



BUILDING ADVISORY SERVICES BRANCH

BUILDING NOTE

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NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE SERIES COMMENCEMENT 1 MAY 2011

Please note this Building Note is for notification and general information only. It is not a substitute for making direct reference to the legislation and is not legal advice.

The purpose of this Building Note is to notify building practitioners of the commencement of the new National Construction Code series ("NCC") on **1 May 2011**.

Background

Before the NCC, building work and plumbing standards were published separately. It was accepted that created overlaps, inconsistencies and an unnecessary increase in regulatory burden for the construction industry.

To overcome those issues, the Council of Australian Governments ("COAG") together with the Australian Building Codes Board ("ABCB") undertook to consolidate both standards with a view to eventually incorporating all on-site construction standards into the one Code.

Which standards apply from 1 May 2011?

The NCC will comprise of 3 volumes. Volumes 1 & 2 will contain the Building Code of Australia ("BCA"). Volume 3 will contain the Plumbing Code of Australia ("PCA"). As there has been no change of name to the BCA, the Building Regulations continue to incorporate the latest edition of the BCA.

That means that from 1 May 2011, the **new edition BCA 2011** (Volumes 1 and 2 of the NCC) will be the standard for building work that must be complied with in the Northern Territory.

The Plumbing Code of Australia (Volume 3) will not be adopted in the Building Regulations at this stage. Further consultation with industry about that Code is intended to take place this year.

The relevant plumbing standard that must be complied with in the Northern Territory will therefore not change from 1 May 2011. The plumbing standard for the Northern Territory will remain AS/NZS 3500 with the modifications as provided for in Schedule 5 of the Building Regulations.

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21 April 2011