



**ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA**

Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Submitted by email to: www.planning.nsw.gov.au

31 January 2017

To whom it may concern,

Re: Response to proposed changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000

Engineers Australia thanks the Department of Planning and Environment for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

Engineers Australia is the peak body for the engineering profession. We are a member-based professional association with over 100,000 individual members. Established in 1919, Engineers Australia is a not-for-profit organisation, constituted by Royal Charter to advance the science and practice of engineering for the benefit of the community.

The proposed regulatory changes were reviewed by the Engineers Australia Society of Fire Safety Engineers, a group within the organisation that fosters excellence in fire safety in Australia. As a learned society, its aims are to draw together individuals who are actively engaged in fire safety, to provide a national focus and leadership for the development, understanding, practice and application of fire safety engineering to achieve reductions of risk for life, property and environmental damage and the implementation of cost-effective fire safety codes and regulations.

Engineers Australia welcomes the NSW Government's work in establishing a better regulatory model for building certification through the Government's implementation of the findings from the Lambert Review, and from those recommendations the changes to the abovementioned regulations.

Engineers Australia welcomes the recommendations as outlined in the proposed changes. Specifically, we welcome the proposed changes around the involvement of competent fire safety practitioners, however Engineers Australia would like to see some further clarification from the Department on the definition between Fire Engineers and Fire Safety Engineers as competent practitioners, so as not to cause confusion for the public. Ensuring the public good is a hall mark of our profession and we see the proposed changes as ensuring the public confidence through the establishment of codes of conduct and insurance requirements.

We look forward to receiving the draft accreditation framework from the Government shortly, and look forward to further engagement with the NSW Government as the recommendations of the Lambert Review are implemented.

Should you have any questions or wish to have more information on our work please contact me directly by email at gewing@engineersaustralia.org.au or by phone on (02) 9410 5629.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Ewing', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Ewing
General Manager,
Sydney and Canberra