

**What additional power does the Authority need to implement a 'build-back-better' policy or other initiatives effectively in disaster recovery efforts?**

Consistent with comments made in our submission and during the public hearing, we do not believe there is a need to change the powers prescribed in the NSW Reconstruction Authority Act, but rather that the implementation of these powers by the NSW Reconstruction Authority be improved; particularly the coordination of other NSW Government agencies in regards to implementation of the Act's objectives. Realisation of these improvements (including "build-back-better" betterment and resilience initiatives) will require a commitment to long term funding and resourcing to facilitate strategic and integrated planning for disasters between and across federal, state and local governments. The NSW Reconstruction Authority should be responsible on behalf of NSW Government for this long-term commitment which we suggest is the best way to improving disaster prevention, preparedness and adaption; and recovery and restoration. While this remit is much broader than just "building-back-better", it will also streamline the processes of building resilience during "peacetime" and betterment during recovery activities; with all parties having clarity as to the prioritisation of funding, rules around implementation, and standard to which damaged assets are to be rebuilt.