



17 October 2023

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation  
Prime House, 8 Davidson Terrace  
Joondalup, WA 6027

Via: [climatebill@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:climatebill@dwer.wa.gov.au)

## Climate Change Bill

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response on the Climate Change Bill whilst it is in the finalisation stages prior to the introduction of the Bill to Parliament.

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) WA is the peak body representing the property development industry in WA, with members across both private and public sector organisations. Our Vision is for 'Diverse living options in thriving, connected communities', and we strive to support this in working towards our Purpose of 'Great places + Housing choice = Better lives'.

Following your stakeholder briefing and our review of the Climate Change Bill Explanatory Paper, we are supportive of the Government's direction in both a reduction in emissions but also developing strategies to mitigate the impacts of a changing climate on Western Australia. In saying this, as this Bill is largely one of a framework which will set various machinations into motion, the provision of affordable and diverse housing supply must be kept paramount in the discussions of Government, including with respect to legislative instruments such as this.

We note that consultation appears to be a key theme of the Explanatory Paper, UDIA welcomes this. We would like to see the requirements of consultation included within the legislation to ensure that the WA community and industry are appropriately engaged and heard prior to finalising key features arising from the Bill such as the Sectoral plans. Ensuring plans are deliverable and implementable from an industry perspective will be important to the success of the legislation and for Western Australia to achieve the net zero goal whilst building a more climate resilient state and supporting positive outcomes in other areas which are crucial to a sustainable future – such as ensuring access to affordable housing options to suit the needs of Western Australians.

UDIA WA acknowledges climate change as a pressing global issue that presents challenges and opportunities for the development industry. We are committed to working in collaboration with our members and stakeholders to respond to the challenges of climate change, while minimising the impact on housing affordability. Working together, our industry can create climate resilient developments and new and regenerated communities to enable thriving, sustainable places.

UDIA WA encourages, recognises and showcases good practice in sustainable design by our industry through our EnviroDevelopment program, which is an independent certification system. It assessed

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sustainability performance of new development across water, energy, materials, waste, community and ecosystems.

We want to ensure that we continue to lead the conversation and influence positive climate action, so that our members are at the forefront of meeting the challenges and delivering communities for the future. This is why UDIA WA recently partnered with Cedar Wood, DevelopmentWA and Hesperia to undertake research into rapid Life Cycle Assessments by Cerclos to understand the carbon footprint and opportunities for reducing carbon emissions associated with land subdivision. This examined three case study land developments – 115 Hamilton Hill, Orion Industrial Park, and Bushmead. This first phase was an important step to gain and share useful insights for the measurement, management and reporting of carbon emissions associated with land development.

We are now exploring a second phase to work collaboratively with industry and government to develop a standardised approach to assessing and optimising life cycle carbon emissions, towards Net Zero urban development. We are in the process of securing project partners and we will be in touch with Emily Briggs, Deputy Director General – Climate and Sustainability, in due course to invite Department representation as part of the proposed Working Group.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Bill. We look forward to continuing to support our industry in responding to climate change and to engaging further with the Department on infrastructure and built environment sector adaptation plans, the role of the development sector and considerations in the context of housing supply.

Should you require further information or wish to discuss this please contact Sarah Macaulay, Executive Director – Strategy and Policy at [smacaulay@udiawa.com.au](mailto:smacaulay@udiawa.com.au) or 9215 3404.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tanya Steinbeck', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Tanya Steinbeck  
**Chief Executive Officer**