Notice

To Lodging Parties

10 October 2019

No 223

Amendments to Real Property Act 1886

Notice to Lodging Parties No 211 previously advised that the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2018 (Simplify Bill) was introduced into Parliament on 18 October 2018 which contained proposed amendments to the Real Property Act 1886 (RPA), amongst other amendments.

The Simplify Bill has now passed both houses of Parliament and was assented to by His Excellency the Governor on 3 October 2019, thereby enacting the <u>Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Act 2019</u> (the Simplify Act).

Sections 83, 84 and 85 of the Simplify Act have resulted in the following amendments being made to the RPA:

- the definition of 'appropriate form' in section 3 has been updated to include electronic forms;
- section 54 has been amended to provide the Registrar-General with the express power to mandate electronic conveyancing; and
- section 160A has been added to enable a revocation of a power of attorney, or the death of the grantor of a power of attorney, to be noted on the electronic copy of the duplicate or copy of the power of attorney.

Customer Information Bulletin No 329 identified a number of matters that required resolution or reasonable mitigation prior to further mandating of electronic conveyancing. The amendments to sections 3 and 54 of the RPA resolve one of the matters identified. Work continues on progressing the outcomes of Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council's security review, removing barriers to a competitive market, ensuring clarity of market operation and completion of the Intergovernmental Agreement review. The Office of the Registrar-General will continue to provide updates to industry on the progress of these matters and any decisions made in relation to the implementation of a timeframe for mandating in the future.

Please direct any queries to DPTI.RegistrarGeneral@sa.gov.au.

Cristina Florea

DEPUTY REGISTRAR-GENERAL

Government of South Australia