



MEDIA RELEASE

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ACCREDITED CERTIFIERS VINDICATED BY EXPERT REPORT INTO OPAL TOWER

The Association of Accredited Certifiers (AAC) has welcomed the release of the Engineers' [Report](#) into the Opal Tower construction issues.

The report vindicates accredited certifiers, finding no accredited certifiers are at fault regarding the issues with Opal Tower.

The report states:

“While it was not within the scope of our review to look closely at the certifications that took place on the Opal Tower, we found no evidence that the building certifiers had been deficient in regards to statutory expectations.”

“Despite repeated uninformed attacks by various commentators, the experts have found that accredited certifiers are not to blame for the issues with Opal Tower,” AAC CEO, Jill Brookfield said.

“This report vindicates accredited certifiers and highlights a clear lack of understanding about the certification process from a number of commentators.

“Days after the issues with Opal Tower were first discovered, all accredited certifiers were unjustifiably attacked, undermining owners’ confidence in the role accredited certifiers play in the industry.

“Those attacks were clearly ill-informed and led to an avalanche of unjustified negative publicity for hardworking accredited certifiers doing the right thing around NSW.”

The AAC recently released an eight-point plan to improve accountability in the construction sector in NSW, which includes:

1. All professionals involved in the design, installation and approvals process must be accredited and insured.
2. All key personnel in the process who are not accredited must be licensed and be required to prove their competency at regular intervals.
3. All documents related to the certification of a building should be in a standard form developed by industry and Government.
4. All persons involved in the certification of any engineering design or technical aspect of construction must issue a certificate on a standard form.
5. Comprehensive auditing of all accredited or licensed persons.
6. All parties involved in the building product supply chain need to be accountable for the products they prescribe, specify, purchase and use.

7. Amend the BASIX scheme to allow applicants to design buildings based on predetermined standards.
8. Strengthen the administration of building regulation in NSW by bringing building regulations and control functions into one portfolio, reporting to one Minister.

“The AAC thanks Professors Mark Hoffman, John Carter and Stephen Foster for their work in investigating the issue,” Ms Brookfield said.

To find out more about the role of Accredited Certifiers and AAC, visit:

www.accreditedcertifiers.com.au

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