



**THE HON. JOE TRIPODI MP**  
**MINISTER FOR FINANCE**  
**MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**MINISTER FOR REGULATORY REFORM**  
**MINISTER FOR PORTS AND WATERWAYS**

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M E D I A R E L E A S E

## **Cutting red tape for plumbers:** **a single set of rules across NSW**

June 12, 2009

Plumbers in NSW will soon be governed by a single standard no matter where in the state they are working Regulatory Reform Minister Joe Tripodi announced today.

The decision to move to a single regulator model marks a major change from the current system where each of the 100+ local water utilities in NSW have their own rules.

Mr Tripodi joined Kiama MP Matt Brown in Gerringong to discuss with local tradesmen how the changes would benefit their business.

“The current regulatory system is complex and unnecessarily costly. Today we are announcing a new regime aimed at cutting red tape and aligning technical standards with other States to make life simpler for NSW plumbers,” Mr Tripodi said.

“The benefits of simplifying and streamlining NSW plumbing regulation will be felt by individual tradespeople in terms of reduced complexity and time saved. This is part of a broader effort to provide the best possible regulatory environment for NSW businesses to thrive.”

An implementation group has been set up to work with industry to deliver by mid 2010:

- a single NSW agency responsible for standard-setting, on-site regulation and licensing functions
- an inspection and compliance regime
- the adoption of the Plumbing Code of Australia in NSW, and
- a communication and education strategy.

Gerringong Plumber, Trevor Henderson, of Trevor Henderson Plumbing and Roofing, said he supported the new changes and said less paperwork will make a big difference to businesses.

“On the south coast we work under Sydney Water rules in some suburbs and council rules in others. The changes will mean a lot less paperwork so we get in and get the job done,” he said.

Kiama MP Matt Brown said the new regulations changes clearly showed that the NSW Government is committed to helping businesses and workers across the state.

The report on the plumbing and drainage review is available on the websites of the Better Regulation Office [www.betterregulation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.betterregulation.nsw.gov.au) and the Department of Water and Energy [www.dwe.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dwe.nsw.gov.au)

***Media Contact: Kate Sullivan (02) 9228 5451 or 0438 719 440***