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## C Compliance with COAG RIS requirements

The Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) is required to report on compliance by ministerial councils and national standard-setting bodies (NSSBs) with the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG's) *Principles and Guidelines for National Standard Setting and Regulatory Action by Ministerial Councils and Standard-Setting Bodies* (COAG 2004). This reporting requirement flows from the *COAG Agreement to Implement the National Competition Policy and Related Reforms* (COAG 1995).

The Guidelines require the preparation of a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) for decisions that:

... would encourage or force businesses or individuals to pursue their interests in ways they would not otherwise have done ... (COAG 2004, p. 2)

The OBPR has assessed RISs required by COAG at two stages: before they are released for community consultation and prior to a regulatory decision being made. The OBPR advises the decision-making body of its assessment at each stage. The assessment considers:

- whether COAG's *Principles and Guidelines* have been followed
- whether the type and level of analysis is adequate and commensurate with the potential economic and social impact of the proposal
- whether alternatives to regulation have been adequately considered.

It should be noted that the depth of analysis required for consultation is lower than that at the decision-making stage. In many cases, the RIS for consultation focuses on the identification of the problem, objectives, and a range of feasible options (non-regulatory and regulatory), and a preliminary impact analysis of the options. A RIS for the decision-making stage should reflect the additional information and views collected from those consulted, and provide a more complete and robust impact analysis.

This report covers decisions made between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

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## C.1 Recent developments

In April 2007, COAG reiterated its position concerning the regulatory impact analysis process (agreed in February 2006) by including the requirements in its Regulatory Reform Plan, which is a part of its National Reform Agenda (NRA). The COAG (2007a) communiqué noted the following.

COAG has agreed that all Governments will establish and maintain effective arrangements at each level of government that maximise the efficiency of new and amended regulation and avoid unnecessary compliance costs and restrictions on competition by:

- (a) establishing and maintaining “gate-keeping mechanisms” as part of the decision-making process to ensure that the regulatory impact of proposed regulatory instruments are made fully transparent to decision makers in advance of decisions being made and to the public as soon as possible;
- (b) improving the quality of regulation impact analysis through the use, where appropriate, of cost-benefit analysis;
- (c) better measurement of compliance costs flowing from new and amended regulation, such as through the use of the Commonwealth Office of Small Business’ costing model;
- (d) broadening the scope of regulation impact analysis, where appropriate, to recognise the effect of regulation on individuals and the cumulative burden on business and, as part of the consideration of alternatives to new regulation, have regard to whether the existing regulatory regimes of other jurisdictions might offer a viable alternative; and
- (e) applying these arrangements to Ministerial Councils.

Regulation refers to the broad range of legally enforceable instruments which impose mandatory requirements upon business and the community as well as to those government voluntary codes and advisory instruments, for which there is a reasonable expectation of widespread compliance.

In keeping with this commitment to maximise the efficiency of new and amended regulation and avoid unnecessary compliance costs and restrictions on competition, COAG agrees that all governments will ensure that regulatory processes in their jurisdiction are consistent with the following principles:

1. establishing a case for action before addressing a problem
2. a range of feasible policy options must be considered, including self-regulatory, co-regulatory and non-regulatory approaches, and their benefits and costs assessed
3. adopting the option that generates the greatest net benefit for the community
4. in accordance with the Competition Principles Agreement, legislation should not restrict competition unless it can be demonstrated that:

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- a. the benefits of the restrictions to the community as a whole outweigh the costs
  - b. the objectives of the regulation can only be achieved by restricting competition
5. providing effective guidance to relevant regulators and regulated parties in order to ensure that the policy intent and expected compliance requirements of the regulation are clear
  6. ensuring that regulation remains relevant and effective over time
  7. consulting effectively with affected key stakeholders at all stages of the regulatory cycle
  8. government action should be effective and proportional to the issue being addressed.

Having regard to the above principles, the parties have agreed that regulation impact analysis of the feasible policy options, will, among other things, include an assessment of whether:

- (a) an existing regulatory model is in place outside the jurisdiction that would efficiently address the issue in question
- (b) a uniform, harmonised or jurisdiction-specific model would achieve the least burdensome outcome (or generate the greatest net benefit for the community).

