

8 May 2026

Ms. Juliana Addison MP
Chair
Legislative Assembly Environment and Planning Committee
Parliament House, Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Ms Addison,

Re: Additional Information to Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable and Affordable Energy for Apartments

In my submission to this inquiry and in my evidence at the hearing on 30 April 2026, I spoke about the need for the state government to implement the recommendations of the 2022 *Social and Affordable Housing Regulation Review*¹ as this would assist the community housing sector to sign up to programs like Solar Victoria's *Community Housing Program*. Here I provide additional information in the form of the recommendations from the *Social and Affordable Housing Regulation Review* which relate to community housing. These recommendations are:

Recommendation 1.1: Create a clear objective for social housing regulation in legislation

Recommendation 1.2: Develop a customer charter of social housing service standards

Recommendation 1.3: Decisions about regulation should be informed by tenants

Recommendation 1.4: Strengthen the requirement for tenant involvement in housing providers' activities and operations

Recommendation 1.5: Support tenants and providers to engage

Recommendation 1.6: Create a single advocacy body for social housing tenants

Recommendation 2.1: Establish common performance standards for social housing

¹David Hayward, *Social Housing Regulation Review* (Final Report, 2022) 16-27.
<<https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-12/Social-Housing-Regulation-Review-Final-Report.pdf>>

Recommendation 3.2: Require social housing properties to comply with minimum standards prescribed by the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 by January 2027

Recommendation 3.4: Regulator to monitor fire safety in social housing properties

Recommendation 3.5: Ensure needed accessibility modifications to social housing properties are made promptly

Recommendation 4.2: Strengthen complaints management processes for registered community housing agencies

Recommendation 4.3: Establish a support and referral service for complaints and disputes

Recommendation 4.4: Establish a specialist external dispute resolution service

Recommendation 5.1: Enable effective regulation in an environment that is increasing in complexity

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Roberts