



Victoria Government Gazette

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Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Plumbing (Water and Energy Savings) Regulations 2004

In accordance with section 11 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**, notice is given that a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) has been prepared in relation to the proposed Plumbing (Water and Energy Savings) Regulations 2004 (the proposed regulations). The proposed regulations will be made under sections 221ZZZV and 262 of the **Building Act 1993**.

The objectives of the proposed regulations are to increase water efficiency attained by establishing plumbing standards to reduce water pressure in buildings, to reduce flow rates at taps and showers in houses, and using water from the roof catchment area of new houses to be used to supplement the water used for sanitary (toilet) flushing toilets. The objectives are also to reduce non-renewable energy use for heating water by establishing plumbing standards for installation of solar water heaters and minimum performance levels of solar water heaters.

The proposed regulations include the requirement that all new Class 1 (as defined in the Building Code of Australia) buildings, installation of a water supply connection from stormwater to a rain water tank to the sanitary (toilet) systems or a solar hot water unit must be installed from 1 July 2004 to 1 July 2005 all new houses that have less than 5 star house energy rating and from 1 July 2005 all new houses that have a 5 star house energy rating. In addition, a solar water heating system can only have a gas booster where a reticulated gas supply is available to the property.

The RIS discusses the costs and benefits and possible alternatives to the proposed regulations and concludes that the proposed regulations are the best means of achieving the stated objectives.

Copies of the RIS and the proposed regulations may be obtained from The Plumbing

Industry Commission by phoning (03) 9889 2211 between 9.00 am and 4.30 pm weekdays or on the internet at <http://www.pic.vic.gov.au>.

Public comments are invited on the RIS and the proposed regulations. All comments must be in writing and must be received at the following address by 5.00 pm on 14 May 2004.

Ken Dare, Legal Officer, Plumbing Industry Commission, PO Box 552, Camberwell, Vic. 3124. Telephone: (03) 9889 2211. Facsimile: (03) 9889 3999. E-mail: mail@pic.vic.gov.au.

Dated 14 April 2004

MARY DELAHUNTY, MP
Minister for Planning

SPECIAL

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