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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARC continues to administer RAC permit scheme under the new National EPA

On 1 July 2026, the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Program (OPSGG) moved from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to the National Environmental Protection Agency (National EPA).

The National EPA is a new, independent body that brings all environmental regulatory functions under one agency. As part of this transition, the National EPA will now regulate the refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) permit scheme.

The Australian Refrigeration Council (ARC) will continue to administer the permit scheme on behalf of the National EPA under the new structure.

The ARC confirms that this change will not affect the day-to-day operations of licence holders. ARC CEO Mark Lamb said the council is working closely with the new agency to manage the transition.

"Licence holders are advised to continue meeting their current requirements," Mr Lamb said. "All current obligations, processes, and contacts remain the same. Existing licences, permits, and approvals stay valid, and members will continue to interact with the same systems and staff at the ARC."

The National EPA takes a practical, risk-based approach to regulation, making decisions based on evidence and law. The ARC will continue to work alongside the National EPA to manage the RAC permit scheme.

Licence holders are encouraged to watch for further updates from both the ARC and the National EPA.

To learn more about the National EPA, visit www.nationalepa.gov.au.

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