



## PRELIMINARY IMPACT ANALYSIS

**PROPOSAL:** This proposal seeks to review Joint Australian New Zealand Standard (AS/NZS) 3500.4 *Plumbing and drainage Part 4: Heated water services* to amend the requirements for heated water temperature control.

Responsible Technical committee: Australian Standard Committee WS-014, *Plumbing and Drainage*

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| <b>NCC REFERENCE:</b>   | <b>BCA Volume One:</b> N/A                            |
| For revisions or amendments to existing National Construction Code (NCC) referenced documents, provide additional information | <b>BCA Volume Two:</b> N/A                            |
|   | <b>PCA Volume Three:</b> B2.2, B2.6, B2.7, B2.8, B2.9 |

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| <b>PROPONENT:</b> | Nominating organisation: Australian Building Codes Board                            |
|                   | Nominating individual: Tom Roberts  |
|                   | Position: Director  |
|                   | Contact email: <a href="mailto:Tom.Roberts@abcb.gov.au">Tom.Roberts@abcb.gov.au</a> |

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| <b>DATE OF PIA:</b>   | Date: 2020    |
| To differentiate between versions include the document date and/or version number | Version: 1.0  |
|   | Status: DRAFT |

### NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM:

In the 2019 edition of the Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA), heated water temperature control provisions, which were considered matters of public policy, were elevated from AS/NZS 3500.4 to the PCA Part B2 Heated Water Systems.

The Protocol for the development of Referenced Documents in the National Construction Code (NCC) states in Clause 5.1 that a NCC referenced document shall not duplicate NCC requirements.

## OBJECTIVES:

To remove duplicated requirements between the PCA and the primary referenced document, AS/NZS 3500.4.

## OPTIONS:

There are two options presented for consideration by decision-makers:

### **Option 1 - Status Quo**

This option would see no change made to both the PCA and AS/NZS 3500.4.

### **Option 2 – Regulatory (proposed) change**

This option proposes to delete the following clauses:

- AS/NZS 3500.4:2018 Clause 1.11.2 Sanitary fixtures delivery temperature
- AS/NZS 3500.4:2018 Clause 1.11.3 Solutions for control of delivery temperatures

Note: A non-regulatory option is not deemed feasible in this circumstance as there are no regulatory impacts associated with either option.

## IMPACT ANALYSIS (OF ALL OPTIONS):

An analysis of these two options is outlined below:

### **Option 1 - Status Quo**

This option would see no change made to both the Plumbing Code of Australia and AS/NZS 3500.4. The issues described above would continue occur.

### **Option 2 – Regulatory (proposed) change**

This option will result in a positive impact in terms of achieving a higher level of compliance with the Protocol for Referenced Documents. Given the clauses are the same in both documents, there will be no environmental, competitive or economic impacts as a result of the proposed change.

## TRANSITIONAL MEASURES

Transitional measures are not considered necessary when a new or revised document is to be referenced in the NCC.

## CONSULTATION:

Both Standards Australia's WS-014 committee and the ABCB's Plumbing Code Committee have been consulted on this project proposal and have provided support for Option 2.

As AS/NZS 3500.4 is a joint Australian and New Zealand Standard, WS-014 representatives from New Zealand have been consulted throughout this project to ensure that the removal of these provisions will not cause any unintended consequences. If any issues are identified they will be resolved between the Australian Building Codes Board and the New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (in consultation with other key stakeholders).

A draft of AS/NZS 3500.4 will be released for public consultation and members of the Plumbing Code Committee and the general public will be invited to provide comment on the draft.

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| <b>CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDED OPTION:</b> |
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| Due to the benefits of achieving a higher level of compliance with the Protocol for Referenced Documents and limited impacts associated with Option 2, this is considered to be the preferred option. |
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| <b>IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW:</b> |
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| Option 2 is proposed to be implemented into the NCC through reference in the PCA in May 2022.<br>A review of the provisions will occur as outlined in the consultation section of this analysis, however, is not proposed for review post publication. |
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| <b>LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:</b> |
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| No attachments provided. |
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