



Victoria Government Gazette

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Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF DECISION

Electricity Safety Act 1998

As Minister responsible for the **Electricity Safety Act 1998**, I give notice under section 12 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994** that, further to public consultation on a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS), I have decided to recommend the making of the Electricity Safety (Registration and Licensing) Amendment Regulations 2022.

- a. The proposed regulations introduce a new risk-based class of Licenced Electrical Inspectors (LEIs) for renewable electricity installations in Victoria through amendment of the Electricity Safety (Registration and Licensing) Regulations 2020. The proposed regulations will require LEIs who are licensed to inspect installations in the new renewable electricity class to also be licensed to inspect Class G installations and will enable Energy Safe Victoria to introduce conditions to limit the licence to specified types of work within a class.
- b. The proposed regulations are expected to:
 - i. ensure electrical inspection work of prescribed renewable electrical installations is being undertaken by competent persons with appropriate skills and experience;
 - ii. improve the safety of renewable electrical installations for the public, electricity customers and electrical workers;
 - iii. minimise the impact and burden of any change to the LEI workforce, the impact on the rollout of renewables and the impact on Energy Safe Victoria.
- c. The Regulatory Impact Statement assessed the following options for the introduction of a new renewable electrical system LEI licence class:

Base case: Status quo – no new LEI licence class, meaning that prescribed renewable systems would continue to be inspected by LEIs licensed to inspect Class G installations.

Option A1: New LEI licence class covering all renewable systems with conditions for small- and large-scale systems specified within the proposed regulations; or

Option A2: New LEI licence class covering all renewable systems with conditions for small- and large-scale systems specified outside the proposed regulations.
- d. The Regulatory Impact Statement also considered two options for the required prerequisites for holding a licence to inspect installations in the new renewable electrical system LEI licence class:

Base case: Status quo – no requirement to be licensed for inspecting Class G installations to be licensed to inspect installations in the new class; or

Option B1: Require LEI to be licensed to inspect Class G installations as a prerequisite for being licensed to inspect installations in the new class.
- e. The RIS assessed the options described above using a multi criteria analysis that assessed safety outcomes, the financial and administrative burden on LEIs, the impact on the rollout of renewables and the administrative impact on Energy Safe Victoria. The preferred options were Options A2 and B1. The proposed regulations give effect to the preferred options.
- f. An exposure draft of the proposed regulations and the RIS were released for public consultation on the Engage Victoria website between 13 July and 9 August 2022.
- g. Three written submissions and 62 responses to an online consultation survey were received from a range of stakeholders, including individual LEIs, consumers, and industry representatives. A majority of the submissions were in favour of the preferred options outlined in the RIS. All submissions received were considered in accordance with section 11 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**.

SPECIAL

- h. After consideration of the submissions, I have decided that the proposed regulations should be made, with the following amendments to the commencement dates that were in the exposure draft which was released for public comment:
- i. the commencement date for the regulations, except regulation 7(1), will be changed to 5 October 2022;
 - ii. the commencement date for regulation 7(1) will be changed to 5 April 2024.

After the Electricity Safety (Registration and Licensing) Amendment Regulations 2022 are made, they will be published in the Government Gazette and be available from the government website: www.legislation.vic.gov.au

A copy of this notice, the submissions received, and a Statement of Reasons which summarises the issues raised in submissions and the reason for the final form of the Regulations will also be published on the Engage Victoria website: www.engage.vic.gov.au

LILY D'AMBROSIO MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Action

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