

## Description of the event

The municipality of Hérémence has organised an information session together with OIKEN. This session was intended for owners of second homes, administrators and real estate managers.

The target of the meeting was to present the new cantonal law on energy (LcEne) and to explain concretely how to make buildings compliant. The evening was particularly dedicated to the articles on the creation of heat in intermittently occupied buildings, i.e. art. 38, para. 4, art. 40, para. 3, art. 41, para. 2a. Beyond the obligations, those articles pave the way to **energy optimizations and savings**.

The event took place at the St.-Nicolas-hall in Hérémence on Monday, December 29, 2025, at 6:30 PM.

## Resume

The new law on energy in Valais strengthens the applicable frame in favour of a rational use of energy and the development of renewable energies. It plans the gradual withdrawal from electric heating, the restriction of installations using fossil fuels, as well as increased requirements for thermal insulation and for solar production during building transformation or renovation. Time frames have been scheduled for the different ways to achieve compliance, while the Canton and the Municipalities offer tools for planning, advice and financial incentives, to accompany the renovation and construction projects within this new legal frame.

Hereunder you will find the main news for new buildings under construction and for those which are already being exploited. The number of the articles of the LcEne-law are indicated, to simplify the research for the additions in the law in force.

### New buildings – main subjects art. 32–35

New buildings can no longer use fossil heating installations (fuel oil, gas). Electrical heating was already forbidden before the new law came into force.

The new buildings must produce part of their electricity in a renewable way (for example photovoltaic or solar thermal panels on the roofs).

The legal order suggests **standard solutions** (art. 57 OcEne) to ensure the compliance of the project.

### Existing buildings – main subjects, art. 36–43

The law provides a **gradual exit of electrical heating** and a **strong reduction of the use of fossil energy**, with deadlines. Funds for renovation are meant to promote the reduction of the buildings' energy needs. From 2035 the installation of a **remote command system** is mandatory for buildings with sporadic occupation.

### Isolation and renovations

The demands concern mainly the transformations, changes in use and major renovation projects.

## Fossil heating (fuel oil / gas)

The fossil heating in intermittently occupied buildings (second homes) will be equipped until 2035 with a **remote command** that can lower the temperature in times of absence (art. 38, para. 4).

## Central electric heating

This targets those electric heating systems, which are equipped with a **network** of hydraulic distribution (hydraulic heaters).

The replacement by an equivalent new system is forbidden. Moreover, those systems must be replaced by installations with heat production from renewable sources at the latest in 2040 (art. 39, para. 2).

## Decentralised electric heating

This concerns electric heating without a hydraulic distribution **network**, like electric floor heating mats, storage heaters, direct heating, infrared heating etc.

These systems will be replaced by compliant solutions when the entire system (or important parts) will be replaced, or if a renovation on a large scale is performed.

In case of intermittently occupied buildings (second homes) a **remote command** will be installed at the latest in 2035 (art. 40, para. 3).

## Centralised electric domestic water heater

The centralised water heaters, which function only on electricity, will be replaced by compliant installations at the latest in 2040. In intermittently occupied buildings (second homes) the installation of a **remote command** avoids this obligation (Art. 41, para. 2a).

## FAQ

Hereunder you can find a series of answers to the most frequently asked questions.

In reference to the remote command system, you can find further questions and answers in the joined file 22-09-14\_MHS\_Q\_A\_EinFamilienHaus\_F.pdf

Concerning the subsidies by the municipality you can consult more information on <https://www.heremence.ch/commune/elements-subventionnes-formulaires-141.html>

## What is a GEAK / GEAK+?

### **What is the difference between a GEAK audit and a GEAK+ audit?**

The cantonal energy certificate for buildings (GEAK), which is identical in all of Switzerland, evaluates the quality of the shell and the global energy balance of a building, as well as the direct CO2 emissions. The GEAK+ contains a GEAK evaluation and an advisory report on a possible energy renovation. The report offers up to five personalised options for the energy renovation. Each option includes an estimation of the necessary investment costs, the possible subsidies and the future maintenance and exploitation expenses.

### **How much does a GEAK+ cost?**

The cost of a GEAK+ varies from CHF 1'600.– to CHF 2'500.– for a detached house, depending on the complexity and the number of options asked for. The municipality of Hérémence grants 50 % of the audit costs.

### **Where can I find a certified GEAK+ auditor?**

Certified auditors near you can be found on <https://www.cecb-tool.ch/fr/experts>

### **Is the GEAK+ audit mandatory?**

The GEAK+ audit is a warranty of thoughtful reflections and actions that offer a plus in energy matters, in the comfort and value of the building. This audit serves as basis for the programme on buildings of the canton of Valais, in order to attribute subsidies according to the measures M-01, M-10, IP-14, M-17.

