

MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN CONSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION WELCOMES SUPREME COURT DECISION IN CFMEU CONTEMPT CASE

The Australian Constructors Association (ACA) has welcomed the recent judgment by the Victorian Supreme Court in which the Court found the CFMEU guilty of contempt of court in the Grocon dispute.

Lindsay Le Compte, ACA Executive Director, said that the ACA supported strong action being taken where construction industry participants deliberately failed to comply with directions of the courts.

Mr Le Compte said that the industry could not afford to bear the cost of lawlessness, its impact on productivity, the effect on the livelihoods of workers and the industry's efforts to attract talented people to its workforce.

"There is no room for unlawful action in the industry at any time, but more so when the industry is struggling to maintain profitability, meet its commitments to its clients and maintain jobs for its employees.

"When industry participants flout the rule of law it causes immense damage to the reputation of the industry and to law abiding contractors and employees," Mr Le Compte said.

Mr Le Compte went on to say that the ACA has previously expressed its support for the re-establishment of the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner with the same powers and structure it had following the Cole Royal Commission.

"The industry needs to have a strong regulator with adequate powers to take action when necessary. While the current regulator has tried its best to maintain control of the small number of industry participants who deliberately avoid their legal responsibilities it has been hamstrung by watered down powers and budgetary cuts. This situation needs to be reversed," Mr Le Compte said.

For further information contact Lindsay Le Compte, Executive Director, Australian Constructors Association on (02) 9466 5522 or email lindsay.lecompte@constructors.com.au