In deciding on whether to adopt a uniform, harmonised or jurisdiction-specific model, governments will have regard to:

- the potential for better regulatory practices to be developed through regulatory competition, innovation and dynamism
- the relative effectiveness and efficiency of the alternative models, including regulatory burdens and any transition costs
- whether the issue is state-specific or national, and whether there are substantial differences that may require jurisdiction-specific responses.

The parties have committed to the actions specified in Appendix C of the communiqué to give effect to the commitments made by COAG and to ensure that the agreed principles flow through into practice.

In accordance with the COAG decision, the OBPR will gradually raise the level of analysis required for COAG related RISs by encouraging the use of formal cost-benefit analysis (CBA) for proposals with significant impacts on businesses or individuals and the economy, and the use of the Business Cost Calculator (BCC) to estimate compliance cost impacts of regulatory proposals. The OBPR will also encourage the maintenance of ‘gate-keeping mechanisms’ and making the impact of regulations transparent to the public.

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## **Benchmarking study**

In February 2006 COAG agreed to:

... adopt a common framework for benchmarking, measuring and reporting on the regulatory burden across all levels of government ... (COAG 2006a, decision 5.3)

The first stage of this project was concluded with the release of the Productivity Commission's report, *Performance Benchmarking of Australian Business Regulation*, in March 2007. The report outlines a common framework for benchmarking, measuring and reporting on regulatory burden on business, including a range of feasible quantitative and qualitative performance indicators.

In April 2007, COAG considered the Productivity Commission's report and agreed to proceed to the second stage of the project. Over an initial three year program the Productivity Commission will develop the potential indicators identified in stage one to compare the compliance costs of regulation in targeted areas across jurisdictions. In year one of the study the Commission will benchmark the compliance costs of various business registration requirements as well as the quality and quantity of regulation.

## **Regulatory 'hotspots'**

In February 2006, COAG also agreed to pursue reform of a number of cross-jurisdictional regulatory 'hotspots'. These regulations had been identified by businesses as imposing excessive burdens, particularly for businesses that operated across multiple states. They cover rail safety regulation; occupational health and safety (OH&S); national trade measurement; chemicals and plastics; development assessment arrangements; and building regulation.

In July 2006, COAG agreed to pursue regulatory reform in a further four 'hotspots': environmental assessment and approvals processes; business names, Australian Business Number and related business registration processes; personal property securities; and product safety.

In April 2007, COAG received a progress report on a number of these reform areas, and the COAG Reform Council (CRC) was established to monitor the implementation of these and under the NRA.

COAG decision RISs were prepared in the year to 31 March 2007 for particular areas of 'hotspots' including:

- building regulations

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- rail safety regulation reform
  - model rail safety regulations
  - adoption of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) approach for setting maximum residue limits for veterinary chemicals.

See table C2 for more information.

In addition, a consultation RIS was prepared for each of the following matters which have been identified as hotspots:

- review of Australian consumer product safety systems
- test procedures for the determination of the net weight of frozen fish
- national introduction of the average quantity system for the measurement of pre-packed articles
- national code of practice for OH&S induction training in the construction industry (a consultation RIS for this proposal was released in August 2005).

See table C4 for more information.

