

Building and Plumbing Newsflash 509

Notifiable work and National Accreditation Framework amendments

Purpose

To advise of the commencement of the notifiable work reforms and National Accreditation Framework amendments for building certifiers from 1 November 2012.

Background

Amendments to the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* and its regulations that introduce the notifiable work reforms will commence on 1 November 2012.

Amendments to the *Building Act 1975* align it more closely with the National Accreditation Framework for building certifiers.

Notifiable work

The amendments to the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* introduce 'notifiable work', a new category of plumbing and drainage work that will reduce red tape for licensees, local governments and consumers.

Notifiable work will increase the amount of work that a plumber or drainer can perform without local government approval or inspections. When a licensee performs notifiable work, they must lodge a Form 4—Notifiable work to the Plumbing Industry Council within 10 business days of completing the work.

The *Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003* has been amended to prescribe fees for both electronic (\$25) and manual (\$35) lodgement of a Form 4 to the Plumbing Industry Council.

The *Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003* has been amended to include the new schedules of notifiable work and minor work and the updated schedule of unregulated work. Any work not included in these schedules, or included in the exclusions to notifiable work, is compliance assessable and requires local government approval.

Changes to the *Building Regulation 2006* have also been made to update parts of the Queensland Development Code to facilitate the introduction of notifiable work.

MP 4.1 – Sustainable Buildings has been amended to remove references to 'notifiable minor work' and 'other renovations' as the notifiable work reforms make these redundant.

MP 4.2 – Water Savings Targets and MP 4.3 – Alternative Water Sources – commercial buildings have also been amended to allow the use of a dual check valve with an atmospheric port instead of a backflow prevention device for wholly or partially buried rainwater tanks.

The *Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009* has also been amended to provide concurrence agency powers to local governments for building work for class 1 buildings that have on-site wastewater management systems installed, and the work involves adding one or more bedrooms. This is required to ensure that the adequacies of these systems are checked for the new potential hydraulic loading of the building.

For more information about the notifiable work reforms see [Building and Plumbing Newsflash 505](#). Alternatively, contact the Plumbing Industry Council at 1800 264 585, email notifiablework@qld.gov.au or visit www.hpw.qld.gov.au/notifiablework

National Accreditation Framework for Building Certifiers

The amendments will align the terminology used in the *Building Act 1975* more closely with the National Accreditation Framework for building certifiers, and will also maintain three levels of building certifiers in Queensland:

- Level 1 – building certifier (previously building surveyor)
- Level 2 – building certifier (previously assistant building surveyor)
- Level 3 – building certifier (previously building surveying technician).

Contact for further information

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