

FACT SHEET

Plant design registration – design verifiers

May 2020

Introduction

An application for a design registration under part 5.3 of the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017* (WHS Regulation) must include a design verification statement in accordance with clause 251 of the Regulation. An application will not be processed without a supporting design verification statement.

The applicant is responsible for providing a complete verification statement when the design registration application is submitted.

A design registration may be refused if the design verification statement is inadequate.

Who can be a design verifier?

A person is eligible to be a design verifier for the design of an item of plant if:

- they are a competent person, and
- they were not involved in the production of the design.

A design verifier must document the design verification process carried out by that person and the results of that process.

Requirements for a design verification statement

A design verification statement must:

- be written and signed by a person who is eligible to be a design verifier for the design
- state that the design was produced in accordance with the requirements of the design order

- describe the design verification process that has been carried out and the results of that process.

Note: Penalties apply if a design verification statement is made by a person not eligible to be the design verifier, or that person has not carried out the verification of that design.

Inadequate design verification statements

The following matters are commonly found deficiencies with design verification statements:

- non-compliances with standards are identified without any indication of how an equivalent level of safety has been achieved
- actions or work remain to be completed to achieve compliance with standards are identified
- submissions that are unsigned or incomplete
- only a portion of the design to be registered is addressed
- incomplete details of the verifier including their name, business address, qualifications are provided.

Non-compliances and equivalent levels of safety

A verification statement must identify that the proposed design meets all requirements of the relevant design order (e.g. any Standards specified).

If the design does not comply with a Standard in the design order, the verifier is responsible for reviewing the alternative controls identified by the designer and confirming that the alternative controls achieve an equivalent level of safety to those prescribed in the design order.

Where equivalent levels of safety involve inclusion of other life cycle management actions beyond the control of designers, such as maintenance or operational procedures, these must be identified and considered as to whether they are an effective control.

Further information

Resources regulator website [plant design registration](#).

[Fact sheet – Plant design registration – for designers](#)

[Fact sheet – Plant design registration – for applicants](#)

More information is available on our website. Alternatively, you can contact us at

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