

# MEDIA STATEMENT

20 March, 2014

## QBCC takes action following Mackay building audits

The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has announced a series of measures to help ensure construction work meets cyclone-rating standards, following a recent compliance audit in Mackay.

QBCC Commissioner, Steve Griffin, said a QBCC team would return to the Mackay area next week to continue compliance audits of construction sites and also to conduct audits of certifiers.

Mr Griffin said an audit earlier this month had inspected 112 residential properties under construction in the Mackay area, and 11 of those were found not to conform with framing requirements.

“All 11 have since been rectified by the original builders and the dwellings either have been or soon will be reinspected by the QBCC.

“However, the failure to meet requirements is unacceptable and I am taking action to ensure construction and certification standards are strictly adhered to. The audit found that both local and itinerant builders have issues understanding cyclone-rating standards, and that issues also exist with certifier inspections of these elements of construction.

“The QBCC will now be working to ensure there is better understanding of these codes by contractors and certifiers. In addition to this, QBCC officers will also interview the certifiers of each of the 11 residences about the processes they undertook which led to certification being granted.”

Mr Griffin said the QBCC would also launch a series of education and training seminars for builders and certifiers in the Mackay area in April, featuring a presentation from Timber Queensland’s Col MacKenzie.

He said the QBCC would also step up random construction and certification audits in cyclone zones.

“This will include a comprehensive audit program for north Queensland, including the possibility that local certifiers could be required to reinspect existing homes to ensure compliance,” Mr Griffin said.

He said if home owners were concerned about possible issues with their dwelling, they should contact the QBCC on [1300 272 272](tel:1300272272) or email [info@qbcc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@qbcc.qld.gov.au) for assistance.

He said an information pack on this issue was also being developed which would eventually be available to home owners.

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