

Registration Review
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
Building and Energy Division
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Re: Registration of Builders (and related occupations) Reforms

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (CRIS), Registration of Builders (and related occupations) Reforms (October 2020). Our response is to **Question eight** of the CRIS regarding removal of the builder registration pathway for persons with an engineering qualification.

Engineers Australia is the peak member-based professional association for engineers. Established in 1919, Engineers Australia is constituted by Royal Charter to advance the science and practice of engineering for the benefit of the community. Engineers Australia maintains national professional standards, benchmarked against international norms. As Australia's signatory to the International Engineering Alliance, this includes accreditation of university engineering programs.

Engineers Australia recommends against removing the pathway for persons with an engineering qualification to be registered as a building practitioner under Set two. An engineering qualification provides a broad range of skills including how to understand and interpret standards. We believe suitably experienced engineers (with experience in supervising building construction for periods totalling at least the equivalent of five years full-time as stated in Appendix B Set two) should not be required to separately apply for and hold a mandatory building technical qualification.

Engineers on the NER or who are Chartered are required to undertake a minimum of 150 hours of continuing professional development in their area of practice (over a three-year period) relevant to their area of practice. Therefore, Engineers Australia supports the inclusion of a builder registration pathway for persons with an engineering qualification in lieu of requiring an engineer with relevant experience to hold a mandatory building technical qualification.

As part of the Government's review, Engineers Australia recommends revising and updating the qualification requirement under Set two. Currently the pathway includes "Qualifications acceptable for...(c) Membership as Professional Engineer (MIEAust or FIEAust) of the Institution of engineers Australia...evidenced by such membership or registration."

We propose the following change in wording:

"A relevant engineering qualification and registration on the Engineers Australia National Engineering Register and/or are a Chartered Professional Engineer, Chartered Technologist Engineer or Chartered Associate Engineer in a relevant area of practice."

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on the below phone number or email address.

Yours sincerely,



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