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of Submission

ACT

Productivity Commission  
PO Box 80  
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

**National Workers' Compensation and Occupational  
Health & Safety Frameworks**

I wish to register an interest in the above inquiry, and to receive copies of circulars and related printed matter.

My concern lies with exposure to *Environmental Tobacco Smoke*, a major cause of ill health, disability and death and, and to exposure to the health hazards of discarded cigarette butts and tobacco ash, especially by employees in the hospitality industry where smoking is still permitted.

It is my contention that all places of work, and their surroundings, whether fully or partially enclosed, should be smoke free at all times – no after hours smoking by management, cleaners, maintenance, co-workers or by special hirings, and no sneaking outside for a puff – and that access to place of work should be smoke free, with a smoke free zone at and near every entrance, of which examples can be found in an increasing number of public buildings.

That support should be given to those who smoke – management, staff, customers – to assist in quitting to guard against the surreptitious lighting up, and for the overall benefit of their health, and that smoke detectors be installed where deemed desirable.

Smoking is not a right or a need. Smokers do harm to themselves and to others and to the environment. Cigarette butts, empty packets, matches and lighters are a major source of litter and fire. Any reduction of the opportunities to smoke encourages smokers to quit, or at least to reduce their level of smoking, and it renders less likely the uptake of smoking by juveniles. Enforcement and acceptance of a smoke free environment under the *Occupational Health & Safety* and for the general community will become progressively easier.

Regards

Geraldine Spencer  
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