



Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP

Member for Stafford

Our ref: 10/6465

Your ref: Petitions



**Queensland
Government**

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning

08 MAR 2010

Mr Neil Laurie

The Clerk of the Parliament

Email: tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Neil

Thank you for your letter of 10 February 2010 about petition No.1348-09 on the sustainability declaration.

Climate change is one of the most significant challenges facing our environment and our future. As just one of a range of measures to act now on the impacts of climate change, the Queensland Government has introduced the sustainability declaration.

The sustainability declaration is an important tool to educate Queenslanders on the importance of sustainability features in homes. The form has been designed to be completed by the homeowner. The declaration is an affordable and sensible approach to educating people about this issue.

The Real Estate Institute of Queensland (REIQ), being a peak body in the property sector, has been in ongoing consultation with the Department of Infrastructure and Planning for an extensive period of time and has provided valuable input in the redesign of the form. It should be noted that Mr Dan Molloy, Managing Director, REIQ, has publicly welcomed the introduction of the revised form.

Following community and industry concerns regarding complexity of the form, the Government has produced a more user friendly version. The Housing Industry Association Queensland stated that the revised form is 'vastly improved' and 'much easier to understand'.

Homes with more sustainability features are cheaper to run and more energy efficient. They use less energy for heating and cooling, generate lower greenhouse gas emissions and are more comfortable.

Many Queenslanders have already taken important steps to increase the sustainability of their homes and this declaration will provide them with a unique opportunity to showcase these achievements.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Stirling Hinchliffe MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning

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