





# DISCUSSION 3: How can building information be used to assess economic value? How can building information be used to drive industry innovation? How can building information be used to support end-user decisions? How do these stakeholders access the information they need (time and cost saving)?





# The NEEBP **National Energy Efficient Buildings Project**

Managed by the Department of State Development (SA) on behalf of all jurisdictions as part of the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency





### **NEEBP Framework**

- One-off project endorsed by Select Council on Climate Change (SCCC) 16th November 2011
- Funded from Commonwealth and all jurisdictions through Dept. Industry & Science (DOI&S)
- SA leads the project with active input from Project Reference Group (PRG) representing building EE expertise from state & territory and local government
- Project reports provided to E2 Buildings Committee through Energy Productivity Branch (Res. Buildings) of DOI&S
- NEEBP commenced mid-2013 and concludes mid-2015



# The NEEBP set out to investigate, understand & influence

- Apparent discrepancies in anticipated energy efficiency between building as designed and building when lived in
- Common points of non-compliance with the energy efficiency requirements of the National Construction Code (NCC)
- Effectiveness of regulations nationally in delivering consistent energy efficient alterations or additions
- Strategies to catalyze and support all players in the building cycle (concept to key) to achieve EE compliance with the NCC and ultimately to deliver energy efficient building stock



### NEEBP Phase 1 – learn & interpret

- Phase 1 undertook industry and agency consultation through Australia-wide workshops (20), survey (600), formal submissions (50) and open dialogue (1000 plus)
- Pitt & Sherry Swinburne University of Technology managed 3 projects collaboratively to understand:
  - 1. Key systemic or process weaknesses and common points of non-compliance
  - 2. Issues specific to achieving consistent energy efficiency in Alterations and Additions
  - 3. Role of industry knowledge and skills in delivering building energy performance and NCC compliance





# **NEEBP Phase 1 Report**



NEEBP consulted with over 1000 people in all jurisdictions planners, designers, assessors, Local Government, builders, trades, product suppliers, etc.

NB: Stakeholder bias was overwhelmingly residential buildings.

- Many positive trends in premium end of housing market
- > High star rating/zero-net-energy homes are becoming more available and more affordable
- Solar energy technologies are accepted and utilised more
- ➤ NABERS & Green Star firmly adopted in Commercial Sector
- New generation of design & construction workers keen on Energy Efficiency





# NEEBP Phase 1 Report



- From the same 1000 stakeholders nationally we also heard frank, remarkably consistent and disturbing messages:
  - > GFC = slimmer margins = cutting corners to cut costs
  - > Energy efficiency is "low priority" to most players
  - Low EE knowledge and skills base in segments of industry
  - ➤ Impunity risk of discovery is low and sanctions are small
  - > Culture of "adverse competition" where many achieve competitive advantage through non-compliance
  - A "sign-off" culture pervades in under-resourced "tick a box" regulatory environment





### Phase 2 – demonstrate & influence

- Phase 2 is delivering "on-ground" demonstration pilots, regulatory review, consumer info & change strategies:
  - 1. Piloting compliance audits for residential buildings under construction
  - 2. Piloting EBP-based documentation control systems for EE
  - 3. Improving EE compliance and consistency in Alts & Ads
  - 4. Improving capacity of consumer protection agencies to advocate for home owners on home energy performance
  - 5. 2020 Steps recommended strategic actions to achieve NCC compliance and improve building energy efficiency





### Small but strategic first steps

- Every part of the building industry (policy to trades) can contribute to energy efficiency transformation through:
  - Consistent policy and interpretation of Code & regulations
  - > Improved accountability and document/process control
  - > Strategic, reasonable and *visible* sanctions
  - Industry capacity and skills *enable* market differentiation
  - > Consumer knowledge and consumer advocacy
  - Raised householder expectations of built energy efficiency

(ie: NEEBP Phase 2 Projects)



### The longer trek to 2020

- NEEBP presents 36 detailed recommendations in 4 key areas:
- ➤ Be clear about what is at stake (metrics, data)
  Global awareness of benefits (& costs) of robust EE regulation
- ➤ Get the incentives right (market differentiation)

  Progressive Code/Regs set the benchmark & The Market rewards
- ➤ Deliver quality outcomes (know-how & accountability)

  Quality audits, EBP/BMS & info control, mandatory CPD/capacity
- ➤ Empower the community (transparency & value)

  Develop a framework for consumer protection & enforcement



### Your NEEBP "to do" list

- Read the NEEBP Phase 1 Report in detail
- Consider the 36 key recommendations to inform your "action plan"
- Use the "knowledge gap analysis" to plan capacity building activities
- Access the Swinburne "EE Knowledge Register"
- Get involved in our Phase 2 Projects
- Contact me: <u>Sabina.Douglas-Hill@sa.gov.au</u>