

GAMAA Technical Committee meeting – SAVE THE DATE

The next GAMAA Technical meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 March 2018 at L2, 441 St Kilda Road Melbourne, commencing at 10am – Ezo Alfonsetti (ESV) will be joining the meeting ---To register please email associations@aigroup.com.au

WaterMark Point of Sale discussion paper released

23 January 2018 Article - Plumbing Connection - Jeff Patchell Managing Director

The ABCB has released a 28-page discussion paper that outlines the pros and cons for change in regard to regulation being aligned with Water Efficiency Labelling scheme (WELS)-type legislation.

The plumbing industry has only been given 16 working days to respond to the discussion paper so it's important for everyone to have their say now.

The reality is that 99.5% of Australia's plumbers likely remain ignorant of the issue of installation products sold without a WaterMark certification. Too few plumbers realise they are legally liable if they install a plumbing product without WaterMark and yet there are plenty of these products around.

With more products coming onto the market via online sales and builders/developers who are prepared to cut corners, this problem is only going to get worse.

The ABCB was tasked last year with preparing a review of the situation to see if it is appropriate for plumbing products to have the similar point of sale (POS) legislation as WELS that puts the onus on the product seller rather than the installer.

You can read the full discussion paper [here](#).

Individual plumbers are welcome to submit feedback to the review process or they can offer their opinion through their trade association.

While *Plumbing Connection* makes no direct comment, Jeff Patchell's take after reading the paper is that the authors don't fully understand how quickly the regulated market's supply chain is being disrupted.

Gas prices moderating – time for Victoria and New South Wales to lift restrictions on supply

APPEA media Release 30 January 2018

The Gas Price Trends Review 2017 report prepared by Oakley Greenwood for the COAG Energy Council has injected some overdue facts into the debate about east coast gas prices.

The report finds that, after increasing in 2016, wholesale gas prices for large industrial customers fell in all east coast states in 2017.

"In 2017, the media often reported anecdotes about contract offers of \$18 or more to industrial customers. Now, with the report to COAG, we have a comprehensive, independent analysis which shows actual prices in the market," said APPEA Chief Executive Dr Malcolm Roberts.

"The report shows that the average delivered price for large industrial customers is \$10.08/GJ, with the wholesale gas component of that price \$9.19.

"As in 2015, when they last reported to COAG, the analysts advise that "gas prices reflect the supply and demand balance". In 2017, "wholesale gas prices increase with distance from Queensland" (page 8).

"Governments in Victoria and New South Wales should squirm when they read the report".

Read the full media release [here](#) this link will also provide you can also access "The Gas Price Trends Review 2017 report, prepared by Oakley Greenwood for the COAG Energy Council".



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