

Standard Plumbing and Drainage (Plumbing Code of Australia Compliance) Amendment Regulation 2019

Explanatory notes for Subordinate Legislation 2019 No. 65

made under the

Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002

General Outline

Short title

Standard Plumbing and Drainage (Plumbing Code of Australia Compliance) Amendment Regulation 2019.

Authorising law

Section 145 of the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* (PDA 2002).

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The *Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003* (SPDR) commenced on 1 November 2003. It complements the PDA 2002 to set standards for plumbing and drainage work undertaken in Queensland. Under the SPDR, plumbing and drainage work must comply with the *Plumbing Code of Australia* (PCA), to meet the statutory requirements of the PDA 2002.

The National Construction Code 2016 (NCC 2016) is an initiative of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) developed to incorporate all on-site construction requirements into a single code. The NCC 2016 is comprised of the Building Code of Australia (BCA), Volume One and Two; and the PCA, Volume Three. The NCC 2016 is administered and published by the Australian Building Codes Board and is published on a three-year cycle with a new edition to commence on 1 May 2019. Governments and industry have worked together over three years to formalise content of PCA.

The SPDR currently specifies the sections and parts of the PCA that apply under law in Queensland. The updates to the PCA saw new sections introduced into the Code, while other sections were deleted. This has resulted in a renumbering of sections.

The SPDR is required to be amended to ensure the PCA is correctly adopted and can be applied for meeting the performance requirements of the PCA.

Achievement of policy objectives

The *Standard Plumbing and Drainage (Plumbing Code of Australia Compliance) Amendment Regulation 2019* achieves the policy objectives by ensuring the PCA is correctly adopted and can be applied for meeting the performance requirements of the PCA.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the objectives of the PDA 2002, particularly to reduce the regulatory burden on consumers, industry and local government and meet industry and community expectations to include improved regulatory requirements for plumbing and drainage work.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

Implementation of the Amendment Regulation is not expected to incur additional costs for the State Government. The Amendment Regulation will align Queensland plumbing laws with the NCC framework.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

The Queensland Productivity Commission confirmed that as the proposed amendment appears unlikely to result in significant adverse impacts, no further regulatory impact assessment is required under the Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation.