

**Submission
No 23**

INQUIRY INTO LOOSE FILL ASBESTOS INSULATION

Organisation: South East Regional Organisation of Councils

Date received: 31/10/2014

31 October 2014

Chair, Joint Select Committee on Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Inquiry into Loose Fill Asbestos

SEROC is grateful for the opportunity to respond to the Inquiry on Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation (the Inquiry).

The South East Regional Organisation of Councils (SEROC) comprises the ACT Government and the Councils of Bega Valley, Bombala, Boorowa, Cooma-Monaro, Eurobodalla, Goulburn-Mulwaree, Harden, Palerang, Queanbeyan, Snowy River, Upper Lachlan, Yass Valley and Young.

You would be aware that there are a number of properties in the ACT which have been identified as being affected by loose fill asbestos insulation. There are also some of the Local Government Areas in the SEROC region that have been identified as potentially having properties with loose fill asbestos insulation.

Given the close proximity of SEROC Councils to the ACT, there has been discussion and consideration as to the extent to which consistency across both jurisdictions should be adopted to this serious problem. SEROC supports this view.

SEROC understands that reference material and other important information on handling asbestos is held by NSW Workcover in a centralised location on the internet. SEROC supports this approach. SEROC also recognises that the staffing of the NSW Workcover are experienced and knowledgeable people. To have this knowledge transferred to a local government level would require considerable training and overheads that would be better serviced within existing centralised government bodies.

SEROC trusts that the issues raised in this response are taken into account when preparing the report emerging from the Inquiry.

Yours faithfully

Dr Helen Swan
Executive Officer

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