

# Timber Pest Inspection Report



15 Timber Close, Sampleton, WA 1234 Inspection prepared for: Jane Smith Real Estate Agent: Bob Brown - The Real Estate Company

Date of Inspection: 7/12/2015 Time: 9:00AM Weather: Fine, 28c

Inspector: Daniel McCullen www.resicert.com

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## Items Requiring Attention - Summary

The summary below consists of significant findings and defects. The summary is not a complete listing of all the findings in the report, and reflects the opinion of the inspector. Please review all of the pages of the report as the summary alone does not explain all the issues. Any items within the report marked as deferred in the category box, we were either unable to inspect or are not items that we inspect as part of our inspection process.

If there are no items listed below, it indicates that there are no items which require attent	tion.
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## **Our Services**

Check out the full range of Resicert inspection services. For complete details visit our website www.resicert.com by clicking here or click on the relevant heading below.

**Pre-Purchase Inspection:** Are you buying a new home? Our pre-purchase building and timber pest inspections will provide you with total peace of mind.

**Safety Barrier and Pool Condition Inspection:** Effective pool fencing also helps keeps young children safe. This is why pool safety laws are in existence. There are a number of aspects of a swimming pool that require regular attention to ensure they are safe places for all swimmers.

**Timber Pest Inspection:** A property is normally the largest investment people make in their lifetime, therefore it is important to protect your house (or the house you are about to buy) against timber pests by conducting regular bi-annual or annual inspections.

**Retrospective Approval:** Quite often additions or modification to a home or building need approval retrospectively nmeaning AFTER they have been built.

Handover Defects Inspection - (PCI): Make sure that you are getting what you paid for your new home. This is a detailed inspection undertaken on your new home build before you make your final payment.

**Builders Warranty Inspection:** Homes that are less than 6 years old require a builder warranty inspection. This then remains with the home for 6 years regardless of ownership. Great way to ensure any issues that can be fixed whilst still under warranty are not missed.

Owner Builder Warranty Inspection: This is when a owner builder wishes to sell their home and builder warranty insurance is required. The insurance company requires a defects report which is what we provide.

**Termite Traps - DIY Termite Baiting System:** This is a "do it yourself" termite control system - which is generally less than a third of the cost of others systems in the market place. This system will help prevent termites from attacking your home and also treat termite activity.





## Inspector

### 1. Your Inspector

Your Inspector:
• Daniel McCullen

**Contact Information:** 

Email: daniel@resicert.com Mobile: 0408 555 911

## Inspection Type

## 1. Inspection Type

Type:

• Timber Pest Inspection in accordance with AS4349.3-2010

Reason:

Pre-purchase Inspection

## **Inspection Details**

### 1. Attendance

In Attendance:

Client present

## 2. Occupancy

Occupancy:

Occupied - Furnished

• Heavy volume of personal and household items observed.

• Access to some items such as: windows, wall/floor surfaces, tiled areas, cabinet/wardrobes interiors may be restricted by furniture, personal belongings or floor coverings. Any such items are excluded from this inspection report.



## 3. Inspection Limitations

### Deferred

- 1. Entering attics that are heavily insulated can cause damage to the insulation and framing. Attics with deep insulation cannot be safely inspected due to limited visibility of the framing members upon which the inspector must walk. In such cases, the attic is only partially accessed, thereby limiting the review of the attic from the hatch area only. Inspectors will not crawl the attic area when they believe it is a danger to them or that they might damage the attic insulation or framing. There is a limited review of the attic area viewed from the hatch only in these circumstances.
- 2. Inspection was not undertaken of any concealed timber frames or structural components which could not be accessed. Termite damage and/or activity may be present in these areas. It is necessary to be provided with full unobstructed access to these areas in order to determine if pest and/or damage is present.
- 3. This inspection is accordance with AS 4349.3 does not require inspection and report on drywood termites or mould.
- 4. Underground inspection is beyond the scope of this inspection process.
- 5. The inspection maybe limited by but not limited to -roofing, fixed ceilings, wall linings, floor coverings, tiled areas, fixtures, fittings, furniture, clothes, stored items, thermal insulation, sarking, pipe/duct work, builders debris, vegetation, pavements and earth.

