

# Reddaway Enterprise Pty Ltd

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Architects Inquiry  
Productivity Commission  
LB2, Collins Street East  
Melbourne Vic 8003

Dear Sirs,

## Comment on Draft Report

I hope that the following observations may be of assistance:

### Restricted Titles

In Victoria, under s176 of the Building Act,

“A person who is not registered in the appropriate category . . . must not

(a) take or use any of the following titles –

(i) building practitioner or registered building practitioner; or

(ii) building surveyor; or

(iii) . . . .”

Presumably, if the Architects Act were to be repealed, then ‘architect’ would be added to this list.

### Engineers Code of Ethics – virtually compulsory

An engineer can only become a member of the National Professional Engineers Register (NPER) if he agrees to be bound by the engineers’ code of ethics. (The policing of the code of ethics is, in my view, somewhat lacking – principally because there is no culture of understanding that it is one’s moral duty to report anyone one suspects of falling short. But this does not change the principle.)

### Please Promulgate a Suggested Framework

The building industry is currently struggling towards a more national outlook, and I consider that your final report on the Architectural Profession could make a useful contribution by enunciating, in fairly detailed terms, a suggested new framework for the Architectural Profession that could be a model for other professions to aspire towards. My first outline of this would be as follows:

RAIA to

- review and accredit architectural courses

- sponsor an Australian Professional Architects Register (APAR)

NPAR to

- Be a national form of voluntary registration, based on the NPER, with
- Have high standards for entry, without automatic 'grandfathering in' of current practitioners
- Have a tough code of ethics
- Promote a mentality within the public and the profession of 'it's your duty to report any architect that you think may not be doing the right thing'
- Have a disciplinary body on which architects comprise, say, 40%
- Require registrants to undergo Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Audit the competence and CPD of 15% (say) of registrant each year

### **Conclusion**

I would be pleased to amplify any aspect of this submission.

Yours faithfully,

L N Reddaway