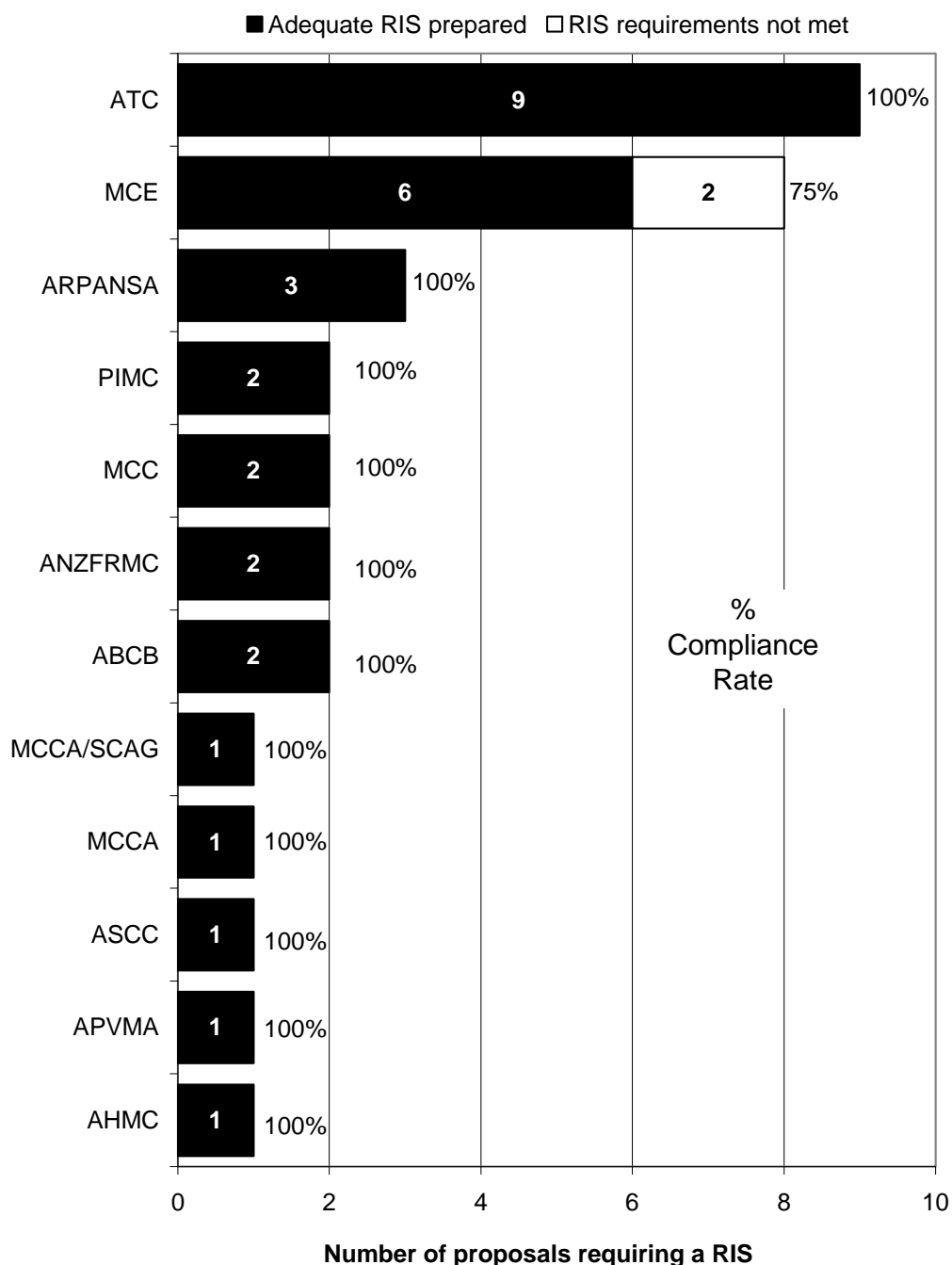
## **C.2 Overall compliance in 2006-07**

In the year to 31 March 2007, the OBPR identified 33 decisions made by ministerial councils and NSSBs that required the preparation of a RIS under the COAG *Principles and Guidelines*.

An adequate RIS was prepared at the consultation stage for 29 decisions, resulting in a compliance rate of 88 per cent (88 per cent in 2005-06). Of the 33 decisions, an adequate RIS was prepared at the subsequent decision-making stage for 31 decisions, resulting in an overall compliance rate of 94 per cent — a significant improvement on the 76 per cent compliance rate achieved in 2005-06.

Figure C.1 shows the overall compliance at the decision-making stage by COAG decision-making bodies. Section C.3 discusses compliance related issues.

**Figure C.1 COAG RIS compliance at decision-making stage  
1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007<sup>a b</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Australian Transport Council (ATC), Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE), Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC), Ministerial Council for Corporations (MCC), Australian New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council (ANZFRMC), Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB), Ministerial Council for Consumer Affairs /Standing Committee of Attorney Generals (MCCA/SCAG), Ministerial Council for Consumer Affairs (MCCA), Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC), Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), Australian Health Ministers Conference (AHMC). <sup>b</sup> SCAG and MCCA jointly prepared one RIS.