## **Inspection Summary**

### 1. Conclusion

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Comments:

- Termites, borers & decay/fungus are present in all areas of Australia. No system or process can offer a 100% guarantee against termite attack. Systems, barriers and regular competent inspections should be in place to mitigate and make timber pest activity more visible to avoid economic damage.
- In the inspector's opinion the susceptibility to timber pest attack is considered medium.
- This is a summary only and should be read in conjunction with the rest of the report. See the following sections for more information.
   Observations:
- Active timber pest were not detected.
- The following further inspections are recommended: Annually.



### 2. Termite Observations

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### Comments:

Termites play an important role in breaking down timber substances in our environment. The termite colony's sole function is to seek out new sources of food. Subterranean Termites are defined as the group of termite species that make tunnels through the ground to reach a source of food, which in some cases may be a considerable distance from the nest. The most common location for this group to nest is underground or in concealed areas such as the trunk of a tree, root crown of a tree, or at the base of timber in ground contact such as retaining walls.

Due to visual obstruction the risk of undetected timber attack appears to be medium Observations:

• There were no live termites found at the property inspected at the date and time of the inspection.

### 3. Borer Management

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### Comments:

• Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes. Some borer activity and timber decay may exist before the appearance of such exit holes. All borers will do some kind of damage to timber, but all is not lost – there are 'good borers' and 'bad borers'. You need to be aware of the differences between the two groups, because 'good borer' damage will be cheap to repair, but it may be expensive to repair the damage done by 'bad borers'.

The 'good borers' are beetles whose damage is limited to the first five years after the timber was milled. They attack mainly soft wood or moist decaying timber, and the damage done to the wood is superficial; it can be fixed by filling with putty and a quick repaint.

The 'bad borers' are beetles that can attack hardwood or softwood of any age. The damage is often structural, requiring complete replacement of the timbers, which are often floor boards or major support beams.

• No evidence of any wood borers found during the inspection.

## 4. Wood Decay Management

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#### Comments:

• Fungal attack starts to occur when the moisture content of the timber reaches 20%. It is at this point that the timber is considered conducive to Termite and borer infestation.

### Observations:

No evidence of any wood decay / fungi present during the inspection.



## 5. Delignification Management

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Materials:

• Chemical delignification is when the surface of timber has become hairy with wood fibers separating.

Lignin is the natural glue that holds the fibres of wood together and is therefore a major component of any wood. When the lignin is broken down or damaged the fibres then detach from each other creating a visible hairy surface to a section of the timber, as the delignification progresses the structure of the timber section is weakened and therefore Chemical Delignification is regarded as a structural pest of timber in service.

Chemical Delignification damage is most commonly found in timber sections used as roof tile battens of buildings that are located in close proximity to the sea, large chemical factories or major arterial roads that have heavy traffic. Damage tends to be localised.

Buildings close to the sea are exposed to salts brought to land by wind and sea breezes and dwellings within five kilometers of the sea are often found to have chemical delignification in their roof tile battens.

Observations:

No evidence of chemical delignification present during the inspection.

## **Property Information**

### 1. Home Orientation

Observation:

• The front of the home is facing north.

### 2. Structure Style

Style:

- Detached
- Single Family Home

Height:

Single story

### 3. Structure Type

Wall Construction:

- Brick Veneer
- Roof Covering: Concrete Tiles

Type:

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## Areas Inspected - Accessibility



### 1. Restricted Access

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### Comments:

- Inaccessible areas have not been inspected. These may include, but are not limited to, concealed frame timbers, eaves, wall linings, floor coverings, tiled areas, fences, furniture, stored items and vegetation may conceal evidence of Timber Pest activity. Inaccessible areas at the time of inspection were:
- Interior
- Internal roof space at eaves.
- Garage Shed Restrictions:

The shed visual inspection was obstructed or restricted because obstruction due to items stored.

The interior visual inspection was obstructed or restricted because obstruction due to items stored.





