Infrastructure ²	8	\$1000	\$8,000
Total			\$22,400

We estimate the initial capital cost estimate for the central gas boosted solar plant option to be approximately \$38,985.

Item	Quantity	Cost	Total
Hot water Booster Plant	1	\$7,000	\$7,000
Hot water Flow & Return Pump	1	\$3,000	\$3,000
Hot water Solar Plant	1	\$8,000	\$8,000
Hot water plant enclosure -	1	\$2,000	\$2,000
Plinth & Chain Wire Mesh			
Bulk Cold Water Meter	1	\$1,000	\$1,000
Assembly			
Tempering valves	8	\$700	\$5,600
Gas pipework to Hot water	30m	\$285 per meter	\$8,550
plant, 100 dia approx. (copper)			
Gas Meter for Bulk Hot water	1	\$0	\$0
plant ³			
32 dia hot water flow – lagged,	25m	\$60 per meter	\$1,500
(copper)			
25 dia hot water flow – lagged,	75m	\$50 per meter	\$3,750
(copper)			
25 dia cold water flow (poly)	35m	\$35 per meter	\$1,225
Isolation valves, balancing	1	\$2,000	\$2,000
valves			
15mm dia hot water meters	8	\$300	\$2,400
(body corporate)			
Fire Collars	12	\$80	\$960
Total		\$	\$46,985
Optional deletion of solar		-\$8,000	
panels			
Revised Total			\$38,985

It should be noted that neither of the above cost estimates allow for hot water pipework, insulation and valving within the apartments as this will be similar for both systems. It is noted that tempering valves and thermostatic mixing valves are included in the comparison as they are not required to be installed as part of the continuous flow electric solution.

Notes:

- 1. Hot Water equipment cost based upon supply cost quotation (budget allowance \$900/unit), with an allowance of 2 x supply cost for installed cost of plant
- 2. Extra over cost of running three phase power to each apartment to suit the hot water system based on past project experience, exact costs may vary on a project by project basis depending on the Electrical Authorities requirements.
- 3. Based on a typical tapping arrangement the gas authority will not normally change for supply and installation of a gas meter.
- 4. Price allowance for tempering valve includes tempering valve and access panel to be provided

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Appendix A - Typical Hot Water Plant Layouts (Gas Boosted Plant) Low Rise







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Appendix B – Typical Hot Water Plant Layouts (Individual Electric Units) Low Rise



