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Smoke Alarm Legislation

Since the 1st January 1995, smoke alarms have been required in all new homes in South Australia. These alarms must be hard wired to the 240 volt mains power supply unless the dwelling is not connected to such a supply. They should also be fitted with a battery to provide power in case of a supply failure.

From the 1st February 1998, if the land on which any building covered by this legislation is built undergoes a change of ownership the new owner must, within 6 months of title transfer, install smoke alarms either:

- Hard wired to the 240 volt household power supply (unless the dwelling is not connected to such a supply);
- or
- Powered by 10 year life, non-replaceable, non-removable, permanently connected batteries.

Fines of up to \$750 apply if alarms are not installed. All South Australian homes must be fitted with a working smoke alarm. Homeowners and residential landlords are responsible for ensuring a working smoke alarm is installed in the property.

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