

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

**Proposed Fire Safety Changes to Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000**

1. Assessment for fire safety statements by competent fire safety practitioner and standardised statement
  - a. In regards to the change in wording from 'properly qualified person' to 'competent fire safety practitioner' in relation to an annual fire safety statement; I feel this excludes a number of professional currently working for government agencies of private industry, who have the level of competency to prepare these documents of behalf of the owner of the building.
  - b. If the proposed change are to go ahead, I would recommend an additional category be added to the Building Professionals Act 2005 which allows an individual to be accredited to prepare annual fire safety statements on behalf of the owner of the building, which does not require a more extensive qualification for example an A1 certifier.
2. Critical stage inspections class 2-9
  - a. Whilst I support a minimum inspection of service penetrations to a buildings fire walls, floors and ceilings, I feel that 20% is inadequate due to the issues that have arisen on building projects around this (post inspection)
  - b. I believe the inspection should align with AS1851 (requiring 100% to be inspected), with the critical stage inspections covering off on not less than 50%. This would give a greater sample measure, and further reducing the burden on the owner post defect liability period.
3. Additional Checks by Fire and Rescue NSW
  - a. Support proposed changes
4. Documenting, checking and endorsing of fire safety Alternate Solutions
  - a. Support proposed changes

5. Limited exemptions from compliance with some Building Code of Australia standards.
  - a. Support proposed changes
  
6. Assessment by competent fire safety practitioners before issue of fire safety certificate and standardise certificates.
  - a. Support proposed changes

Should you require any additional information, feel free to contact me on the numbers below.

Yours Sincerely,

**Graham Burr**  
Fire Safety Manager  
Northern Sydney Local Health District  
PH: 94856117  
MO: 0411620724

Fire Services  
Northern Sydney Local Health District  
Palmerston Rd  
Hornsby, NSW 2077  
Telephone (02) 94779117 Facsimile (02) 94762547

Northern Sydney Local Health District  
ABN 63 834 171 987