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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **NCC Pause Would Damage Construction Productivity, Not Boost It**

### **Regular code updates deliver significant long-term economic benefits**

The Australian Institute of Architects has warned that pausing National Construction Code (NCC) updates will harm rather than help construction productivity, contradicting government suggestions that such action would boost economic output.

Adam Haddow, National President of the Australian Institute of Architects, said regular NCC updates deliver substantial economic benefits that a pause will destroy.

"Building upgrades cost significantly less when the code is updated more frequently," Mr Haddow said. "A pause creates costly backlogs of quality and safety improvements that ultimately burden the industry and society."

### **Innovation Requires Current Standards**

Modern construction methods are evolving rapidly, with new technologies and techniques emerging that help build more efficiently and quickly. The NCC's three-year review cycle ensures Australia keeps pace with these productivity-enhancing developments.

NCC changes are developed through extensive industry consultation, with business investing in new technologies and higher quality building materials based on planned updates. "Pausing the NCC undermines productivity by creating investment uncertainty and reducing business confidence," Mr Haddow said.

"A pause in the NCC will not keep up with innovations that help us build better and quicker," Mr Haddow said. "We'll be left behind the international market."

### **Proper Standards Enhance Productivity**

The Institute strongly rejects claims that building standards create unnecessary red tape. Evidence shows that robust codes enhance rather than hinder genuine productivity by:

- Preventing costly rectification work
- Reducing insurance claims and legal disputes
- Ensuring buildings perform as designed
- Maintaining Australia's reputation for quality construction
- Delivering quality homes for our community



"Real construction productivity means establishing clear frameworks to enable investment by the private sector. We need to be building it right the first time, not kick the can down the road. We know what's needed, we need to get on with it," Mr Haddow said. "The National Construction Code ensures we achieve quality equally. We owe it to our communities to stay on the path"

The NCC's continuous improvement program through regular reviews provides an orderly pathway for industry advancement while maintaining essential safety and quality standards.

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**National President of the Australian Institute of Architects, Adam Haddow, is available for interview.**

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