## Conditions Conducive to Timber Pest

### 1. Ventilation

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#### Comments:

- Adequate drainage is important in minimising the opportunity for timber pest attack. Observations:
- Grading & drainage appeared satisfactory.

### 2. Excessive Moisture Observations

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### Comments:

- Termites spend most of their lives in high humidity and temperature conditions within their colony and workings. To maintain the humidity and temperature in their colony they must have reliable and constant supply of moisture. Areas of excessive moisture is therefore a conducive condition to timber pest attack.
- Weather conditions at the time of the inspection were dry.
   Observations:
- There did not appear to be any evidence of excessive moisture.



## 3. Bridging

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Comments:

• Where a termite barrier is in place "bridging" is the spanning of this barrier so that termites have a path over or around the barrier. "Breaching" of the termite barrier is where a hole or gap exists in the barrier which allow termites a path through the barrier.

### Observations:

- There was evidence of bridging or breaching.
- See 'Vegetation' section of the report for more information.

### 4. Susceptible Timber

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#### Comments:

 Most termite species are grass or debris feeders, however termites of economical damage feed on cellulose, starches and sugars obtain from wood. Susceptible timber on the grounds are conducive conditions and not just limited to earth to wood contact.

### Observations:

- There appears to be evidence of susceptible timber on the grounds of the property, which may be a termite risk.
- See 'Pest Environment' section of the report for more information.

## Subfloor Space

## 1. Slab Management

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#### Comments:

- External concrete slab edges should be exposed. If they are concealed by pathways, patios, pavers or garden beds, there is a high risk of concealed termite entry.
- A building constructed on a concrete slab is susceptible to concealed termite entry.
- In order to minimise timber pest attack, slab edges should have a clearance of 75mm and not covered by soil.

#### Observations:

- Slab edges are covered by soil. This may allow termite entry into the wall frame. Slab edges should be cleared of soil.
- The ground was found to be above the damp proof course, potentially causing breaches of any termite barrier.







## Internal Roof Space

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Comments:

- Access was available through a manhole in the bathroom and garage.
- Limited visibility and access due to insulation and pitch.





## Interior

### 1. Wall Condition

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Materials:

• Plasterboard/gyprock walls noted which appeared functional.

Observations:

• Timber skirting and door frames appear functional.

### 2. Ceiling Condition

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Materials:

• There are plasterboard/gyprock ceilings in the property which appear functional.

### 3. Window Condition

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Materials:

Aluminum window frames noted.

## Grounds

### 1. Pest Environment

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Materials:

• In order to minimise timber pest attack, there should be no contact between timber and soil.

Observations:

• There is landscaping/stored timber, or old tree stumps in contact with the ground that provides possible breeding grounds for subterranean termites. These should be removed.





## 2. Grading and Drainage

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### Observations:

- It is important to redirect moisture away from the property to limit areas of excess moisture. Faulty gutters and downpipes in poor condition can cause water to seep into the foundations, causing conditions conducive to termites and fungal decay.
- Surface drainage conditions within 3 metres of the inspected structure appeared satisfactory.

## 3. Vegetation Condition

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### Comments:

• Termites usually construct their nests in or below trees. For that reason, trees that are a susceptible species for infestation need to be monitored as part of any effective termite management programme.

### Observations:

• There is grass and weeds touching the house structure, which can provide possible entry points/bridging for termites into the home. These should be pruned or removed.





## 4. Garage Condition

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#### Comments:

Appeared satisfactory.



## 5. Fences Condition

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Comments:

• Timber fences are often subject from termite attack and other timber destroying pests as they are in direct contact with the soil. Regular inspections and removal of affected timbers are recommended.

### Observations:

• Timber fences are generally in good condition.



## Exterior

### 1. Wall Observations

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					Materials:
					<ul> <li>Brick noted.</li> </ul>

## 2. Eaves Condition

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					Comments:
					• The eaves are in satisfactory condition.