Source: OBPR data and information provided by ministerial councils and NSSBs.

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### *Compliance by significance*

The OBPR classifies each regulatory proposal that requires a RIS according to whether it is of greater or lesser significance. The criteria for this broad classification relate to:

1. the magnitude of the problem and the nature of the regulatory proposals; and
2. the scope and intensity of the impacts of the proposal on affected parties and the community.

Classifying regulatory proposals in this way assists in applying COAG's 'proportionality rule', which states that the type and level of RIS analysis should be commensurate with the potential impacts of the proposal.

Of the 33 regulatory decisions reported, three were assessed by the OBPR as being highly significant. For these highly significant matters, compliance at the consultation stage was 67 per cent, compared to the 100 per cent compliance rate achieved in 2005-06. However, the reduction in the compliance rate is due to only one consultation RIS not being prepared. At the decision-making stage, the compliance rate was 100 per cent — a significant improvement on the 50 per cent compliance rate achieved in 2005-06 (see table C.1).

**Table C.1 Compliance with COAG RIS requirements 2004-05 to 2006-07**

	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	ratio	%	ratio	%	ratio	%
Overall compliance						
Consultation stage	20/24	83	30/34	88	29/33	88
Decision-making stage	21/24	88	26/34	76	31/33	94
Compliance for highly significant regulatory proposals						
Consultation stage	5/6	83	4/4	100	2/3	67
Decision-making stage	6/6	100	2/4	50	3/3	100

*Source:* OBPR estimates and information provided by ministerial councils and NSSBs.

## **Commentary on fully compliant highly significant issues**

### *Energy efficiency building standards*

On 1 May 2006, the Australian Building Codes Board amended the Building Code of Australia (BCA) to include energy efficiency standards for classes 5-9 non-residential buildings, and to increase the energy efficiency requirements for houses – class 1 and 10 buildings. The proposed regulations have been developed

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pursuant to a 2000 agreement between the Australian, State and Territory Governments. The agreed strategy involves both the encouragement of voluntary measures by industry and the introduction of mandatory minimum requirements in the BCA.

These amendments will impact on owners, builders and tenants of new and renovated houses and non-residential buildings such as commercial, industrial and public buildings.

### *Gas Pipelines Access (South Australia)*

On 21 April 2006, the Ministerial Council on Energy endorsed the *Gas Pipelines Access (South Australia) (Greenfields Pipeline Incentives) Amendment Bill 2006*. This Bill was designed to encourage greater interconnection of the gas network to meet the expected increase in demand, improve the reliability and security of gas supplies and promote competition in markets already served by a gas pipeline. It will have a significant impact on gas service providers, up-stream gas producers and major gas users and consumers.

## **Commentary on non-compliant highly significant issues**

### *Gas access regime – light handed regulation*

On 2 June 2006, the Ministerial Council on Energy, in response to the Productivity Commission's *Review of the Gas Access Regime*, agreed to the introduction of a light handed regulatory option. Whilst consultation with interested parties took place on this proposal, a RIS was not prepared for public consultation and the OBPR (then ORR) assessed the MCE as non-compliant at the consultation stage. A RIS was prepared and assessed as adequate at the decision-making stage.

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## C.3 Compliance by decision

### Matters for which COAG's requirements were fully compliant

COAG RIS requirements were met for 29 decisions at both the consultation and decision-making stages in the year to 31 March 2007, as shown in table C.2.

Table C.2 **Cases where COAG RIS requirements were met at both consultation and decision-making stages in 2006-07**

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>
<b>Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB)</b>	
Building Code of Australia (BCA) 2006 Volume One (Class 2 to Class 9 buildings) - include energy efficiency measures for Class 5 to 9 buildings <sup>a</sup>	1 May 2006
BCA: Volume Two (Class 1 and class 10 buildings - housing provisions) - include enhanced energy efficiency provisions	1 May 2006
<b>Australian Health Ministers Conference (AHMC)</b>	
National health security legislation	17 Nov 2006
<b>Australia New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council (ANZFRMC)</b>	
Feasibility study into extending country of origin labelling to selected packaged fruit and vegetable whole food produce	5 May 2006
National food safety audit policy	25 Oct 2006
<b>Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)</b>	
Adoption of the JECFA approach for setting maximum residue limits for veterinary chemicals <sup>b</sup>	9 Feb 2006
<b>Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)</b>	
Radiation protection standard for occupational exposure to ultraviolet radiation	14 Dec 2006
Code of practice for security of radioactive sources	23 Jan 2007
Code of practice and safety guide for safe use of fixed radiation gauges	25 Jan 2007