### **What are the advantages of a thermal renovation of a building?**

A reduced energy consumption not only saves owner's money in the long-term but also helps to maintain the value of the assets and to increase the comfort. <https://www.cecb.ch/>

## MakeHeatSimple – how is this exactly done?

### **What is “Make Heat Simple”?**

*Make Heat Simple* is a federal campaign from SwissEnergy (programme of the Swiss Federal Office of Energy) meant to promote the installation of remote command systems for heating of second homes in Switzerland.

### **What are the advantages of a remote command?**

The remote control of your heating system reduces the temperature of the building during your absence and provides a comfortable temperature before you arrive. The savings on your energy bills are immediate and your comfort is preserved.

### **Which types of heating are controllable by remote?**

There are solutions for all kind of heating systems, except for those, which have to be supplied manually like wood-burning stoves and fireplaces. For detached houses the remote influences the heat production of the boiler, or the release of heat (floor heating or radiator valve).

### **Why not wait until 2035 to make the installation?**

A remote command system offers so many immediate advantages – energy saving and increased comfort – that you should not go without it any longer. Moreover, the remote controls that are installed on the heat distribution system, can be kept in case of a replacement of the heat production. Don't wait and find out about your needs [makeheatsimple.ch/fr/solutions](https://makeheatsimple.ch/fr/solutions)

### **My heating system is very old. How do I know that the remote control is compatible with my current installation?**

Remote control systems are suitable for most heating installations. Ask for advice from an installation expert near you [makeheatsimple.ch/fr/localisation](https://makeheatsimple.ch/fr/localisation)

### **An installation of a remote-control command for the heating costs money. How shall I know whether to invest now or wait until 2035?**

Installations have different levels of complexity and thus amount to different prices, with investments ranging from 500.– to 2'500.– CHF. The energy savings depend on several factors (number of occupation days, heating habits etc.) and can reach 60 %. In that case the installation of the remote control is rapidly written off. For a more detailed estimation of the potential savings look up the online calculator [makeheatsimple.ch/fr/calculateur](https://makeheatsimple.ch/fr/calculateur)

### **Is it profitable to lower the room temperature for only one week of absence?**

Yes, lowering the room temperature during your absence will make you save more energy than you will need to heat up the room again to an agreeable temperature.

**Is there a risk that my plumbing pipes will freeze by lowering the temperature of my home?**

If you follow the indications of the installer and/or the provider and make sure that the room temperature does not drop below a certain level (frost-free mode), there is no risk for the pipes to freeze. Certain systems will warn you as soon as the temperature drops below a certain level, which allows you to react without delay and avoid the freezing of the plumbing pipes.

**By lowering the temperature of my home, do I not run a risk for humidity damage?**

The risk for damage due to humidity following a lowered temperature is close to zero, unless the building is very waterproof and contains an internal source of humidity (infiltration, water basin).

**When do I have to turn on the heating, so the flat is nicely warm upon my arrival?**

The answer to this question is not easy since the time of heating depends on many local factors. Normally it is sufficient to turn it on a few hours before your arrival. In most cases you can simply turn on the heating on the day before your return. We recommend reducing the time of heating to a minimum by some trials and observations.

**What kind of infrastructure is necessary for the utilization of a remote control?**

The commands can be transmitted via mobile phone, a tablet or a computer, through an application or the internet. The secondary home receives the order via a SIM card or an internet connection. The command system for the heating in the secondary home will then execute the order.

## Do subsidies exist?

### Which measures are subsidized?

Hereunder you can find an interactive list of various elements subsidized by the **municipality of Hérémente**.

By clicking on the desired item you will get the information, the steps to take and the documents to provide.

- [Certificat énergétique \(CECB\)](#)
- [Amélioration de la classe CECB](#)
- [Construction au standard Minergie-P ou CECB A/A](#)
- [Rénovation de l'enveloppe des bâtiments](#)
- [Solaire thermique](#)
- [Chauffage à bois](#)
- [Raccordement à un chauffage à distance](#)
- [Pompe à chaleur \(nouvelle installation\)](#)
- [Changement de système de distribution de chaleur](#)
- [Energies renouvelables - panneaux photovoltaïques](#)

### Useful links for a cantonal request

- [Programmes de promotion énergétique de l'Etat du Valais](#)
- [Le Programme Bâtiment - demande](#)

## Other useful links?

- [Service de l'énergie et des forces hydrauliques](#)
- [Commune d'Hérémente](#)
- [Make Heat Simple](#)
- <https://www.francsenergie.ch/fr>