

Comment

On Page 13 and Page 27 of the RIS it is implied that professional engineers will benefit from registration. Considering that all practicing professional engineers will be required to register, it is hard to imagine how being registered will confer any individual benefit. This will be especially so for professional engineers who currently have permanent employment in Victoria.

At the beginning of the RIS it was stated that there had been extensive consultation with the profession. This may be somewhat misleading because there is little evidence of any feedback provided by the reference group, in relation to the Bill, having been taken onboard.

On Page 22 it has been recognised that the assessment of the qualifications and experience of an applicant will be carried out by an Assessment Entity. These entities will charge a significant fee, which will be in addition to the fees listed in the RIS. The assessment fee will be particularly high for engineers with qualifications not covered by the Washington Accord. On Page 49 it is further suggested that assessment fees will be kept low due to competition between Assessment Entities. However at the commencement of the registration scheme it is quite likely that there will only be one Assessment Entity for the majority of engineers i.e. Engineers Australia.

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