



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



The Secretary
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Your reference: DA 195-8-2004 MOD 2
Our reference: D19/1309

30 May 2019

Attention: Jack Murphy

Dear Mr Murphy,

State Significant Development Application Dunmore Lakes Sand Extraction Project – Modification 2

I refer to your correspondence dated 16 April 2019 seeking key issue and assessment requirements regarding bush fire protection for the above State Significant Development Application in accordance with 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 advice:

1. A Bushfire Management Plan that details measures to prevent fire igniting and spreading during construction and operation of the development shall be prepared prior to the commencement of construction and shall be implemented over the life of the development.

The Bushfire Management Plan shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- contact person / details for emergency management;
- schedule and description of works for the establishment and maintenance of asset protection zones; around site facilities and assets on adjacent lands;
- location and access provisions for fire fighting water supply;
- communication strategy for coordinated response to bush fires with the NSW RFS;
- work involving risk of ignition should not be carried out during total fire bans;
- availability of fire suppression equipment; and
- storage of fuels and any flammable materials.

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:

2. An asset protection zone shall be provided and maintained around the proposed portable site building for a distance of not less than 50 metres as identified in the document '*Dunmore Lakes Sand Extraction Project – Modification 2 – Environmental Assessment*', prepared by Element Environment (Ref: PR82, dated April 2019 (Environmental Assessment)).

Postal address

NSW Rural Fire Service
Planning and Environment Services
Locked Bag 17
GRANVILLE NSW 2141

Street address

NSW Rural Fire Service
Planning and Environment Services (East)
4 Murray Rose Avenue
Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127

T 1300 NSW RFS
F (02) 8741 5433
E records@rfs.nsw.gov.au
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

The asset protection zone shall be maintained from the commencement of the development and for the specified period of operation as an inner protection area (IPA) as outlined within section 4.1.3 and Appendix 5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006* and the NSW Rural Fire Service's document *Standards for asset protection zones*.

Water and Utilities

The intent of measures is to provide adequate services of water for the protection of buildings during and after the passage of a bush fire, and to locate gas and electricity so as not to contribute to the risk of fire to a building. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

3. The Stage 5B dredge pond, identified as a non-reticulated water source for fire fighting purposes in the Environmental Assessment, shall provide hardstand access to within 4 metres of the non-reticulated water supply. Alternately, a 20,000 litre water tank can be provided at the proposed portable site building.
4. A minimum 5hp or 3kW petrol or diesel powered pump shall be made available to the fire fighting water supply along with a 19mm (internal diameter) fire hose and reel. The length of hose shall be sufficient to reach all external elevations of the proposed portable site building. Pumps are to be shielded from the direct impacts of bush fire.

Access

The intent of measures for property access is to provide safe access to/from the public road system for fire fighters providing property protection during a bush fire and for occupants faced with evacuation. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

5. Property access roads shall comply with section 4.1.3(2) of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*, except that an alternative road is not required.

Evacuation and Emergency Management

The intent of measures is to provide suitable emergency and evacuation (and relocation) arrangements for occupants of special fire protection purpose developments. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

6. Arrangements for emergency and evacuation are to comply with section 4.2.7 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*, including the preparation of an emergency / evacuation plan consistent with the NSW RFS document titled *A guide to developing a bush fire emergency management and evacuation plan*.

A copy of the plan shall be provided to the consent authority and the local Bush Fire Management Committee prior to commencement of the development. The plan shall include, but be not limited to, the following:

- a mechanism for the relocation of occupants on days with an 'extreme' or 'catastrophic' fire danger rating or days declared as a total fire ban;
- contact details for the local NSW RFS office;
- procedures for co-ordinated evacuation of the site in consultation with local emergency services.

Design and Construction

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:

7. The proposed portable site building shall be upgraded to improve ember protection. This shall be achieved by enclosing all openings or covering openings with a non-corrosive metal screen mesh with a maximum aperture of 2mm. Where applicable, this includes any sub floor areas, openable windows, vents, weepholes and eaves. External doors are to be fitted with draft excluders.

General Advice – consent authority to note

Establishment of asset protection zones may require the clearing of vegetation. This advice does not authorise the clearing of any vegetation, nor does it include an assessment of potential ecological impacts of clearing vegetation for the purpose of establishing asset protection zones. Approvals necessary for the clearing of vegetation should be obtained prior to the establishment of any asset protection zones.

If you have any queries regarding this advice, please contact Josh Calandra, Development Assessment and Planning Officer, on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,



Kalpana Varghese
Team Leader, Development Assessment and Planning
Planning and Environment Services (East)

