

BUILDING ADVISORY SERVICES BRANCH

BUILDING NOTE

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REMOVAL OF WORK HEALTH AUTHORITY AS REPORTING AUTHORITY

Amendments to the Building Regulations to remove the Work Health Authority (NT WorkSafe) as a reporting authority under the Building Regulations will commence on **1 November 2015**.

Under Schedule 2 of the Building Regulations, a building certifier has been required to seek a report from NT WorkSafe on matters relating to the Work Health and Safety Regulations for specified building work.

Changes to the Work Health and Safety legislation now places the onus on persons responsible for the design, manufacture, import, supply or installation of structures to ensure that they are suitable for purpose and without risks to the health and safety of persons, as far as reasonably practicable.

By requiring NT WorkSafe to continue as a reporting authority under the Building Regulations, NT WorkSafe was placed in a position where they were required to report on matters in which they no longer have a primary role.

The amendments will mean that from 1 November 2015, certifiers will no longer be required to seek a report from NT WorkSafe prior to deciding an application for a building or occupancy permit.

In terms of transitional arrangements, if a building or occupancy permit application has been made to a building certifier prior to commencement (1 November 2015) and not decided by the certifier, the certifier can decide the application without seeking the report from that date.

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