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Table C.2 (continued)

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>
<b>Australian Transport Council (ATC)</b>	
Review of the national heavy vehicle accreditation scheme business rules	22 May 2006
Consistency in mass limits for heavy vehicles	22 May 2006
Rail safety legislation reform	2 Jun 2006
Australian road rules 2005 amendment package	13 Sep 2006
Heavy vehicles – increased mass allowance for front axles	13 Oct 2006
National standard for commercial vessels Part F – category 2 fast craft	13 Oct 2006
Model rail safety regulations	Jan 2007
The Australian dangerous goods code and model legislation, 7 <sup>th</sup> edition	8 Feb 2007
Heavy vehicle driver fatigue reform package	8 Feb 2007
<b>Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs (MCCA)</b>	
Amendment to the Uniform Consumer Credit Code (UCCC) in response to fringe credit providers	Feb 2007
<b>Ministerial Council for Corporations (MCC)</b>	
Corporations Amendment Bill (No 2) 2006 – rules for shareholder meetings	24 May 2006
Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Audit Inspection) Bill 2006	14 Sep 2006
<b>Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE)</b>	
Gas Pipelines Access (Greenfields Pipeline Incentives) Bill <sup>a</sup>	21 April 2006
Merits review model to review decision making in the electricity and gas regulatory framework	31 May 2006
MCE response to the Productivity Commission's review of gas access regime – coverage test threshold	02 Jun 2006
To mandate the changes in the star rating algorithm to include standby power specified in AS/NZ 2007.2:2005, performance of household electrical appliances – dishwashers: part 2 energy efficiency labelling requirements	13 Dec 2006
To mandate the changes in the star rating algorithm to include standby power specified in AS/NZ 2040.2:2005, performance of household electrical appliances – clothes washing machines: part 2 energy efficiency labelling requirements	13 Dec 2006

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Table C.2 (continued)

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>
<b>Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC)</b>	
National standard for licensing persons performing high risk work	6 Apr 2006
<b>Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC)</b>	
Model code of practice for the welfare of animals – husbandry of captive bred emus	20 Apr 2006
Model code of practice for the welfare of animals – poultry transport	20 Apr 2006

<sup>a</sup> Highly significant issues – see commentary above. <sup>b</sup> This was not reported in 2005-06.

Source: OBPR data and information provided by ministerial councils and NSSBs.

### Matters for which COAG's requirements were not met

COAG RIS requirements were not met at the consultation stage and/or the decision-making stage in four cases, for decisions made between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007 (see table C.3).

Table C.3 Cases where COAG RIS requirements were not met at consultation and/or decision-making stage

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>	<i>Compliant at consultation</i>	<i>Compliant at decision</i>
<b>Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs (MCCA)/Standing Committee of Attorney-Generals (SCAG)</b>			
Uniform regulation of Residential Tenancy Databases	11 Apr 2006	No	Yes
<b>Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE)</b>			
MCE response to the PC review of gas access regime – light handed regulation <sup>a</sup>	02 Jun 2006	No	Yes
Establishment of bulletin board to provide a transparent, real time and independent source of information for gas market participants and governments on the status of natural gas supplies around the country	27 Oct 2006	No	No
Further development of the short-term trading market to provide a mandatory price-based balancing mechanism for wholesale gas trading, for subsequent MCE considerations the next phase of gas market reform	27 Oct 2006	No	No

<sup>a</sup> Significant issue – see commentary above.

Source: OBPR data and information provided by ministerial councils and NSSBs.

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## Commentary on other non-compliant issues

Commentary on the RISs for all the highly significant regulatory proposals is provided above. There were three less significant proposals that did not satisfy the COAG RIS requirements.

