

Recommendation: use the online application at <https://swhv.ehawaii.gov>.

The use of this offline application (paper form) is temporary and may be discontinued.
Check the website above for current forms and alerts.

FORM REQUIREMENTS and INSTRUCTIONS

Solar Water Heater Variance (SWHV) requests may only be submitted by Hawaii licensed architects and mechanical engineers (HRS Section 196-6.5).

1. All paper form solar water heater variance (SWHV) requests received after August 6, 2021 must use this version. **Older versions will not be accepted, and the request will be denied.**
2. The SWHV request must be accurately completed, or it will be denied.
3. The SWHV request must be submitted on the **letterhead** of a **Hawaii licensed architect or mechanical engineer**, and **signed and stamped** by the architect or mechanical engineer.
4. There is a required processing fee of **\$25 per variance request**. One check can cover multiple SWHV requests if they are all submitted at the same time.
 - If you submit the SWHV request via e-mail, you must also submit a check via U.S. Postal Service.
 - **Make check payable to: "State of Hawaii--DBEDT."** Anything else will cause the check to be rejected.
 - Please **write the Tax Map Key(s) of the lot(s) on the check**.
 - Check must be received within 7 business days of receipt of the SWHV request.
 - Check must clear within 10 business days of deposit.
 - Failure of check to arrive on time or clear on time may result in denial of the SWHV request.
 - **There are no refunds for denied or not accepted SWHV requests.**
5. Life Cycle Cost Comparison worksheets, if required, must be **signed and stamped** by a **Hawaii licensed architect or mechanical engineer** and submitted with the SWHV request. **Documentation, including price quotes, must be included with the submittal.**

SUBMITTAL INFORMATION

1. Use of the on-line system is preferred. Online requests can be submitted to <https://swhv.ehawaii.gov>.
2. Until it is discontinued, this offline application (paper form) may be submitted as follows:
E-mail: 1. E-mail form and Life Cycle Cost Comparison file to DBEDT.SWH-Variance@hawaii.gov.
2. Submit check for \$25 per SWHV request via U.S. Postal Service (see address below).

U.S. Postal Service address: Hawaii State Energy Office - SWH Variance
PO Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804-2359

SWHV REQUEST DENIAL

A SWHV request will be denied or not accepted if:

3. The SWHV request is incomplete or lacking required documentation;
4. The SWHV request is not on a valid form (must be on latest version of the form);
5. The information on the SWHV request is missing, incomplete, or contains errors;
6. The Life Cycle Cost Comparison, if required, is missing, incomplete, incorrect, or not the current version;
7. The Life Cycle Cost Comparison, if required, does not demonstrate that a solar water heater installation is cost-prohibitive;
8. Payment is not received within 7 business days from the date the SWHV request is received; or
9. Payment has not cleared within 10 business days of deposit.

Payment will not be refunded for denied or not accepted SWHV requests.

Request for Variance from Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 196-6.5, "Solar water heater system required for new single-family residential construction." Note: This Solar Water Heater Variance (SWHV) Request, and all of its attachments, must be correct and complete or it will be denied. There are no refunds for denied or not accepted SWHV requests.

To: Chief Energy Officer, Hawaii State Energy Office Date: _____

Submitted By: _____ Return E-mail: _____

Check Number: _____ (Check must be payable to "State of Hawaii--DBEDT." Write TMK at bottom of check. See front page for more payment information.)

Location of Property: _____ (Address, including street name, development, town, and island, if available on County website.)

Tax Map Key (double check for accuracy): _____

Justification for approval: (check only one option)

- 1. Installation of a solar water heater on the site is impracticable due to poor solar resource, and installation is cost-prohibitive based upon a life cycle cost-benefit analysis. A current, true, and accurately completed "Water Heating Life Cycle Cost Comparison" Excel spreadsheet is attached to this request along with **documentation, including price quotes.**
 Note: download current worksheet from: <http://energy.hawaii.gov/resources/solar-water-heater-variance>.
 The demonstrably more cost-effective option, for which approval is requested, is circled below:

Heat Pump water heater Electric Resistance water heater

- 2. A renewable energy technology system, as defined in HRS Section 235-12.5, is substituted for use as the primary energy source for heating water. The renewable technology system is circled below:

Photovoltaics Solar Thermal Wind Other (describe) _____

- 3. The installation of a solar water heater on the site is impracticable due to poor solar resource, and installation is cost-prohibitive based upon a life cycle cost-benefit analysis. The demonstrably more cost-effective option, for which approval is requested, is a gas demand water heater, meaning a gas-tankless instantaneous water heater that provides hot water only as it is needed. A current, true, and accurately completed "Water Heating Life Cycle Cost Comparison" Excel spreadsheet is attached to this request along with **documentation, including price quotes.**

By **INITIALING** each statement below, I hereby certify that each of the following statements is true:

___ a. This solar water heater variance request is for a new single-family dwelling and the party making the request is the one who will ultimately pay for the energy cost consumption, as required in [Act 155, Part VII, section 13, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009](#).

___ b. A solar water heater system, regardless of location or circumstance, is not cost effective in the context of a 30-year mortgage term. A current, true, and accurately completed "Water Heating Life Cycle Cost Comparison" Excel spreadsheet is attached to this request. Note: download current worksheet from: <http://energy.hawaii.gov/resources/solar-water-heater-variance>.

___ c. The gas-tankless instantaneous water heater to be installed, named below, is certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

Manufacturer of gas tankless water heater *Model Name and Number*

___ d. At least one additional gas appliance is to be installed. The following are the additional gas appliances:

I affirm that I am an architect or mechanical engineer licensed under HRS Chapter 464; I attest that the statements on this form are true; and I further affirm that, to the best of my knowledge, this request for a solar water heater variance conforms to the requirements in HRS Section 196-6.5, HAR Section 15-37, and is in accordance with the final judgment from the Hawaii Circuit Court in Civil Case No. 18-1-1398-09 (JPC), April 29, 2019.

(Please place professional stamp below:)

(Signature of Hawaii Licensed Architect or Mechanical Engineer)

For Office Use Only:

Date Request Received: _____ Date Check Received: _____ Review Deadline: _____ Check Cleared? Yes No

APPROVED **DENIED** **NOT ACCEPTED** Form Correct? Yes No

LCCC Correct? Yes No

 Chief Energy Officer _____
 Date