

**Submission
No 24**

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS REGISTRATION BILL 2019

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 8 January 2020

Partially
Confidential

Inquiry into the Professional Engineers Registration Bill 2019 Submission

Dear Committee Members,

I write to lodge a submission to your Inquiry into the proposed Engineer Registration Bill. I support engineer registration in NSW.

I'm a professional engineer, working in the utility sector for more than 15 years. My experience lies in the design of transmission mains, with the current changes in this sector in New South Wales we are at the mercy of customer centric epidemic in supplying power. Our past engineers have shown working professionalism in maintaining such a system, requires both the right degree qualified education and practicality, these days things are falling apart or failing to be maintained because of inadequate professionalism, in labeling a title called engineer to workers without the right set of ingredients or with limited ingredient who are inadequate to complete the task because they fail to hold the right set of education and skills.

Registration of engineers in New South Wales is long overdue. Right now, anyone can call themselves an engineer in NSW which is not the case with any other related profession.

Other professions have had licensing and registration regimes in place for many years to guarantee professional standards, protect the profession from unscrupulous and unqualified operators and protect the public.

Examples of other professions where this is the case and where it has had an impact on public safety include: architects, builders, electricians, plumbers, doctors, nurses, and there are many others.

When you consider that engineers sit at the apex of the building and construction process – scoping, designing and overseeing the work of other trades and professionals, it underlines how absurd the current situation is.

Introducing engineer registration is simply a matter of public-interest and closes a long-time regulatory gap which makes no sense and exposes the public to risks.

I understand why high-profile residential construction failures at Mascot and Opal towers have been the focus in the media, but these crises are indicative of a wider problem that goes well beyond the vertical building sector. Our major projects such as roads, bridges, rail, water & energy projects should not be exposed to unqualified people who can only call themselves engineers because there is no registration system.

