

# electrical focus

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## 300th Meeting of the Electrical Licensing Board

The 300th meeting of the Electrical Licensing Board was held on 4 June 2003.

To mark the occasion, the Electrical Licensing Board invited the Director of Energy Safety and several staff of Energy Safety to meet with members of the Board over a ceremonial cup of coffee.

The introduction of the *Electricity (Licensing) Regulations 1991* provided for the formation of the Electrical Licensing Board, replacing the previous Electrical Workers' Board and Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board.

The 1st meeting of the Board was held on 31 October 2001. At the time of that inaugural meeting, the Board members were Mr Rick Downey (Chairman), Mr Graeme Haynes (nominated by the Australian Electrical, Electronic, Foundry and Engineering Union), Mr Mark Golesworthy (nominated by the Metals and Engineering Worker's Union), Mr John Sweeting (nominated by the Electrical Contractors Association), Mr John Wynn (nominated from the Chamber of Mines & Energy and the Confederation of Western Australian Industry), Mr Ralph Dawson (nominated by the Department of Employment and Training) and Mr Bob Briggs (representing the State Energy Commission of WA). Mr Peter Tuck was then Secretary of the Board.

Members of this new Board met on a monthly basis. Meetings have since been changed to fortnightly, to keep pace with the demands of issuing electrical workers' and contractors' licences and dealing with disciplinary matters.

During recent years, the work of the Board has been increasingly dedicated to dealing with disciplinary matters. This process ensures that only competent operatives may continue to hold an electrical worker's or electrical contractor's licence, thus protecting the good standing of the industry.

At the time of this 300th meeting, the Board members are Mr Bob Pritchard (Chairman), Mr Jim Murie (nominated by the Communications, Electrical, Plumbing Union), Mr Ross Graham (appointed as a person with knowledge of restricted electrical work), Mr John Sweeting

(nominated by the Electrical Contractors Association), Mr Geoff Wrigley (nominated from the Chamber of Minerals and Energy and the Chamber of Commerce & Industry), Mr Rod Butterworth (nominated by the Department of Training) and Mr Kevin Rosher (representing Energy Safety). Mr Peter Tuck is the Executive Officer of the Board.

At the 300th meeting, the Director acknowledged the hard work and dedication of Board members past and present.

It is timely that this 300th milestone has been reached. The disciplinary functions will eventually be changed to recognise that the new State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) will in future handle all proceedings that may result in loss of a licence. The legislation for the SAT is expected to come into effect during 2004.

## Future Strategies for AS/NZS 3000 Wiring Rules

Standards Australia recently announced that the next edition of *AS/NZS 3000 Wiring Rules* should be published around 2006.

Development of a new edition includes a significant amount of consultation with key stakeholders in order to achieve consensus. This consultative process is managed by Standards Australia committee EL-001 (that has a broad industry representation in its membership) and the Electrotechnical Standards Sector Board (ESSB) (that has key electrical industry executives within its membership).

Other major stakeholders include State/Territory/NZ electrical regulatory authorities (including Energy Safety WA) that constitute the Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council (ERAC). ERAC represents the interests of electrical regulators and accordingly has a significant interest in the Wiring Rules publication since the document is primarily used to regulate electrical work performed in Australia and New Zealand.

ERAC had major concerns about the current Wiring Rules. Consultative work to date has produced an ERAC proposal for a future two-part Wiring Rules consisting of:

Part 1 – Essential Requirements – Mandatory requirements that encompass existing AS/NZS 3000 Section 1 fundamental safety

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principles, design and functional obligations, with the result that the compliant installation would be safe and fit for purpose; and

Part 2 – Deemed to Comply Solutions – Deemed to comply (DTC) solutions that provide direction on compliant wiring methods without inhibiting innovation or alternatives. An electrician who follows the Part 2 DTC simple option would know that the installed electrical work is compliant. The Part 2 DTC should be based largely on AS/NZS 3000:1991

Section 2 to 7 provisions and updated by incorporation of other AS/NZS 3000 performance matters that were omitted from the 1991 to 2000 transition.

The purpose of offering two parts is to provide both an off-the-shelf compliant method (DTC solution), that, if followed by an electrician will provide confidence that regulatory requirements have been met, and a separate set of essential requirements that will allow innovation by skilled designers requiring fundamental safety requirements to also be met.

This ERAC proposal is broadly supported by the ESSB.

The above information (with additional text explaining the issue in depth) was forwarded to EL-001 for consideration during its 55th meeting held in March 2003. The issues are now being progressed in some detail through further consultation between ERAC and Standards Australia's ESSB and EL-001.

Further information will be provided on the progress of this important project in future editions of the Energy Bulletin.

## PROSECUTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE *ELECTRICITY (LICENSING) REGULATIONS 1991 AND ELECTRICITY REGULATIONS 1947*

### 1 February 2003 to 30 April 2003

<i>Breach</i>	<i>Name (and suburb of residence at time of offence)</i>	<i>Licence No.</i>	<i>Fine &amp; Court Cost (\$)</i>
<i>Carried out electrical work without holding an electrical workers licence Regulation 19(1) E(L)R</i>	<i>Stuart Sheehan (East Fremantle)</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>457.70</i>
<i>Carried on business as an electrical contractor without a licence Regulation 33(1) E(L)R</i>	<i>Stojan Stankovic (Kalgoorlie) 3 Offences</i>	<i>EW 110068</i>	<i>1,127.70*</i>
<i>Carried out substandard electrical work Regulation 49(1) E(L)R</i>	<i>Mark Last (Edgewater) 2 Offences</i>	<i>EW 139324</i>	<i>1,157.70</i>
	<i>Brendan McFarland (Huntingdale)</i>	<i>EW 127624</i>	<i>877.70</i>
	<i>Colin Riley (Brookton) 2 Offences</i>	<i>EW 128084</i>	<i>1,317.70*</i>
	<i>Gerhardus Scheltema (High Wycombe) 2 Offences</i>	<i>EW 135020</i>	<i>1,817.70</i>
	<i>Benjamin Stokes (Manning)</i>	<i>EW 138827</i>	<i>1,262.70</i>
<i>Permitted unsafe wiring or equipment to be connected to an electrical installation Regulation 50A E(L)R</i>	<i>Prime Power Systems (WA) Pty Ltd (Belmont)</i>	<i>EC 005520</i>	<i>5,812.70</i>
<i>Failed to submit a Notice of Completion for electrical work carried out Regulation 52(1) E(L)R</i>	<i>Asset Services (Melbourne) 5 Offences</i>	<i>EC 005238</i>	<i>4,277.00</i>
<i>Employed/instructed an unlicensed person to carry out electrical work Regulation 53(2) E(L)R</i>	<i>Zampogna Bros Co Pty Ltd (Edgewater) 2 Offences</i>	<i>EC 001584</i>	<i>777.70*</i>
<i>Connected electricity supply without ensuring that all service apparatus was installed and maintained in a safe condition Regulation 242(a) ER</i>	<i>Western Power Corporation (Perth) 3 Offences</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>27,833.10</i>

Legend: NLH No Licence Held ER Electricity Regulations 1947  
E(L)R Electricity (Licensing) Regulations 1991 \* Global fine (more than one offence)

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