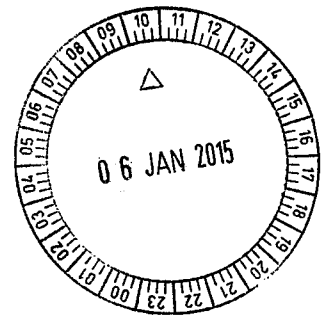




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5 January 2015

Mr David Driscoll
Parliamentary Officer (Committees)
Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation
Legislative Council
GPO Box A11
PERTH WA 6837



Dear David

**SUBMISSION – INQUIRY INTO ACCESS TO AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS
ADOPTED IN DELEGATED LEGISLATION**

Thank you for the invitation to provide a written submission to the above inquiry.

Shire of Mundaring submits that the very limited availability and excessive cost of Australian Standards needs reconsideration by the Australian Government.

All Standards should be freely available for viewing (not necessarily downloading or printing) to any member of the public from a central web-library. It defeats the purpose that these guidelines, which can make the difference between life and death in some circumstances (bush fires for example), are only available by visiting public libraries and certain government offices or through purchase at a cost of \$100 or more.

In the meantime, until the Australian Government commits to an overhaul of the Australian Standards processes, Shire of Mundaring supports the Committee’s recommendation in its forty-ninth report that government departments, agencies and local governments be required to advise on their internet site where Standards called up in subsidiary legislation can be accessed at no cost.

While the Standards the Shire subscribes to can be accessed through our Shire’s two public libraries, we do provide over the counter information brochures or leaflets on some standards (swimming pool fences, building requirements, bush fire attack levels etc.), explaining in everyday language their content and scope.

Yours sincerely

Mark Luzi
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER