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## **BDAA SUPPORTS A NEW 5 STAR ENERGY CODE BUT CALLS FOR CONTINUING TRAINING AND INFORMATION SEMINARS**

The Building Designers Association of Australia (BDAA) and its state affiliates are committed to promoting sustainable building design in Australia.

According to national CEO, Barrie Wright; "All State BDAs promote ESD principles to members, other industry practitioners and the public at every opportunity."

The Building Code of Australia's 5 star housing energy efficiency provisions recently announced by ABCB for inclusion in BCA2006 have been welcomed by all BDA State Associations.

BDAA believes that the introduction of 5 star provisions must be accompanied by extensive training for building designers, building assessors and building surveyors to ensure that they are applied in a sensible and consistent manner in all climate areas. Information sessions for the wider building industry and public should also be held.

The Building Designers Association of Queensland, like the Queensland Government, is currently reviewing information on how the provisions can be best utilised in warmer climates to ensure they will result in best practice sustainable design. In the absence of regulation in Queensland, BDAQ will continue to encourage building designers to voluntarily achieve and exceed five star energy efficiency based on good design principles.

Building Designers are responsible for the design of around 80% of new houses and renovations in Australia and Mr. Wright is confident that BDA members are predominantly producing energy efficient and sustainable houses.

New training initiatives commencing in 2006 in association with the Australian Greenhouse Office and other industry bodies will enable building designers everywhere to build on the momentum towards real sustainable housing in Australia.

The BDAA continues to support a 5 star energy code within the BCA and will work closely with all parties to see that a nationally harmonious energy code becomes a reality sooner rather than later.

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