

# **‘Please Explain’ Letter To The ABCB**

This is a **sample** letter to the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB).  
Please edit the text as you see fit - Thank You.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ 2010

## **Attention:**

The Australian Building Codes Board  
Mr Ivan Donaldson, General Manager  
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AUSTRALIA  
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Dear Mr Donaldson

## **RE: ABCB Blocking Adoption of Australia’s Corrected Smoke Alarm Standard**

I am writing in relation to the ABCB obstructing the incorporation of a critical amendment, from the FP-002 committee of Standards Australia, into the Building Code of Australia.

The World Fire Safety Foundation has compelling evidence on their website that:

- in February 2006, 11 senior ABCB staff/management and all 15 ABCB Board Members received a copy, by registered mail, of the World Fire Safety Foundation’s [‘CAN Report’](#), *‘Recommending, Selling or Installing Ionization Smoke Alarms, A Criminal Act of Negligence?’*
- since 1993, [CSIRO test data has shown](#) that Ionisation smoke alarms are unable to pass the light obscuration requirements (i.e. the test for smoke) of the existing Australian smoke alarm standard (AS3786) and are therefore not fit for purpose.
- the ABCB, through its representation on the FP-002 committee of Standards Australia, has been aware that ionization smoke alarms are not fit for purpose since February 2006 when the loophole in the existing smoke alarm standard was revealed to the Standards Australia FP-002 committee.
- the ABCB [have been made fully aware](#) of all the overwhelming global evidence about the dangerously defective nature of ionization smoke alarms on The World Fire Safety Foundation’s website: [www.TheWorldFireSafetyFoundation.org](http://www.TheWorldFireSafetyFoundation.org)
- the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authority Council ([AFAC](#)) and Fire Protection Association Australia ([FPAA](#)) both agree ionization smoke alarms do not activate safely in smouldering fires, and
- there is no justifiable basis for the ABCB to continue to fail its special duty of care to adopt the critical amendment to AS3786 (see the ‘Special Duty of Care’ letter in [The KEY Report](#)).

Please advise:

1. Why is the ABCB continuing to block Standards Australia Ltd’s critical amendment to AS3786?
2. On what grounds does the ABCB deem itself more competent in these matters than the expert FP-002 technical committee of Standards Australia?
3. When is the ABCB intending to adopt Standards Australia’s critical correction to AS3786?

Thank you.

Sincerely

Your signature, name and address go here.

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The latest, electronic version of this document is at: [www.TheWorldFireSafetyFoundation.org/abcb.html](http://www.TheWorldFireSafetyFoundation.org/abcb.html)