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Felicity Greenway
Director Industry and Infrastructure Policy
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Greenway,

Infrastructure SEPP Review

HIA welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Department's review of State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (Infrastructure SEPP).

I have reviewed the Explanation of Intended Effect and draft instrument issued for public comment in February 2017. The extent of this submission is confined to the proposals relevant to the housing industry.

Whilst the majority of the amendments proposed in the SEPP review are intended to assist the delivery of public social infrastructure, HIA supports the proposed reforms that are targeted towards the modernisation of the planning system and, as a consequence, the removal of unnecessary and costly red tape.

In respect of the current review, we welcome the amendments regarding sewerage and water lead-in infrastructure. The identification of these works as complying development will reduce the time and cost of securing approvals for these relatively minor works. HIA recommends that the Department confirm with utility providers that the proposed thresholds for complying development (325mm diameter and 1km in length) are adequate and appropriate.

HIA is aware that the Department is currently considering imposing restrictions on private certification for certain categories of sensitive development and limiting the ability to issue complying development certificates for those categories to just council certifiers. Given the sewerage and water lead-in infrastructure identified as complying development is minor, we would expect that there would be no restriction on imposed regarding private certification.

Should you require any further information in relation to this submission, please contact Troy Loveday, Assistant Director, Residential Development and Planning, on (02) 9978 3342 or t.loveday@hia.com.au

Yours sincerely,

HOUSING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION LIMITED

David Bare
NSW Executive Director