



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



Director-General
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Your reference: SSD-5300
Our reference: S14/0039

18 June 2015

Attention: Jane Flanagan

Dear Sir/Madam,

Waste Resource Recovery Facility - 20 Wyllie Road, Kembla Grange

Reference is made to correspondence dated 27 May 2015 seeking comments in relation to a Response to Submissions (RTS) prepared in relation to the above proposal. The RTS provided additional information in relation to the location of combustible materials processing on the site and requested the removal of asset protection zones from the riparian corridor which traverses the site.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has reviewed the information provided and recommends revised conditions of consent as set out below:

Asset Protection Zones

The intent of measures is to provide sufficient space and maintain reduced fuel loads so as to ensure radiant heat levels of buildings are below critical limits and to prevent direct flame contact with a building.

1. At the commencement of building works, and in perpetuity, the proposed facility shall be managed 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'. This shall include the area around the proposed workshop building for a distance of 20 metres to the north and east but shall exclude the riparian corridor which traverses the facility.

Design and Construction

The intent of the measures is to reduce the risk of ignition of a building from a bush fire while the fire front passes.

2. The north-eastern, north-western and south-western elevations, and roof structures, of the proposed office building shall comply with Sections 3 and 9 (BAL FZ) Australian Standard AS3959-2009 'Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas'. However, any material, element of construction or system when tested to the method described in Australian Standard AS1530.8.2 Methods for fire tests on building materials, components and structures Part 8.2: Tests on elements of construction for buildings exposed to simulated bushfire attack—Large flaming sources shall comply with Clause 13.8 of that Standard except that flaming of the specimen is not permitted and there shall be no exposed timber.

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3. Window assemblies on the north-eastern, north-western and south-western elevations of the proposed office building shall comply with modified Sections 3 and 9 of AS3959 (as above) or the following: i. They shall be completely protected by a non-combustible and non perforated bushfire shutter that complies with Section 3.7 of AS3959 excluding parts (e) & (f); and ii. They shall comply with the following: a) Window frames and hardware shall be metal; b) Glazing shall be toughened glass, minimum 6mm; c) Seals to stiles, head and sills or thresholds shall be manufactured from materials having a flammability index no greater than 5; d) The openable portion of the window shall be screened internally or externally with a mesh with a maximum aperture of 2mm, made from corrosion resistant steel or bronze. The frame supporting the mesh shall be metal.
4. External doors on the north-eastern, north-western and south-western elevations of the proposed office building shall (not including garage doors) shall comply with modified Sections 3 and 9 of AS3959 (as above) or the following: i. They shall be completely protected by a non-combustible and non perforated bushfire shutter that complies with Section 3.7 of AS3959 excluding parts (e) & (f); and ii. They shall comply with the following: a) Doors shall be non-combustible; b) Externally fitted hardware that supports the panel in its function of opening and closing shall be metal; c) Where doors incorporate glazing, the glazing shall be toughened glass minimum 6mm; d) Seals to stiles, head and sills or thresholds shall be manufactured from silicone; e) Doorframes shall be metal; f) Doors shall be tight fitting to the doorframe or an abutting door; g) Weather strips, draught excluders or draught seals shall be installed if applicable.
5. The south-eastern elevation of the proposed office building shall comply with Sections 3 and 8 (BAL 40) Australian Standard AS3959-2009 'Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas' and section A3.7 Addendum Appendix 3 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006'.
6. The northern, eastern and southern elevations, and roof structures, of the proposed workshop building shall comply with Sections 3 and 8 (BAL 40) Australian Standard AS3959-2009 'Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas' and section A3.7 Addendum Appendix 3 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006'.
7. The western elevation of the proposed workshop building shall comply with section 3 and section 7 (BAL 29) Australian Standard AS3959-2009 'Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas' and section A3.7 Addendum Appendix 3 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection' 2006'.
8. The existing buildings to be retained are required to be upgraded to improve ember protection. This is to be achieved by enclosing all openings (excluding roof tile spaces) 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.

Landscaping

Intent of measures is to maintain reduced fuel loads surrounding a building to minimise flame contact and radiant heat, and reduce the risk of spread of fire by minimising the potential for wind driven embers to cause ignition.

9. Landscaping of the facility, excluding the riparian corridor, shall comply with the principles of Appendix 5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*.

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

Yours sincerely,



Iona Cameron
Acting Team Leader, Development Assessment and Planning
Customer Service Centre East