

Technical Assurance Committee

The Technical Assurance Committee last met on Thursday, 17 April, 2008.

The following people took part in this meeting:

Committee	Peter Verwer, Chairman Molly Harris-Olsen Professor Judith Black Paul Waterhouse (assisting)
Petitioners	Grant Hall, Muller Industries Australia Nick Fithall, OneSteel Joe Herbertson, The Crucible Group Pty Ltd Ken Slattery, Cement, Concrete & Aggregates Australia (CCAA) Daksh Baweja, CCAA Samia Guirguis, CCAA Seamus Balkin, Green Building Network Australia
GBCA	Che Wall Robin Mellon Orjan Lundberg Hal Dobbins

General

Recommendations	Responsibility	Agreed actions
Publish the Technical Assurance Committee's recommendations on the Green Building Council of Australia's website along with the agreed actions arising from the meeting.	GBCA Board	GBCA to publish all TAC findings at www.gbca.org.au
The GBCA should improve the transparency and credibility of its stakeholder engagement program and should:		GBCA to overhaul the stakeholder engagement process and public protocols for communication and rating tool review; processes to be published on GBCA website as above.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish clearer protocols for communicating with rating tool customers, tool development sponsors, GBCA members, and stakeholder interest groups; 	GBCA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> better publicise programs for reviewing tools, including advertisements in trade journals and major newspapers; and 	GBCA	GBCA to work towards establishing a database of stakeholders similar to the existing Industry Reference Group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish a database of stakeholders segmented by interest that can be used to increase stakeholder engagement. 	GBCA	
Send the recommendations of this meeting to each of the petitioners.	Technical Assurance Committee	TAC recommendations to be distributed.

Muller Industries Australia

Recommendations	Responsibility	Agreed actions
Send Muller Industries Australia the wording of the criteria for the Emi-8 category in Green Star - Office v2 and v3.	GBCA	PDF version of relevant credits to be e-mailed to Muller.
Draft some words that will provide a generic description of an evaporative cooling system under Emi-8.	Muller Industries Australia	Draft credit to be provided to GBCA Green Star team.
Fast-track the consideration of the product description from Muller Industries Australia through the credit interpretation process within two weeks of receiving it. This should be assessed against criteria in both Green Star - Office Design v2 and v3 tool.	GBCA	GBCA to acknowledge and consider new wording, data and background information within two weeks of receipt.
Consider changing the term in the Emi-8 criteria description from 'eliminate risk' to 'minimise risk'.	GBCA	GBCA to consider change of wording and justify decisions.
Consider other diseases that could arise from cooling towers and how they might be addressed by Green Star.	GBCA	GBCA to consider potential for other harmful emissions.
Include the TAC Secretariat in all communications to ensure the review of Emi-8 is being conducted according to the timelines noted above.	GBCA	GBCA to provide copies of all relevant communications to TAC.

OneSteel

Recommendations	Responsibility	Agreed actions
Re-review the OneSteel submissions on MAT-6 (made previously to the GBCA) within four weeks.	GBCA	GBCA to review previous submissions by 15th May 2008.
Consider the Green Building Council's analysis of OneSteel's submissions and provide a written response.	OneSteel	GBCA to consider submissions and provide written response to all points raised.
Following receipt of that response, meet to discuss any areas of difference.	GBCA and OneSteel	GBCA to arrange meeting with OneSteel.
Should matters remain unresolved, appoint an independent expert to consider the arguments for and against a change to the Green Star criteria and make a recommendation within	GBCA	GBCA to engage Expert Reference Panel to consider Steel issues relating to the

<p>three months. This expert should be jointly agreed upon by OneSteel and GBCA.</p> <p>The TAC should be notified of the appointment.</p>		<p>Green Star credits, should matters not be resolved. TAC to be notified of Panel.</p>
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Cement, Concrete & Aggregates Australia

Recommendations	Responsibility	Agreed actions
<p>Host a workshop by the end of May with CCAA and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the treatment of cementitious materials by Green Star Office Design. This should examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any potential perverse and unintended outcomes from the current MAT-5 category; • the implications of 40% and 60% substitutions of Portland Cement; and • the inclusion of quarry fines (manufactured sand) as aggregate substitutes. 	<p>GBCA</p>	<p>GBCA to meet with CCAA to discuss treatment of cement and concrete within Green Star, and engage Expert Reference Panel to consider environmental impacts of such materials use.</p>
<p>Identify relevant stakeholders for the workshop from the GBCA’s industry reference group and any organisations who have made submissions.</p>	<p>GBCA</p>	<p>GBCA to identify relevant stakeholders and work with CCAA to ensure involvement.</p>

Green Building Network Australia

Recommendations	Responsibility	Agreed actions
<p>Proceed with stakeholder reference panel workshops on timber credits.</p>	<p>GBCA</p>	<p>GBCA to engage Timber Expert Reference Panel (TERP).</p>
<p>Seek to appoint an independent chairman to the reference panel.</p>	<p>GBCA</p>	<p>GBCA to seek independent chair for TERP.</p>
<p>Compile a report which summarises the workshop discussions into key issues and establishes priorities and weightings for each.</p>	<p>GBCA</p>	<p>GBCA to compile summary report and make available through www.gbca.org.au</p>