

Business licensing reform inquiry

Response ID:37 Data

1.

1. Your contact details

First name

James

Last name

Westcott

Organisation (if responding on behalf of an organisation)

Engineers Australia

3. Please indicate who you represent:

Consumer

4. Which business or occupational licence(s) do you hold or are you affected by?

Registration of Engineers

5. How do these business or occupational licences affect you and what suggestions do you have to improve them?

There is currently no title protection for engineering in Western Australia, despite it being widely considered as a university-qualified profession. Practicing engineers are not required to hold any formal qualifications, are not required to be chartered or registered, do not need to work under a code of ethics, and cannot easily be held accountable for malpractice. This is not the case in other countries or state jurisdictions such as Queensland and (pending) Victoria. As President of Engineers Australia and also a practicing engineer in WA with over 27 years of experience, I strongly believe that registration of engineers should be considered as part of the ERA review.

6. Are there aspects of the business and occupational licensing arrangements that affect you that are working well?

7. Do you have any other comments?