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.

For more info, go to 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