PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS REGISTRATION BILL 2019

Name: Mr Ben Bates

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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 have worked in Electricity Network Planning at Essential Energy for 14 years, being involved in planning major network upgrades and more recently the connection of large-scale Solar and Wind Farms to the network. These multi-million dollar infrastructure projects depend on having qualified and experienced engineers planning, designing and overseeing construction to maximise the economic benefit to business, the community, and ensure the projects are safe. Considering the amount of money being invested in infrastructure and projects across the state the risk of not having an engineering registration scheme are too high to ignore. Registration would ensure that Engineers are qualified, experienced and that they maintain continual professional development (CPD). Considering the pace of technological change in the industry a requirement for CPD would only enhance the value of engineering work to businesses and the community.

I feel the creation on an engineering registration scheme would also lift recognition of the engineering profession, encouraging more student to consider engineering as a career pathway.

I hope you will consider recommending engineering registration in NSW.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Bates Senior Engineer, Subtransmission Network Planning, Essential Energy