

NORTHERN TERRITORY BUILDING APPEALS BOARD

With the adoption of the performance-based Building Code of Australia (BCA 96) on 7 January 1998 building certifiers in the Northern Territory now have the ability to approve performance-based solutions to building design.

Whilst in the past building certifiers and/or building proponents obtained modifications of the regulations from the Building Appeals Board via the modification process with the advent of the performance based code this role is expected to diminish.

The Board nevertheless has acknowledged a role in assisting industry to develop expertise and confidence in using alternate solutions to meet BCA96 performance requirements. To this end the Board has expanded its role to provide for a third party referral system .

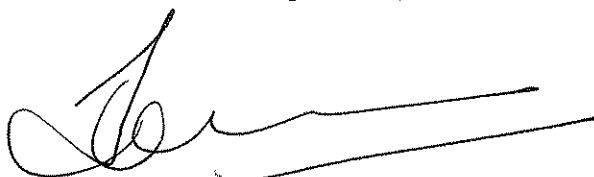
In this role the Board will

- consider applications that seek to vary the performance requirements of the BCA. Applications to the Board to vary the performance provisions of the BCA 96 would only be made in exceptional circumstances.
- provide an assessment/referral service as to whether an alternative solution complies with the performance requirements of the code.

All referrals to the Board are to be accompanied by

- completed application form;
- relevant documents
- accompanying report outlining the nature of the referral, the proposed alternative solution and performance clause used.
- analysis of the design based on BCA 96 assessment methods showing compliance with the performance clause.
- appropriate fee

Applications for referral on alternative solutions **will not** be considered unless the alternative solution is accompanied by a full assessment in accordance with the requirements of BCA 96.



Graeme Townes
Chairman

15/7/98