### 3. Exterior Observations

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					Materials:
					<ul> <li>Wood framed doors noted.</li> </ul>

## Pest Management

### 1. Recommendations

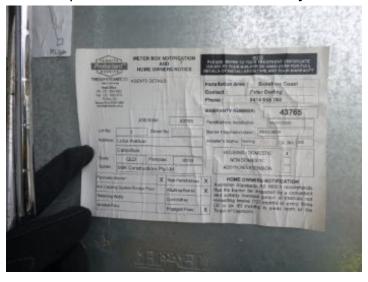
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Comments:

- It is recommended that any available records and associated paperwork from the current property owner is requested with regard to previous treatment.
- A termite management plan should be put in place. AS 3660.2 recommends that a routine inspection for termite management purposes be carried out at least annually.
- If termite activity or damage is noted it is possible that further termite damage may be present in concealed areas.
- It appears that the last termite treatment to the property was undertaken in February, 2009.

Observations:

• Termite inspections should be undertaken every 12 months.



## Thank you

## Resicert Pest Inspections Service Agreement - June 2015

### 1.0 Acceptance of Agreement

The Client has made a booking, accepted the quotation and the inspector arrives on site to commence the inspection, the Client is deemed to accept this agreement as to the basis of the inspection being undertaken. This agreement takes precedence over any previous oral or written representations by Resicert.

### 2.0 Payment Terms

Full payment of the inspection is required prior to the inspection report and summary being provided to the Client.



The purpose of the inspection is to provide advice to the Client in relation to the condition of the property at the time of the inspection. This report is not an all encompassing report dealing with the building from every aspect. It is a reasonable attempt to identify any obvious issues apparent at the time of the inspection.

### 4.0 Scope of Inspection

Scope of inspection will depend on the inspection type which the Client has selected.

In the case of Prepurchase Timber Pest Inspections and all Timber Pest Inspections, the inspection will be in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standard AS 4349.3 2010 Inspection of buildings Part 3: Timber pest inspections.

In the case of Termite Inspections the inspection will be carried out in accord with AS 3660.22000 Termite management Part2: In and around existing buildings and structures.

Inspectors are not building inspectors and do not include in the inspection any items or processes which would be covered by a building inspector in accordance with the appropriate Australian Standard.

### 4.1 Non-invasive visual inspection

All inspections (whether in accordance with AS 4349.32010 or AS 3660.22000) will be carried out by the inspector, where practical and possible, as a nonñinvasive visual inspection and will be limited only to those areas and sections of the property to which there is reasonable access available and permitted on the date and time of Inspection as defined in the relevant Australian Standard.

### 4.2 Splinter Test

The inspector may use a screwdriver/probe to tap and sound timbers and may use a sharp tool to carry out some 'splinter testing' on structural timbers in the subfloor and/or roof void. Splinter testing will not be conducted where the inspection is being carried out for a Client who is a purchaser and not the current owner of the property being inspected. A moisture meter may be used to check moisture levels in walls that back onto wet areas such as showers etc. Other than these areas the moisture meter will not necessarily be used on other surfaces except where the visual inspection indicates that there may be a need to further test the area.

#### 4.3 Limitations

The inspector cannot see or inspect inside walls, inside skillion roofing, between floors, inside the eaves, behind stored items in cupboards, in other areas that are concealed or obstructed. Insulation in the roof void may conceal the ceiling timbers and make inspection of the area unsafe or not possible. The inspector will not dig, gouge, force, move or displace items or perform any other invasive procedures. An invasive inspection will not be performed.

Detection of dry-wood termites may be difficult to detect due to small size. No warranty of absence of these is given.

The report shall not contain any assessment or opinion on any area or item that could not be inspected by the inspector an aspect of the inspection that is not within the inspector's expertise or an aspect of the inspection that is solely regulated by statute

### 4.4 Statement from owner

If the property being inspected is occupied then, as the Client, you should be aware that furnishings or household items may be concealing evidence of Timber Pests, which may only be revealed when the items are moved or removed. In some case the concealment may be deliberate. As the Client, if you are are the purchaser and not the owner of the property to be inspected then we



recommend that you obtain a statement from the current owner as to any timber pest activity or damage to the property known to them and what, if any, previous treatments have been undertaken to the property. It is important to obtain copies of any paperwork issued and the details of any repairs carried out. Ideally the information obtained should be given to the inspector prior to the inspection being conducted.

