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# Ecolibrium

## Phased

The HFC phase-down  
definitively explained.



## Tougher NCC critical for climate

ASBEC is calling for the National Construction Code to be updated. Now.

Energy standards in Australia's National Construction Code (NCC) must be urgently upgraded if new buildings are to be fit for a zero-carbon future.

So says a new report, *Built to Perform*, prepared by the Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council (ASBEC) and ClimateWorks Australia. AIRAH is a foundation member of ASBEC.

"All of the buildings being built today will still be operating in 2050, at a time when we will need to be at or near net-zero emissions," says AIRAH CEO Tony Gleeson, M.AIRAH. "The NCC must reflect this, ensuring that today's new builds are prepared to operate in the future. The HVAC&R industry is certainly ready to play its part."

*Built to Perform* calls for greater stringency in energy regulations to be introduced in the 2022 Code, with a strong focus on the residential sector. Further incremental increases are noted for non-residential buildings.

The report also calls on governments to broaden the Code to meet future sustainability challenges, and to provide certainty to industry via clear targets and processes. This, the report says, will encourage investment in more energy-efficient buildings. The changes would form a crucial part of meeting Australia's commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement.



Suzanne Toumbourou

"We welcome proposed improvements to the 2019 National Construction Code to advance energy performance in commercial buildings and adjust the requirements for residential buildings," says ASBEC executive director Suzanne Toumbourou.

"However, to meet the full potential of the Code, we need to shift away from ad hoc, periodic updates. Governments must agree to a longer-term plan, with targets and a clear, regulated and transparent process for Code updates out to 2030, starting with a step-change in residential standards in 2022." ■

For more info, go to [www.asbec.asn.au](http://www.asbec.asn.au)

## The air we breathe

HVAC&R Nation's August cover story explores the problem of toxic mould.

Mould in the built environment has always been undesirable, but now evidence is emerging that it can be seriously harmful to occupants' health. Toxic mould syndrome is a debilitating



form of Chronic Inflammatory Response Syndrome that has been linked with mould.

Mould can occur anywhere in the indoor environment where moisture remains present for a prolonged period. And unfortunately for humans, mould likes the same temperature conditions that we do. The question is, what can good HVAC&R design do to help?

Go to [www.airah.org.au/nation](http://www.airah.org.au/nation) ■



Sydney-based Elizabeth Paparo, Affil.AIRAH, is content marketing specialist at Heatcraft Australia.

### Responsibilities

Creating and coordinating the marketing content requirements at Heatcraft, including advertising, PR, case studies, campaign material, website and product literature.

### Specialty

Marketing communications and co-ordination.

### Passions

I have an Italian background so I'm passionate about a lot of things! But most importantly I am passionate about my core values in life – family, respect, integrity and having a good work ethic. This is how I was raised.

### Challenges

Overcoming the technical detail of the products and systems. Ideally, I would love a trade qualification, but in the absence of it I need to find alternate ways to understand the technology and mechanics.

### Professional development

I am open to learning in whatever shape it comes in. Attending conferences, reading and some online training helps, but the development also comes when taking on special projects outside my general scope of duties.

### Inspiring words

I find people I encounter in my everyday life more inspiring than words. Different attributes from different people trigger the sparks. Their actions are what make a lasting impression on me.

### Future plans

To keep growing and developing professionally. I'm happiest when I'm achieving, so I want to keep doing whatever I'm doing to the best of my ability. ■