

6 December 2021

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Not for publication



To Whom it May Concern

**RE: Study on People's Republic of China (PRC) Policies and
Influence in the Development of International Standards for Emerging Technologies
[Docket Number 211026–0219]**

Standards Australia has read with interest the Request for Information on People's Republic of China (PRC) policies and influence in the development of international standards for emerging technologies.

As Australia's national standards body, we harmonise specifications and procedures to ensure that products and services are safe, efficient, and benefit the Australian community. Australia participates in the development of and adopts international standards wherever we can. We are able to do this because of the trust we have had in a system where no single interest has been able to dominate.

As representatives of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), we are also specialists in the development and adoption of internationally aligned standards in Australia.

One of the distinctive features of international standards is that they are developed and agreed by a wide range and balanced group of experts from across the world. This ensures meaningful participation, with global perspectives and results in standards that are relevant to an international audience. If one particular member or region dominates participation in the development of a standard this distorts the relevance and the resulting uptake of the standard.

In our view, practices which allow a particular country or region to dominate the standards setting system should be discouraged. We also believe that practices where particular solutions favoured by some countries are pursued at forums where they may have the easiest path to completion but not necessarily the most robust international consensus making process should be opposed.

Standards Australia supports international standards that are developed using principles of transparency, co-ordination, consensus, and inclusiveness that all countries can benefit from.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the undersigned on +61 2 9237 6086.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Adam Stingemore", written over a horizontal line.

Adam Stingemore
General Manager, Engagement and Communications