



Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen
Minister for Public Works and Procurement

Our Ref: MN06225-2023
Your Ref: A1112838

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22 JUN 2023

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
By email: ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 30 May regarding Parliamentary Petition No. 3884-23 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 23 May 2023 titled 'Resilient Home Grants'. The petition draws attention to the exclusion of apartment buildings from eligibility for grants under the Resilient Homes Fund (RHF).

On 12 May 2022, the Government announced the RHF to support flood affected Queenslanders and to improve the resilience of their homes to future flooding.

With \$741 million in funding, the RHF is the largest Climate Adaption Program ever delivered in Australia. The Government is committed to climate adaptation measures to improve the resilience of households as the likelihood of extreme weather events due to climate change increases. Under the RHF, the Department of Energy and Public Works (DEPW) delivers the Resilient Retrofit and Home Raise programs.

There are a number of guidelines and legislative frameworks that inform the objectives, purpose and provisions of the RHF. Importantly, Schedule 44 of the Rural and Regional Adjustment Regulation 2011 (the Regulation) prescribes an eligible home, including a townhouse and a unit.

Further, the Joint Commonwealth and State Guidelines for the RHF establish that the focus of funding under the Resilient Retrofit program is to improve the resilience of properties by incorporating flood resilient design and materials within the area of the building envelope of an eligible dwelling and outlines the high-level eligibility criteria for the program.

In line with the Joint Commonwealth and State Guidelines for the RHF and the Regulation, to ensure all homeowners are treated equitably and consistently and that funding is provided to as many impacted homeowners as possible, the RHF has established clear scope parameters and policy criteria. This reaffirms the eligibility of townhouse and unit owners for the Resilient Retrofit program if program criteria are met. That is: the home is in one of the 39 affected local government areas; the home is a residence; and the home's liveable area was inundated by water as a result of an eligible flood event.

However, under the Regulation and program policy, all common property areas in any residential community title scheme dwelling (including blocks, high rise apartments, townhouse and duplexes) are ineligible for funding and are excluded.

It is recommended homeowners contact their body corporate to confirm whether an insurance claim has been made and what benefit their property is considered to have received under that claim.

Within Brisbane city, a building's body corporate may be eligible to participate in the free Flood Resilient Suburbs - Apartments program. The program is an initiative of the Brisbane City Council, delivered in partnership with the Brisbane Sustainability Agency to improve the flood resilience of Brisbane Apartment Buildings. Information relating to the program can be found at www.sustainablebrisbane.com.au/programs/floodwise-apartments.

I trust this information answers the enquiry and I thank the petitioners for their interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mick de Brenni', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mick de Brenni MP
Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen
Minister for Public Works and Procurement