### *Gas market – Bulletin Board and Short Term Trading Market for Gas*

In October 2006, the Ministerial Council on Energy agreed to:

- the establishment of a Bulletin Board to provide transparent, real time and independent information on the status of natural gas supplies around the country; and
- the development of the design of a Short Term Trading Market which would provide a mandatory price-based balancing mechanism for wholesale gas trading.

These proposals arose out of recommendations in the *Gas Market Development Plan* which was prepared by the Gas Market Leaders Group (GMLG). While a consultation RIS was prepared and assessed as adequate by the OBPR, it was not made public. Consultation was undertaken as part of the *Gas Market Development Plan*. However, as of June 2004, the OBPR's ability to undertake ex-post assessment of processes was limited to cases of genuine emergency, which is not the case here (PC 2005). Therefore, the consultation processes did not satisfy the COAG *Principles and Guidelines* and, accordingly, the OBPR assessed the RIS process as inadequate at the consultation stage.

The OBPR did not receive a RIS for assessment prior to the decision-making stage and, although the OBPR was advised that a RIS was provided to the MCE prior to its decision, this does not satisfy the COAG *Principles and Guidelines*. Therefore, the OBPR assessed this proposal as non-compliant at the decision-making stage.

The OBPR understands that as the Short Term Trading Market proposal is developed it will require subsequent consideration by the MCE. Therefore, there is scope for a further RIS to be prepared for the implementation of the Short Term Trading Market decision to meet the COAG *Principles and Guidelines*.

### *Residential tenancy database*

The consultation stage RIS requirements were not fully complied with for this proposal. While a RIS was prepared for the consultation stage, only targeted consultation with the RIS was undertaken; it was not released for full public

consultation. A decision RIS was subsequently prepared and assessed as adequate by the OBPR.

## C.4 Consultation

Gathering information from stakeholders is an important part of the policy development process. Consultation enhances transparency and helps to ensure that the proposed regulation generates the greatest net benefit for the community (taking into account all the impacts) is able to work in practice and is legitimate from the view point of stakeholders.

Consultation is a key requirement of the COAG *Principles and Guidelines*. Table C.4 details the 35 issues for which consultation RISs were prepared and assessed by the OBPR and were still active at 31 March 2007. It is likely that most of these decisions will be reported by the OBPR in 2007-08.

**Table C.4 Active RISs assessed for consultation before 31 March 2007 and made public**

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date RIS assessed</i>
<b>Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)</b>	
Code of practice for the safe use of radiation in veterinary science	8 Sept 2005
Radiation protection standard for exposure limits for electric & magnetic fields – 0 Hz to 3 kHz	24 Oct 2006
<b>Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC)</b>	
National code for tilt-up and precast concrete in construction work	03 Aug 2005
National code of practice for OH&S induction training in the construction industry	02 Aug 2005
National code of practice for the prevention of falls in general construction	08 July 2005
National standard for manual tasks and the draft national code for the prevention of musculoskeletal disorder from manual tasks at work	09 Dec 2004
Proposed revisions to the national OHS framework for control of workplace hazardous substances and dangerous goods	28 July 2006

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**Table C.4 (continued)**

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date RIS assessed</i>
<b>Australian Transport Council (ATC)</b>	
National standard for commercial vessels part C section 6 – stability; and subsection 6A – general requirements	26 Oct 2005
Raising the allowable combination mass for twin-steer vehicles	19 Dec 2005
Engine brake noise	18 May 2006
Australian road rules amendment package 2006	11 Aug 2006
Truck under-run protection devices	05 Oct 2006
National standards for commercial vessels Part C section 3 construction	06 Nov 2006
Heavy vehicle speed compliance	20 Dec 2006
National Standard for Commercial Vessels (NSCV) Part C construction, section 7 equipment, subsection D anchoring systems	27 Mar 2007
Requirements for omnibuses designed for hire or reward (ADR 58)	31 Jul 2006
Standards for omnibus rollover strength (ADR 59)	31 Jul 2006
Occupant protection in buses (ADR 66 & 68)	31 Jul 2006
<b>Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC)</b>	
Investigation of options to reduce the environmental impact of plastic bags	13 Dec 2006
<b>Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)</b>	
Development of joint food regulation for sports foods (P236)	14 Feb 2003
Primary production and processing standard for poultry meat (P282)	2 Nov 2005
Nutrition, health and related claims (P293)	3 Nov 2005
Mandatory fortification with folic acid (P295)	23 Jun 2006
Mandatory fortification with iodine (P230)	15 Aug 2006
Labelling requirements for food for catering purposes and retail sale (P272)	21 Nov 2006

