



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Department of Planning and Environment (Sydney Offices)
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Your reference: DA 10132
Our reference: DA20200204000432-Original-1

ATTENTION: Michelle Niles

Date: Monday 24 February 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Development Application
s4.14 - Other - Residential Flat Building
56 Beane St Gosford NSW 2250 AUS, 30//DP1250970

I refer to your correspondence dated 29/01/2020 seeking advice regarding bush fire protection for the above Development Application in accordance with section 4.14 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has considered the information submitted and provides the following recommended conditions:

Asset Protection Zones

The intent of measures is to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting fire fighting activities. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

1. From the start of building works, the entire property must be managed as an inner protection area (IPA). The IPA must comprise:

- Minimal fine fuel at ground level;
- Grass to be mowed to a maximum length of 100mm;
- Trees and shrubs are retained as clumps or islands and do not take up more than 20% of the area;
- Trees and shrubs are located far enough from buildings so that they will not ignite the building;
- Garden beds with flammable shrubs not located under trees or within 10 metres of any windows or doors;
- Minimal plant species that keep dead material or drop large quantities of ground fuel;
- Tree canopy cover not more than 15% of the area;
- Tree canopies are not located within 2 metres of the building;
- Trees are separated by 2-5 metres and do not provide a continuous canopy from the hazard to the building; and,
- Lower limbs of trees removed up to a height of 2 metres above the ground.

Postal address

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Locked Bag 17
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Street address

NSW Rural Fire Service
4 Murray Rose Ave
SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK NSW 2127

T (02) 8741 5555
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Construction Standards

The intent of measures is that buildings are designed and constructed to withstand the potential impacts of bush fire attack. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

2. New construction must comply with Sections 3 and 5 (BAL 12.5) Australian Standard AS3959-2009 *Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas* or NASH Standard (1.7.14 updated) *National Standard Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas – 2014* as appropriate and section A3.7 Addendum Appendix 3 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*.

Water and Utility Services

The intent of measures is to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting fire fighting activities. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

3. The provision of water, electricity and gas must comply with the following:

- All above-ground water pipes external to the building must be metal including and up to any taps/outlets/fittings.
- Electrical transmission lines should be located underground where possible. Overhead electricity lines must have short pole spacing (i.e. 30 metres) except where crossing gullies, gorges or riparian areas. No tree may be closer to an electricity line than the distance set out in in ISSC3 *Guideline for Managing Vegetation Near Power Lines*.
- Gas must be installed and maintained as set out in the relevant standard and all pipes external to the building must be metal including and up to any taps/outlets/fittings. Polymer-sheathed flexible gas supply lines must not be used.

Landscaping Assessment

The intent of measures is for landscaping. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

4. Landscaping of the site should comply with following principles of Appendix 5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*:

- Suitable impervious areas are provided immediately surrounding the building such as courtyards, paths and driveways.
- Grassed areas, mowed lawns or ground cover plantings are provided in close proximity to the building.
- Planting is limited in the immediate vicinity of the building.
- Planting does not provide a continuous canopy to the building (i.e. trees or shrubs should be isolated or located in small clusters).
- Landscape species are chosen in consideration of the estimated size of the plant at maturity.
- Species are avoided that have rough fibrous bark, or which keep/shed bark in long strips or retain dead material in their canopies.
- Smooth bark species of tree are chosen which generally do not carry a fire up the bark into the crown.
- Planting of deciduous species is avoided which may increase fuel at surface/ ground level (i.e. leaf litter).
- Climbing species are avoided to walls and pergolas.
- Combustible materials such as woodchips/mulch and flammable fuel are stored away from the building.
- Combustible structures such as garden sheds, pergolas and materials such timber garden furniture are located away from the building.
- Low flammability vegetation species are used.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Adam Small on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Nika Fomin

**Manager Planning & Environment Services
Planning and Environment Services**