2 November 2015

Intellectual Property Arrangements
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

Via email: intellectual.property@pc.gov.au

Dear Commissioners

On behalf of the Building Designers Association of Victoria (BDAV), we welcome an opportunity to participate in policy considerations with respect to intellectual property in Australia.

Building design by its very nature is a profession whose practitioners ply their trade through the provision of quality design services built on experience, skill and constant learning. As such, protecting the interests of designers and providing the incentives to continue to invest in their practice is a key priority for the BDAV.

Concurrently, building designers also build on the work of others and add to the evolution of the profession through innovative application of existing practice or methods. In this regard, BDAV supports any reforms that balances this innovation against the need to recognise and reward those who have undertaken the initial heavy lifting.

BDAV will reserve our detailed comments on the issues raised until we have the opportunity to review any specific matters identified with the release of the Draft Report in 2016. We would also welcome any specific requests from the Commission in the development of the Draft Report with respect to building design issues and intellectual property.

Yours sincerely

Alastair McDonald
President