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12 March 2018

Mr Shane King MP
Chair
Transport and Public Works Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000
Via: tpwc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr King

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the *Plumbing and Drainage Bill 2018* (Bill). The Property Council is generally supportive of the reforms outlined in the Bill.

During the consultation that occurred through the *Queensland Building Plan Discussion Paper* (discussion paper), the Property Council provided a submission that included comments on the proposed reforms being considered for the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*.

Our submission provided support for reforms aimed at simplifying the regulatory system and at the same time allowing new product and construction techniques to be implemented. Furthermore, we supported the proposal contained in the discussion paper to maintain the status quo and continue to allow the installation of bathroom pods that comply with the WaterMark scheme.

Therefore, we do not support the amendment contained in the Bill that allows for the prohibition of WaterMark products by regulation.

The Property Council is concerned that this amendment will create uncertainty as it will require the property industry to check if certified WaterMark products are prohibited in Queensland.

With many of our members operating across multiple states, having one set of rules that applies across the country creates both a level playing field and allows for cost savings throughout the production process.

In our view, issues that arise with WaterMark products should be dealt with through the WaterMark certification scheme and not through another legislative mechanism.

In addition to the concerns outlined above, the Property Council supports the Housing Industry Association's (HIA) view that the legislative review provided a timely opportunity to introduce third party plumbing approvals. Third Party certification already occurs through the *Building Act 1975* and has proven to be an efficient process that assists the delivery of projects. We urge Parliament to use this opportunity to adopt a similar process for plumbing approvals.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide a submission on the *Plumbing and Drainage Bill 2018*. If you require any further information or would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Chris Mountford
Queensland Executive Director