

MEDIA RELEASE

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Boral welcomes new Victorian building code of practice

Boral today strongly welcomed the new Code of Practice for the Building and Construction Industry unveiled by the Victorian State Government.

Managing Director, Mike Kane, said the new rules represented a major crackdown on secondary boycotts, collusive tendering and anti competitive behavior in the Victorian construction sector.

Mr Kane said the Code specifically imposed an obligation on contractors to immediately report any requests or demands from unions which would encourage participation in a secondary boycott. Failure to comply can lead to sanctions including exclusion from tendering for government work.

"This Code of Practice goes to the heart of the corrupt and illegal practices which have been directed at Boral in Melbourne for some time now," he said.

"This should lead to an immediate change in behaviour by both unions and some companies involved in the building and construction sector."

For more than 18 months, Boral has been the subject of ongoing secondary boycotts across the Melbourne CBD as a result of its decision to conitnue to supply Grocon during a dispute Grocon had with the CFMEU in 2013.

The new Code also includes other obligations relating to compliance with the orders of courts and tribunals, and compliance with applicable legislation including the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth) which embodies the secondary boycott and cartel laws.

"I congratulate the Victorian Government for taking this important step in improving efficiency and productivity in the delivery of major public sector projects to the State," Mr Kane said.

"Boral also welcomes the enhanced focus on safety with the new code requiring project specific health and management plans for major government projects."

Media inquiries

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