

E – INSTITUTE

The Official Newsletter of IPA



The Institute of Plumbing
Australia Incorporated

Issue 48

August 2012

Promoting Consistency in all things Plumbing

National Occupational Licensing:

With the release for public comment of the long awaited Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) outlining proposals for nationally consistent licensing in the Plumbing and Gasfitting occupation you now have your chance to have your say on this important government initiative.

Unfortunately the 290 page RIS muddies the water and makes, to put it bluntly, a mockery of the hard won consensus opinion that the industry stakeholders forged during the initial consultation process. Although the RIS does note the Plumbing and Gasfitting Interim Advisory Committee's preferred option of the three tier model the RIS also includes a dumbed down version that was not supported by industry and to add insult to injury an even further dumbed down option with only two tiers. Add the obligatory inclusion of a "don't do anything" option and the similar don't do much tweak of mutual recognition and you have a document that is too long, has too many choices and requires completion of a 56 question survey to say yes to your preferred option. But despite the complexities and the time required all stakeholders are urged to consider the options and lodge their preferences before the closing date for submissions on 21 September 2012. For any questions you may have Senator The Hon. Chris Evans stated in his media release 13 August that Information Sessions will be held in all capital cities commencing in last week of August but at time of going to print the dates and times have not been advertised (to register for notification of dates go to www.nola.gov.au). Links to the Regulation Impact Statement and other documents are included below.

Stephen Movley
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Links to Consultation RIS:

Consultation Regulation Impact Statement outlining proposals to reform occupational licensing for the plumbing and gasfitting occupation have been released by the COAG National Licensing Taskforce.

The document outlines three possible options for occupational licensing reform – the status quo, national licensing and automatic mutual recognition.

The consultation period for this Consultation RIS will remain open until 21 September 2012, but this **date may be extended**. For more information about national licensing and the proposed reforms, go to www.nola.gov.au.

[View the Consultation Regulation Impact Statements](#)

[Make a submission on the Consultation Regulation Impact Statements](#)

[View frequently asked questions about national occupational licensing](#)

[Email the COAG National Licensing Taskforce](#)

The regulation of plumbing in Western Australia:

In the previous issue of E-Institute an editorial indicated problems arising with the way plumbing was being treated by certain government organisations and what appeared to be misinformation being provided to government. Since then peak bodies within plumbing have demonstrated their solidarity and through this a contingent from industry has met with Minister O'Brien and it is pleasing to report that he now is more fully informed and has given an undertaking the State Government will conduct a full review of Western Australia's plumbing legislation. This has also coincided with the appointment of a new Chairperson to the Plumbers Licensing Board and other Directors (due to natural rotation and terms of appointment) making it easier to start afresh. The IPA together with the MPGWA met with Chairman Croxon and stated industry's ideas for both immediate and longer term actions required to re-establish an orderly and complete regulation of the wider plumbing industry and have come away with real confidence that if industry is prepared to develop practical business cases to support our views of where plumbing should be in Western Australia industry will be included in the decision making debate.

A reason for strong plumbing regulations:

WHO 2011 CHOLERA REPORT – 589,854 cases and 7,816 deaths

Many countries are making important efforts to contain the spread of cholera, but concerns have been raised about the growing number of people living in unsanitary conditions who are at risk for outbreaks of cholera and other epidemic-prone diarrhoeal

diseases. Prevention, preparedness and response all depend upon an effective surveillance system and are linked and inter- dependent. There is a need to shift the emphasis from response to prevention in order to avert outbreaks by expanding access to improved sources of drinking- water and improved sanitation, and by working with communities to encourage behavioural change to diminish the risks of infection.

For more information please see the World Health Organisation report at www.who.int/wer/en click on latest issue – 3 August 2012 Vol.87.

Could it happen in Australia; in 2011 there were 6 cases but all were imported but what about the 1,535 cases in Papua New Guinea only a canoe ride from northern Australia and the rest of the world only a plane ride away, we must never forget the SARS outbreak in Hong Kong started by a traveller and spread by plumbing **poorly maintained** by **poorly trained** workers; plumbers? In Australia we must be ever vigilant that only plumbers trained to the highest standards work on plumbing systems, there are no shortcuts in public health.

World Plumbing Council to meet in Australia:

A General Meeting of the World Plumbing Council will be held in Brisbane, Australia on the 21st/22nd October 2012 to be followed by an Australian Plumbing Industry Conference in Cairns, Queensland, the gateway to the Barrier Reef.

More information on the World Plumbing Council at www.worldplumbing.org

Information on the Australasian International Plumbing Conference can be found at www.plumbingconference.com.au

Selection and Sizing of Copper Tubes for Water Piping Systems

[Selection and Sizing of Copper Tubes for Water Piping Systems](#) by Barrie Smith (the blue book) is now available in both DVD and E-Book download, visit www.plumbing.org.au and follow the links.

NOTE:

Companion Spreadsheet now available, see www.plumbing.org.au for details and FREE Download. (follow the button links or click on **Technical Book Sales and scroll to bottom of page for **Spreadsheet Files****

Your input into this Newsletter and other IPA matters is always welcome and in fact sort after. If you are not already a member why not join and really help us provide a voice for plumbers and plumbing. Simply email the Secretary below.

Comments on matters raised in E-INSTITUTE or suggestions for future issues are welcome and may be sent to the Editor at:
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