# Department of Immigration and Border Protection brand mark.DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION NOTICE

**No. 2015/35**

# Commencement of customs licensing review

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (the Department) is undertaking a comprehensive public review of all customs licensing regimes provided for under the *Customs Act* 1901, that is, customs broker, depot and warehouse licences.

## Terms of reference and discussion paper

Terms of reference and a discussion paper have now been released and are available from the [Submissions and](http://www.border.gov.au/about/reports-publications/discussion-papers-submissions) [discussion papers](http://www.border.gov.au/about/reports-publications/discussion-papers-submissions) webpage of the Department website.

The objectives of the Review are to:

* review the role played by licensing in today’s border management environment and consider whether there are other, more efficient ways to achieve the same objectives for border management;
* assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the current licensing regimes;
* assess the regulatory burden of the current licensing regimes and identify opportunities to reduce this burden and align application processes between administrations; and
* recommend whether the current licensing regimes should be retained with improvements/enhancements or be replaced.

Further details regarding the scope of the Review are set out in the terms of reference, however it will not include a review of the:

* fees and charges applicable to customs brokers, depots or warehouses as those were the subject of a separate review - *the Joint Review of Border Fees, Charges and Taxes*. It is recognised however, that changes to the licensing regimes may result in changes to the cost base;
* Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Scheme for customs brokers as the CPD Scheme was reviewed by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) in 2014; or
* cargo reporting requirements.

## Invitation to make a submission

The Department invites all interested people and organisations to lodge a written submission. The discussion paper provides further details on how to provide a submission, and covers a range of issues on which the Department seeks information and feedback.

During the course of the review there will also be opportunities for further consultation on submissions where necessary, and for individuals and organisations to provide comments on draft recommendations prior to the finalisation of the review.

Given the scope of the Review we request that **separate written submissions** be lodged for each licence type, that is, depot, warehouse or customs broker licences. Each submission should be accompanied by a separate submission cover sheet and emailed to [licensingreview@border.gov.au](mailto:licensingreview@border.gov.au) by **5pm AEDST Thursday 31 December 2015.**

Any queries regarding the Review or how to make a submission should be emailed to [licensingreview@border.gov.au](mailto:licensingreview@border.gov.au) [signed]

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26 October 2015