

Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association of Australia QLD Government cracks down on unlicensed gas fitters

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Got gas? Licensed tradies the go for safer gas

Queenslanders are being warned to only use licensed gas fitters in a state-wide crackdown on shonky and dangerous repairs and installations.

Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines Dr Anthony Lynham said new photo identification for gasfitters and new fines would help protect customers from dodgy operators and shonky work.

"Natural gas and LPG help deliver hot showers, ice cold drinks from the caravan fridge, and a sizzling frying pan at your local restaurant," he said.

"But shonky installation or repair work by an unlicensed tradie and an eager DIY-er can lead to explosion, fire, serious injury, or even death.

"It's critical that people use one of Queensland's 6000-plus licensed gas fitters for domestic and commercial work to ensure a safe and efficient job."

Dr Lynham said that householders and businesses should always ask to see a Queensland Gas Work Licence from their tradesperson before any work was done.

"It's a simple rule – no licence, no work," he said.

"If a gas fitter doesn't have their Queensland Gas Work Licence on them, ask for their license number, and check it with the gas inspectors on 13 74 68."

Dr Lynham said the crackdown on shonky work was backed by fines and an awareness campaign.

"Our gas inspectors can now issue fines to deal with shonky or illegal gas work rather than having to run long investigations and seek a penalty through the courts," he said.

"This will save time and money and support the quality work of licensed tradies.

"We have postcard reminders and signs at home improvement stores across the state to drive home the message to use the real thing when it comes to gas."

Dr Lynham said a recent fire in a Sunshine Coast restaurant kitchen was a reminder that dodgy work was dangerous.

"A restaurant employee undertook some unlicensed gas work, which caused a fire and extensive damage to the kitchen, but luckily no-one was injured," he said.

More information about gas safety is available here

AGIT elects new Chair Gas Today 16 Sept 2016

The Australian Gas Industry Trust (AGIT) has elected Dr Graeme Bethune as its new chair, following the retirement of Ian Little at the most recent board meeting.

Mr Bethune is an independent oil and gas commentator and professional advisor, and Chief Executive of EnergyQuest. <u>Read more here</u>

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