

Consultation on Draft National Building Energy Standard-Setting, Assessment and Rating Framework

Submissions Guide and Template

The Draft National Building Energy Standard-Setting, Assessment and Rating Framework (the Draft Framework) has been released for public consultation and is available at: www.climatechange.gov.au/government/submissions.aspx

Making written submissions

While comment is welcome on all elements of the Draft Framework for Consultation, comment is specifically sought on:

- whether every rating tool used for regulatory purposes should use a 10-star rating scale;
- whether there should be only one rating tool specified for compliance with building standards that require a minimum star rating (i.e. whether it would be more beneficial to have only one house energy rating software tool that incorporates the best elements of the three existing software tools);
- whether residential building standards should be harmonised across all jurisdictions; and
- whether any changes to existing governance arrangements could improve the development and administration of rating tools used under the Framework.

We also seek your comment on indicative quantitative goals for future energy efficiency standards in 2015 and 2020, to provide greater certainty over possible long term outcomes. The attached Pitt & Sherry report recommends an approach to such goals on which we also seek your input, noting that:

- Energy reduction goals may need to be varied for each specific building classification and climate zone around Australia;
- The Pitt & Sherry report provides some analysis of the use of photovoltaic cells (PVs). However, as this is a complex issue, the inclusion of PVs in building standards requires much more analysis and consideration;
- The energy reduction goal for residential buildings is not specified in terms of a star rating under the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS) as the Framework proposes changing the nature of this rating to cover 'whole-of-building' energy use (i.e. including fixed equipment and fixed appliances) rather than just heating and cooling loads; and
- All future energy efficiency standards will be subject to a full regulatory analysis. For residential buildings, this analysis will be informed by a study currently being undertaken into the effectiveness of the 5-star energy efficiency standards incorporated into the Building Code of Australia in 2006.

A **submissions template** follows. It is advisable but not essential that you use this template in framing your submission. Forward your submission:

- via email (preferred) to: buildingframework@climatechange.gov.au OR
- via mail to: Building Framework Team
Buildings Energy Efficiency Branch
Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency
GPO Box 854
Canberra ACT 2601

Submissions should be received by close of business on 6 July 2012.

Any general enquiries should be directed to buildingframework@climatechange.gov.au.

Consultation on Draft National Building Energy Standard-Setting, Assessment and Rating Framework – May 2012

Submission Template

Overview

This submission template should be used to provide comments on the Draft National Building Energy Standard-Setting, Assessment and Rating Framework (the Draft Framework).

Contact details

Name of organisation

Name of author

Phone number

Email address

Website

Date

dd/mm/yyyy

Confidentiality

All submissions will be treated as public documents, unless the author of the submission clearly indicates the contrary by marking all or part of the submission as 'confidential'. Public submissions may be published in full on the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency or other relevant Government websites, including any personal information of authors and/or other third parties contained in the submission. If any part of the submission should be treated as confidential then please provide two versions of the submission, one with the confidential information removed for publication.

A request made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* for access to a submission marked confidential will be determined in accordance with that Act.

Do you want this submission to be treated as confidential?

Yes

No

Submission instructions

Submissions should be made by **close of business on 6 July 2012**. The Department reserves the right not to consider late submissions. Additionally the use of the template is not mandatory, independent submissions can be made with this Cover Sheet attached.

Where possible, submissions should be lodged electronically, using this template or other text based formats. Submissions can be lodged using the buttons located on the final three pages of the template or via the email address - buildingframework@climatechange.gov.au.

Submissions may alternatively be sent to the postal address below to arrive by the due date.

Building Framework Team
Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency
GPO Box 854
Canberra ACT 2601

Please provide comments for the following criteria:

Should every rating tool used for regulatory purposes use a 10-star rating scale?

Should there be only one rating tool specified for compliance with building standards that require a minimum star rating?

Should residential building standards be harmonised across all jurisdictions?

Could any changes to existing governance arrangements improve the development and administration of rating tools used under the Framework?

Do you agree the approach taken by Pitt & Sherry in determining the quantitative goals?

What goals should be set for future energy efficiency standards in 2015 and 2020?

