



INTEGRITY

THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF
QUANTITY SURVEYORS

ABN 97 008 485 809

Skilled migration inquiry
Submission No. 42

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The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Migration
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary,

The Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors is the Australian Assessing Authority for skilled migration of the Quantity Surveying profession.

Over the last six years we have gained valuable experience in the assessing of qualifications and processing of skilled migration applications.

Generally, we believe that the current system works well and is a significant improvement on the previous system.

There is however, a problem which we would like to bring to the Committee's attention.

On a number of occasions the AIQS has responded quickly to urgent appeals for skilled qualifications assessments for applicants whose current study or work visas expire within weeks of their approach to us. In most of these cases, the applicant is already employed or has an offer of employment by an Australian quantity surveying firm.

Despite our quick responses to the applicants with satisfactory assessments and the employers' strong support we understand that on a number of occasions individuals have been denied further visas or permanent residence and have been forced to return to their homeland before starting the process again.

While there are no doubt good reasons for such decisions, it seems far more desirable for this country to be flexible in our regulations and thus retain these highly regarded individuals whose services are in strong demand by our employers.

Therefore, the Committee may like to consider how such flexibility can be introduced in such situations.

I would be happy to provide any further information on this matter that you require.

Yours sincerely,

Terry L Sanders
General Manager