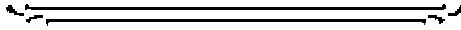


CERTIFIED BUILDING SOLUTIONS NEWSLETTER

December 2012

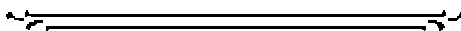


ACT GOVERNMENT INVOICES

We advised in a previous newsletter that the ACT Government Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (formerly ACTPLA) had introduced a new invoicing system for the collection of government levies. The Government invoice, which is made out to the lessee of the land, is generated when the certifier lodges the building approval on eDevelopment. We will issue our invoice and the Govt. invoice at the time Building Approval is granted and will send both to you at that stage. We will be sending out statements only at the end of each month. We have received the following information from ACTPLA regarding the payment of the Govt. fees.

- *Invoices must be generated at the same time a BA is issued*
- *Terms of payment of Govt. fees is strictly 14 days*
- *Where payments are not received within 14 days the Constructions Occupations Registrar will issue stop notices until such time as payment is received*
- *Payments audits will be conducted on a weekly basis to ensure payments are being made on time.*

It is important that all our clients be aware that they are required to pay the government levies directly to the ACT Government Revenue Office, not to CBS as under the previous arrangement. We recommend you always keep a copy of the receipt of payment as, depending on the payment method, ACTPLA may not be able to find a record of it should a problem arise with the issue of the COU.



CHANGES TO DA EXEMPTION CRITERIA FOR SOME SINGLE DWELLINGS (INCLUDING DEMOLITION)

Changes, passed by the ACT Legislative Assembly in early May 2012 amend the DA exemption criteria affecting homeowners wishing to construct or alter a single dwelling in older suburbs (i.e. on land that has been previously been built on) or to demolish a single dwelling anywhere in Canberra. Using Forms 7A & 7B, the proponent must now give written information about the development

to adjoining residents before the building work commences. The written information will include the name and the number of the person that you can talk to. This is not a new form of consultation or an invitation for adjoining residents to comment on the development but rather an opportunity for residents to be informed about development happening nearby. More information can be found [here](#).

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

CBS has welcomed four new team members in 2012:

Lindsay Garrick has been working in the Canberra building industry for over 27 years and brings to CBS extensive private and public sector building industry experience together with specialist Department of Defence, Fire Engineering, Fire Services, and Bushfire Safety expertise.

Dave Delchau has worked as a cadet quantity surveyor, contract administrator and junior estimator in the construction industry as well

as with the Australian Building Codes Board and brings to CBS up to date knowledge of the issues impacting on the construction industry, particularly from a regulation/control perspective.

Philip Jacey has worked in the construction industry since 2006, initially as a private sector building surveyor in London, has experience in construction management in Asia and brings specific expertise in the area of environmental sustainability of buildings, with a focus on carbon management in the built environment.

CHRISTMAS SHUT-DOWN

CBS will be closed over the Christmas/New Year period. The office will close at lunch time on Friday 21st December and will re-open for business on Monday 7th January. We wish all our clients a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year.