

national electrical and communications NATIONAL OFFICE

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Mr Jeremy Rose Industry Manager – Property Services Artibus Innovation (Construction, Plumbing and Services IRC) First Floor, Soundys Building 373 Elizabeth Street NORTH HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Mr Rose,

Re: Fire Protection qualification review - case for endorsement

I write on behalf of the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA), in relation to the Fire Protection Inspection and Testing review project that is being conducted by your organisation in its capacity as the Construction, Plumbing and Services Industry Reference Committee. NECA is the peak industry body representing the interests of more than 5,000 electrical and communications contracting industry across Australia and other industry stakeholders.

We have noted that several qualifications contained within the case for endorsement appear to cross into licensed electrical work.

These specific qualifications are:

- Certificate II in Fire Protection and Safety Measures Routine Servicing; and
- Certificate III in Fire Protection and Safety Measures Routine Servicing.

Despite the crossover into the UEE training package, neither NECA nor any of its state chapters are aware of any consultation about potential changes or arguments in support of the case contained within the Fire Protection review. NECA, its members and the wider electrical contracting sector are also highly concerned about proposals that potentially water down electrical safety and compliance standards, arising from basic skilling and training for the inspection, testing, repairs and installation of electrical equipment.

In light of the present situation, NECA requests an extension of time for the consultation of this review so that the electrical contracting sector can be fully briefed about the implications of these proposals and have sufficient time in order to provide a detailed response.

I look forward to hearing from you urgently.

Yours faithfully

Suresh Manickam **Chief Executive Officer** National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)