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**Table C.4 (continued)**

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date RIS assessed</i>
<b>Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs (MCCA)</b>	
Review of Australian consumer product safety system	23 June 2004
National regulation of property investment advice	15 July 2004
National regulation of finance and mortgage brokers	15 Nov 2004
Test procedures for the determination of the net weight of frozen fish	14 Dec 2004
National introduction of the average quantity system for the measurement of pre-packed articles	10 Mar 2005
Review of the system of mandatory comparison rates for finance charges in the Uniform Consumer Credit Code (UCCC)	24 Oct 2005
<b>Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE)</b>	
Energy legislative amendments – pricing principles	02 Nov 2006
Energy legislative amendments – regulatory decision-making covering regulated network entities	02 Nov 2006
Energy legislative amendments – information disclosure	27 Oct 2006
Minimum energy performance standards and alternative strategies for external power supplies	16 Mar 2007

*Source:* OBPR.

## **Consultation with New Zealand**

In June 2004, COAG asked the OBPR to confer with the Regulatory Impact Analysis Unit (RIAU) in New Zealand on draft consultation RISs, where there are New Zealand impacts and issues, or where a proposal in Australia would affect Trans-Tasman trade. Between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007, the OBPR forwarded ten consultation RISs to the RIAU (see table C.5). The RIAU provided comments on the majority of the RISs. These comments were sent by the OBPR to the relevant ministerial councils and NSSBs. In most cases the RIAU's comments were taken into account and, where required, RISs were amended accordingly.

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**Table C.5 Consultation with New Zealand RIAU**

<i>Ministerial council/NSSB and issue</i>	<i>Date consultation RIS sent to RIAU</i>
<b>Australian Transport Council (ATC)</b>	
Requirements for omnibuses designed for hire or reward (ADR 58)	31 Jul 2006
Standards for omnibus rollover strength (ADR 59)	11 Jul 2006
Occupant protection in buses (ADR 66 & 68)	31 Jul 2006
<b>Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)</b>	
Mandatory fortification with folic acid (P295)	7 Jul 2006
Mandatory fortification with iodine (P230)	11 Aug 2006
<b>Ministerial Council for Energy (MCE)</b>	
Minimum energy performance standards and alternative strategies for external power supplies	13 Sep 2006
To mandate the changes in the star rating algorithm to include standby power specified in AS/NZ 2007.2:2005, performance of household electrical appliances – dishwashers: part 2 energy efficiency labelling requirements	9 May 2006
To mandate the changes in the star rating algorithm to include standby power specified in AS/NZ 2040.2:2005, performance of household electrical appliances – clothes washing machines: part 2 energy efficiency labelling requirements	9 May 2006
<b>National Resource Management Ministerial Council (NRMMC)</b>	
National system for the prevention of marine pest incursion through ballast water	12 Aug 2006
<b>Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC)</b>	
Proposed revisions to the national OHS framework for control of workplace hazardous substances and dangerous goods	17 Jul 2006

Source: OBPR.

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## **C.5 Improving compliance**

The OBPR recognises a need for continued regular contact with secretariats of ministerial councils and NSSBs to ensure ongoing awareness of the scope of the COAG RIS requirements, the required level of analysis and the role of the OBPR. In this context, the OBPR's website has been upgraded to enhance its capacity to provide information on the COAG RIS requirements and the role of the OBPR.

The OBPR also takes an active interest in providing training to staff engaged in regulatory impact analysis. Such training can take various forms, such as OBPR officers providing guidance and assistance to staff working on specific regulatory proposals and providing formal training sessions. For example, during the period from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007, the OBPR provided formal training sessions to more than 30 officials involved in the preparation of COAG RISs. In 2007-08, the OBPR intends to increase the level of training it provides to officials. This will include the provision of technical advice on cost-benefit analysis and on the use of the BCC for the measurement of compliance costs.