

18 August 2022

The Hon Victor Dominello MP
Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government
Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

CC: The Hon Ed Husic MP – Minister for Industry and Science

Via email: office@dominello.minister.nsw.gov.au

Dear Minister

RE: Commencement date of NCC 2022

I write regarding the upcoming Building Ministers' Meeting and the uncertainty surrounding the commencement of the National Construction Code 2022 (NCC 2022).

By way of background, the Association of Australian Certifiers (AAC) is the peak body representing registered certifiers in NSW, both in private practice and in local government.

In advance of the upcoming Building Ministers' Meeting, we respectfully encourage Ministers to set a commencement date for the NCC 2022 that delivers much-needed certainty to the building industry and allows for all practitioners, particularly registered certifiers, to prepare for changes to the NCC.

After surveying our members, we recommend to Ministers that a 1 May 2023 commencement date for NCC 2022 would deliver such certainty to the industry. 96 per cent of respondents supported this commencement date, which not only would provide the necessary implementation time, but it would also align this version of the NCC with the historical adoption date of 1 May.

Many of our members report that the lack of clarity around the content and timing of the NCC has created significant uncertainty in the building sector. Noting that many of the changes have wide-reaching impacts, there is strong a desire for additional time for certifiers to familiarise themselves with the changes.

Feedback from AAC members includes:

- "This delay will help the construction industry be better prepared for the significant changes."
- "There has been a significant amount of changes in the industry with changes to Acts, and new Regulations. There should be more time allocated to understand the complexity of these changes before introducing more change."
- "In the interests of everyone in the building industry, sufficient time needs to be provided from when the BCA contents are fully known and fixed, to when it is required to be implemented."
- "It cannot commence any sooner. How can certifiers and architects create documents and enforcement of the NCC if we do not have a minimum of three months to purchase, review and learn the new format? It is the biggest format change in history of BCA and NCC."

There is still significant uncertainty around the NCC 2022 and its application in NSW and therefore a longer lead-time before its commencement is strongly encouraged.

If you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0431 082 259.

Yours sincerely



Jill Brookfield
Chief Executive Officer