

September 27, 2023

The Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

RE: REQUEST FOR AMENDED REFERENCED STANDARDS TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NCC OUT-OF-CYCLE

I am writing to request that the Building Ministers Meeting (BMM) incorporate amended referenced standards into the NCC on an out-of-cycle basis.

Specifically, the **Building Products Industry Council (BPIC)*** is seeking to have amended referenced standards incorporated into *Part A4 NCC Referenced Documents* annually.

Australian Standards are reviewed and amended by Standards Australia on an ongoing basis and when the NCC was published annually, consistency between the requirements in standards and the requirements of the NCC was maintained. When the NCC was extended to a 3-year cycle this consistency broke down, and we now have a situation where fully reviewed, amended and agreed reference standards can languish for years before being adopted into the next NCC.

Not only is this a missed opportunity for the BMM to improve the building regulatory environment in a more timely manner, but it puts enormous pressure on the ABCB to review and incorporate the significant backlog of revised reference standards in the lead up to the publication of each NCC edition. Such secondary review in BPIC's opinion is unnecessary as the ABCB already has an opportunity to review, as they sit on all the referenced standards committees.

Reverting to an annual cycle of incorporating referenced standards into the NCC would place no further burden on industry (as this situation was the norm for the majority of the NCC's history) and would focus the NCC 3-yearly revision on important reforms.

BPIC thanks you for your consideration and we look forward to your urgent response.

Yours sincerely,



Rodger Hills
BPIC – Executive Officer

** BPIC is the national peak body representing Australia's leading building products industries and related services with members and associated companies directly employing over 243,300 Australians with more than 796,500 employed indirectly. Their collective industries are worth over \$67.3B in annual production to the Australian economy.*