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To the Building Industry and the Community

**Re: Discussion Paper on Building Regulation in the Northern Territory**

It is with pleasure that I release the attached Discussion Paper. The paper is another step in the commitment of the Northern Territory Government to work with industry and the community to improve building regulation outcomes.

On 28 April 2009, I announced in Parliament a package of initiatives. They included a moratorium for two years to allow owners of existing buildings with incomplete certification, or that are unauthorised, to achieve compliance. Since that time, Government has established an inter-Departmental task force to achieve compliance of Government owned or leased buildings.

On 28 April 2009, I also tabled a report entitled *Review of the Northern Territory's Building Certification System*, prepared by a team from Queensland.

The improvement ideas in the report have been incorporated into the attached paper. Relevant projects that were already in train within the Department of Planning and Infrastructure have been added.

A Building Industry Representative Group (BIRG) has been formed to manage the industry and community consultation.

I invite you to make your comments on the matters raised in the Discussion Paper. Comments can be sent to BIRG at the address detailed in the attached paper, before 31 October 2009.

Yours sincerely

DELIA LAWRIE

