



PUBLIC WARNING

Safety issues with roof insulation

The Commissioner for Consumer Affairs, Mal Hemmerling is warning South Australian home owners of the dangers of incorrectly installed blow-in roof insulation.

Blow-in insulation is usually made from recycled paper and funnelled into the ceiling via a flexible hose. Blow-in insulation can be moved around by drafts in the roof space if not secured in position. ***Blow-in, or loose fill, insulation is not a safety concern in itself – as long as it is installed correctly.***

Insulation installed too close to electrical fittings, such as exhaust fans and ceiling down lights, can potentially cause a fire.

- If consumers have **retro-fitted blow-in insulation** they should arrange a safety inspection by a qualified electrician to ensure that blow-in insulation is secured and that appropriate covers or barriers are in place to allow heat to escape around lights and fans. Consumers are within their rights to have any substandard work rectified by those responsible.
- Homeowners who are considering **electrical work** in proximity to blow-in insulation should ensure the work is done by a licensed electrician who should be aware of the safety requirements.
- Consumers considering **installing blow-in insulation** should ensure the work is done by a licensed building work contractor.

More information about insulation safety is available from the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs' product safety section on 8152 0732 or at **www.ocba.sa.gov.au**

To find a licensed builder or electrician visit the Licensing Public Register at:
www.ocba.sa.gov.au/licensing/