



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

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

Your reference: SSD 8865
Our reference: DA20191120001150-EIS & DA
Exhibition-1

ATTENTION: Nathan Stringer

Date: Friday 4 June 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Development Application

Other – SEPP Infrastructure – School

St Anthony of Padua Catholic School Redevelopment Modification (SSD-8865-Mod-1), 812//DP2475

I refer to your correspondence regarding the above proposal which was received by the NSW Rural Fire Service on 06/05/2021.

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

Asset Protection Zones

Intent of measures: to provide suitable building design, construction and sufficient space to ensure that radiant heat levels do not exceed critical limits for firefighters and other emergency services personnel undertaking operations, including supporting or evacuating occupants.

1. From the start of building works, and in perpetuity to ensure ongoing protection from the impact of bush fires, the entire property must be managed as an inner protection area (IPA) in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*. When establishing and maintaining an IPA the following requirements apply:

- tree canopy cover should be less than 15% at maturity;
- trees at maturity should not touch or overhang the building;
- lower limbs should be removed up to a height of 2m above the ground;
- tree canopies should be separated by 2 to 5m;
- preference should be given to smooth barked and evergreen trees;
- large discontinuities or gaps in vegetation should be provided to slow down or break the progress of fire towards buildings;
- shrubs should not be located under trees;
- shrubs should not form more than 10% ground cover;
- clumps of shrubs should be separated from exposed windows and doors by a distance of at least twice the height of the vegetation.
- grass should be kept mown (as a guide grass should be kept no more than 100mm in height); and
- leaves and vegetation debris should be removed.

Postal address

NSW Rural Fire Service
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
F (02) 8741 5550
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Internal Roads

Intent of measures: to provide safe operational access for emergency services personnel in suppressing a bush fire, while residents are accessing or egressing an area.

2. Access roads for special fire protection purpose (SFPP) developments must comply with general requirements of Table 6.8b of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*:

- SFPP access roads are two-wheel drive, all-weather roads;
- access is provided to all structures;
- traffic management devices are constructed to not prohibit access by emergency services vehicles;
- access roads must provide suitable turning areas in accordance with Appendix 3 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*; and
- one way only public access roads are no less than 3.5 metres wide and have designated parking bays with hydrants located outside of these areas to ensure accessibility to reticulated water for fire suppression.

Water and Utility Services

Intent of measures: 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.

3. The provision of water, electricity and gas must comply with Table 6.8c of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

Landscaping

Intent of measures: to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting firefighting activities.

4. Landscaping within the required asset protection zone must comply with Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*. In this regard, the following principles are to be incorporated:

- A minimum 1 metre wide area, suitable for pedestrian traffic, must be provided around the immediate curtilage of 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 are isolated or located in small clusters);
- Landscape species are chosen to ensure tree canopy cover is less than 15% (IPA), and less than 30% (OPA) at maturity and trees do not touch or overhang buildings;
- Avoid species with rough fibrous bark, or which retain/shed bark in long strips or retain dead material in their canopies;
- Use smooth bark species of trees species which generally do not carry a fire up the bark into the crown;
- Avoid planting of deciduous species that may increase fuel at surface/ ground level (i.e. leaf litter);
- Avoid climbing species to walls and pergolas;
- Locate combustible materials such as woodchips/mulch, flammable fuel stores away from the building;
- Locate combustible structures such as garden sheds, pergolas and materials such as timber garden furniture away from the building; and
- Low flammability vegetation species are used.

General Advice

The buildings yet to be constructed were determined to be more than 100m from bush fire vegetation, and therefore no construction requirements apply. Please note that the existing buildings on the site are to remain to BAL 12.5 requirements.

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

Yours sincerely,

