



Building Commission

Number: 2011/012

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Date: February 2011

Changes to FESA'S Assessment of Building Plans

Following a 12 month trial period, the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) recently changed its policy on the range of buildings for which plans and specifications are assessed. Previously, FESA received plans and specifications for every proposed new commercial building and significant building redevelopment across the State.

The intent of this change is based on FESA's operational fire safety requirements rather than the more broad requirements of the Building Code of Australia (BCA), and is designed to free up FESA's resources to concentrate on other life protection for occupants of higher fire risk buildings.

New building plan assessment policy

FESA will continue to receive all plans for Class 2-9 buildings with a floor area less than 500m² however will not provide formal comment unless:

- the building requires system monitoring as specified in Building Code of Australia Specification E2.2a Clause 7;
- a submission includes an Alternative Solution which involves fire brigade intervention;
- the authority having jurisdiction specifically requests FESA to do so.

FESA's Built Environment Branch continues to be available to discuss any aspect of a fire safety nature for proposed commercial buildings, regardless of floor area. Enquiries may be directed to the Built Environment Branch Duty Officer during working hours on 9323 9780.

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BUILDING COMMISSION