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NSW FAIR TRADING FAILING TO ACT ON DANGEROUS LIGHTING

Lives of individuals are at risk due to NSW Fair Trading failing to act on potentially dodgy and dangerous lighting throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Six months ago, smouldering and melting downlights installed in a Bondi Junction residential apartment complex were reported to NSW Fair Trading. We understand that NSW Fair Trading has failed to act and get to the bottom of this potentially serious matter.

"NSW Fair Trading has failed to keep our homes and families safe from potentially dangerous and faulty lighting products. The regulator is using the COVID-19 pandemic as an excuse to not investigate and not respond to Lighting Council Australia's enquiries on potentially dangerous lighting", said Josip Vidakovic – Corporate Relations Manager, Lighting Council Australia.

The Building Manager and Electrician of the multi-unit apartment complex in Bondi Junction have not been contacted by NSW Fair Trade since the report was lodged in August 2021.

"Minister Petinos needs to act now to bring NSW Fair Trading in-line to complete their investigations. We do not want to see a repeat of the Grenfell Tower disaster in Australia (The Grenfell London Tower incident in 2017 was a major electrical fire which saw the tower combust due to an electrical fault and the buildings cladding catching fire, 74 lives were tragically lost in this incident). The ignition of one faulty lighting product could potentially lead to catastrophic consequences in this residential complex. We do not want to see people lose their lives over the inaction of NSW Fair Trading", said Mr Vidakovic.

"These lights are potentially a ticking time bomb. Lighting Council Australia is calling for suppliers to prove that their products are safe and compliant and for NSW Fair Trading to complete their investigations.", said Mr Vidakovic.

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