

15 June 2007

## Advice to storm affected residents during clean-up process

The Insurance Council of Australia is urging people whose property has been affected by the recent storms to remove soiled and wet contents from their homes and businesses as soon as possible.

“As part of the clean-up and recovery process, if people have concerns about possible health implications of leaving wet and soiled contents such as carpets in their property then these should be removed, and if necessary taken off the property.” Chief Executive of the Insurance Council, Kerrie Kelly said today.

“The general insurance industry understands the importance of people getting on with the clean-up. Because of possible health implications removal of damaged contents from property will now not affect the claims assessment process.”

Making a list of removed damaged contents and taking photos is strongly recommended as this will assist insurance assessors.

Policyholders are again reminded to contact their insurer before authorising or carrying out make-do or major repairs.

“In the past 24 hours the estimated claims cost has risen to \$280 million accounting for approximately 29, 000 claims arising from the severe storms.” Ms Kelly said.

**Media contact:** Paul Giles      02 9253 5160      0415 131 005