4.5 Mould Mildew and non wood decay fungi is commonly known as Mould and is not defined or considered a Timber Pest. However, in some cases mould and their spores may cause health problems or allergic reactions such as asthma and dermatitis in some people. No inspection for mould will be carried out at the property and no report on the presence or absence of mould will be provided. If Mould is noted as present within the property and you are concerned as to the possible health risk resulting from its presence then the Client should seek advice from your local Council, State or Commonwealth Government Health Department or a qualified expert.

### 4.6 Extent of damage

If any damage is detected this report does not and cannot state the full extent of any damage. If any Timber Pest activity or damage is noted in this report, further investigation would be recommended, by way of removal of linings/fixtures etc. to help determine the level of the activity and/or damage to the structure and the extent of the repairs required.

### 4.7 Conditions

The report amy be conditional upon or conditional in relation to: prevailing weather conditions, which affects the potential for the detection of timber pests; the accuracy of information provided by the client or representative of the client; the specific expertise of the inspector as specified in the report deliberate concealment of pest activity or resultant damage; or any other factor limiting the preparation of the report.

#### 5.0 Extent of Reporting

#### 5.1 Not expert opinion

The Report will state timber damage found as 'slight', 'moderate', 'moderate to extensive' or 'extensive'. This information is not the opinion of an expert, as the inspector is not qualified to give an expert opinion. The report will not and cannot state the full extent of any timber pest damage. If any evidence of Timber Pest activity and/or damage resulting from Timber Pest activity is reported either in the structure(s) or the grounds of the property, then the Client must assume that there may be some structural or concealed damage within the building(s). An invasive Timber Pest Inspection (for which a separate contract is required) should be carried out and the Client should arrange for a qualified person such as a Builder, Engineer, or Architect to carry out a structural inspection and to determine the full extent of the damage and the extent of repairs that may be required. This is an opinion given on a date and time. The inspector reserves the right to change their opinion at any time after the issuance of the report. The owner of the property accepts that termite activity is often hidden from view and must exercise vigilance in monitoring the home for termite activity and to undertake to commit to competent inspections at regular intervals.

#### 5.2 Termite treatment information

The inspection where the information is available, may report any evidence of a termite treatment that happens to be found. Where evidence of a treatment is reported then the Client should assume that the treatment was applied as a curative and not as a preventative. The Client should obtain a statement from the owner as to any treatments that have been carried out to the property. It is important to obtain copies of any paperwork issued.



This is a visual inspection only. The extent of accessible areas shall be determined by the inspector at the time of inspection, based on the conditions encountered at the time of inspection. The inspector shall also determine whether sufficient space is available to allow safe access. This will apply to roof spaces and underfloor access. The inspection shall include only accessible areas and areas that are within the inspector's line of sight and close enough to enable reasonable appraisal.

### Minimum dimensions for reasonable access

Roof Interior - access hole - 400 mm x 500mm, crawl space - 600mm x 600mm Sub floor - access hole - 400mm x 500mm, crawl space - 600mm x 600mm

It is the Clientís responsibility to ensure access to areas to be inspected prior to the inspection. Areas which have restricted access due to locked or unauthorised entry, legal right of entry, locked doors, pets, security systems, furniture and similar obstructions can may not be included in the inspection.

### 7.0 Exclusions from Inspection

Not a structural damage report - not a warranty as to absence of Timber Pest attack - This report does not deal with timber pest management or treatment measures. - Health hazards (e.g., allergies, soil toxicity, lead content, presence of asbestos). - Concealed framing-timbers or any areas concealed by wall linings/sidings - Repair any damage disclosed by this inspection, including without limitation, any Timber Pest infestation and/or damage which exists in areas or in timbers which were not accessible for visual inspection on the date of this inspection - Pest or termite treatment of any sort - Any issues, relating directly or indirectly with continuing or additional damage to property for which there is or has been evidence of pre-existing damage - Any issues, relating directly or indirectly arising out of , caused by or in connection with the failure of concrete or masonry work to cure, alleviate, prevent, eliminate or retard the entrance of termites.

