

13th December 2013

Attention: Mr Matthew DePledge

BuilditEco Pty Ltd

Dear Matthew,

RE: 'Supaboard' Compliance Criteria – National Construction Code

I refer to your instructions to review the compliance requirements for the use of the 'Supaboard' product in various different applications.

Note that as part of this review, we have referred to the previous appraisal of the product undertaken by this office. In brief, the Supaboard product is a magnesium oxide board that has a multitude of potential uses within the construction industry and is widely used overseas as a replacement for fibrocement sheeting and plasterboard linings.

The product is being considered for use in the following situations:

- Eaves/soffit linings
- External cladding
- Floor sheets

A review of the National Construction Code (Building Code of Australia Volumes 1 and 2 – 2013), has revealed the following:

General Observations:

There are no referenced Australian Standards within either the Building Code of Australia ('BCA') Volume 1 or 2 for magnesium oxide board. It is our understanding that there are no other Australian Standards that apply to this product. It is important to note that this is not an isolated case within the BCA; e.g. Australian Standards relating to plasterboard are not referenced in the BCA.

Eaves/Soffit linings:

The BCA (Volumes 1 and 2) have limited requirements for eaves/soffit linings. The only reference to the performance of these linings is in particular situations where they are within specified distances from boundaries/other buildings on the site. The requirements relate to the product being 'non-combustible' to mitigate fire spread.





Note that combustibility testing of the product has been undertaken and it would comply with this requirement.

External cladding:

The BCA (Volume 2) contains requirements for weatherproofing of external walls and combustibility for bush-fire prone areas. In the case of weatherproofing, the cladding would be used in the same manner as fibro cement board – i.e. it would have an applied treatment (e.g. texture rendering) that would resist the passage of moisture and would generally be used within an external wall system that incorporated a barrier membrane (sarking) behind the cladding. BCA Volume 1 does not provide as much detail on the use of cladding sheets as Volume 2, however the weatherproofing requirements are the same. Currently the product is not being proposed for use in situations where the external wall is required to achieve a fire rating.

Floor sheets:

Both Volumes of the BCA have very limited references to the use of any material as a floor sheet. There are referenced Australian Standards with respect to the material used e.g. AS2908.2 for cfc sheets and AS2269 for plywood; however the general requirements relate to floor loading requirements. The product has been tested for floor loading and the supplier can provide further details with respect to this. The results that were reviewed by this office indicate that it is fit for purpose.

If there is anything else you require please do not hesitate to contact Richard Attiwell on 08 9330 7476, or 0400 247 328, or contact via email at richarda@milestonebc.com.au

Yours sincerely,

Richard Attiwell
Director
MILESTONE CERTIFIERS