

# **National Electrical and Communications Association**

## **Submission**

on

## **Regulation Impact Statement National Occupational Licensing**

12 October 2012

### **NATIONAL OFFICE**

Level 4,  
30 Atchison Street,  
St Leonards NSW 2065  
Locked Bag 1818,  
St Leonards NSW 1590

**T** +61 2 9439 8523  
**F** +61 2 9439 8525  
**E** [necanat@neca.asn.au](mailto:necanat@neca.asn.au)  
**W** [www.neca.asn.au](http://www.neca.asn.au)  
ABN 78 319 016 742

# **NECA SUBMISSION ON REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING**

## **1. ABOUT NECA**

The National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA) is the peak industry association representing contractors responsible for the delivery of electrical, voice and data communications systems across Australia. NECA has 5000 businesses as members. Our members combined employ a total of 80,000 workers, with NECA employing directly more than 2,000 apprentices in Group Training Companies.

Member businesses range from very small operations, often comprising a single individual, or one owner with just a few employees, to larger national companies employing many more people. Currently NECA membership profile includes some 1500 businesses employing over five staff, over 100 who employ more than 50 staff and several who employ over one thousand electrical workers.

NECA actively represents the needs and entitlements of contractors within the Australian Government and industry, ensuring members' needs are heard. NECA works to steer the future of the industry on critical issues such as licensing and regulations, training and education, skills and labour shortages, workplace relations and occupational health and safety and all aspects of compliance.

## **2. NOLS – OVERRIDING OBSERVATIONS**

Nationally consistent licensing has been identified as desirable by a number of industry sectors.

NECA representing the electrical contracting sector has been very supportive of a national licensing system.

However, this support was based on consistency across the existing electrical licensing jurisdictions NOT consistency across sectors. NECA objects strongly to any attempt to have consistency across sectors such as real estate or building with the electrical contracting industry. It is illogical and will harm all sectors.

At the recent roundtable with Ministers Evans and Wong, Minister Evans expressed the view he was not tied to consistency across sectors.

NECA's separate detailed submission is based on this strong view.