#### 8.0 Liability and Limitations

The report does not constitute a guarantee in relation to the property. It is a limited opinion of condition of the inspected property at the time of inspection. Resicertis liability in relation to the inspection and report will be limited to a refund of the inspection fee. The inspection and report is undertaken for the Client named on the report. No responsibility is accepted to any third party. Nothing contained in the Report will imply that any inaccessible or partly inaccessible area(s) or section(s) of the property are not, or have not been, infested by termites or timber pests. Accordingly the report will not guarantee that an infestation and/or damage does not exist in any inaccessible or partly inaccessible areas or sections of the property. Nor can it guarantee that a future infestation of Timber Pests will not occur or be found.

### 9.0 Money Back Guarantee

If the client is not fully satisfied with the pest inspection and/or pest inspection report provided, Resicert will refund 100% of the pest inspection fee to the Client. This will require the Client to complete the request for a refund application form and agree to the conditions there-in stated prior to a refund. This guarantee only applies for a period of 60 days from the date of the inspection. After this period it is at the full discretion of Resicert whether a request for a refund will be approved.

### 10.0 Follow up inspections

The initial fee does not allow for any follow up visits, if required, to the residence. A quote to undertake this activity will be provided if necessary.



Any estimates or budgets provided relating to work required to be undertaken is purely to provide an indication of approximate costings. The figures provided are not a quotation or estimate to carry out any works and can not be relied upon for this purpose. All estimates and budgets which are provided are done so only on this basis, and no liability, with the Client or any third party, whatsoever will be accepted in relation to budgets and estimates provided, unless otherwise stated.

### 12.0 Probable Costings

Any probable costings outlined represent an opinion of renovation costs only which can vary considerably depending on range of factors including but not limited to: -Type and standard of materials, fittings and fixtures chosen.

-Level of of client involvement and engagement required -Construction method and process chosen-Overall timings and duration of works undertaken -Fluctuations in building materials and labour costs -Scale and extent of the renovation project -When the renovation project is undertaken -Location of the works and site conditions

The probable costings provided is based on standard rates for previous projects and is not an elemental or detailed estimate. A detailed estimate of this nature can be provided by a Quantity Surveyor or through obtaining quotations from appropriate suppliers and tradesman.

### 13.0 Approvals for access to property

The Client represents and assures Resicert that the Client has secured all approvals necessary for entry onto the premises to be inspected. Client further agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Resicert from demands or claims alleging a trespass upon the premises to be inspected.

#### 14.0 Proprietary Rights

The report, contents, comments and format of this inspection report are the proprietary rights of Resicert Property Inspections and subject to copyright law. Unlawful duplication can result in penalties.

#### 15.0 Asbestos Disclaimer

If during the course of the inspection asbestos or materials containing asbestos happened to be noticed then this may be noted. Buildings built before 1990 may contain some asbestos. Sheeting should fully sealed. If asbestos is noted as present within the property you should then seek advice from a qualified asbestos removal expert for further details and information on this material. Drilling, cutting or removing products containing asbestos is a high risk to peoples health and the Client should seek advice from a qualified asbestos removal expert.

#### 16.0 Not a Compliance Report (For reports within ACT):

This is not a compliance report strictly in accordance with civil law (Sale of Residential Property) regulations: The report may contain copies of any approved plans, building approvals, building permit and Certificates of Occupancy. However, any comments made by the person who prepared the report as to whether or not, in the opinion of the inspector, the structures on the land substantially comply with the approved plans (if any) are made on the basis of a cursory glance of the plans and not upon a detailed examination. Any opinion whether expressed as to whether or not any building approval or approval under the Land (Planning and Environment) Act, 1991, is based on the limited knowledge and belief, at the time, of the inspector. The report may no longer reflect the true condition of the property. The structure(s) may no longer be in accordance with the attached plans etc. It is strongly recommended that, if the Client has any concerns in respect to the compliance of the structures, a special purpose report be obtained.

