



Department of Planning and Infrastructure
Strategies and Land Release
Level 5, 10 Valentine Avenue
Parramatta NSW 2150

ECO LOGICAL AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

ABN 87 096 512 088

www.ecoaus.com.au

Attention: Paul Robilliard

10GOSBUS-0034

22 June 2012

Dear Paul,

RE: Post Exhibition – Austral and Leppington North Bushfire Assessment

As requested, I have reviewed the information provided to me as part of the above project Post Exhibition phase.

The information provided is listed below:

1. Agency Requirements and Submissions – NSW Rural Fire Service (Submission ID B588701). Emailed by Matthew Cooper, 6th February 2012.
2. Agency Requirements and Submissions – Camden Council (Submission ID B595134). Emailed by Matthew Cooper, 6th February 2012.
3. Final ILP – Emailed by Paul Robilliard, 19th June 2012.

Responses to each of the above are provided below:

1. NSW Rural Fire Service

The responses prepared by DP&I for the four matters/considerations raised by NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) are accurate and adequate (see DP&I response table attached). I provide further clarification to the 'consideration' required by RFS in regards to the potential to increase the bushfire risk by revegetating or regenerating creeklines and riparian corridors. The enhancement of the waterways in this manner will increase the bushfire risk, albeit not significantly. Regardless of the level of risk increase, bushfire protection measures compliant with the acceptable solutions of *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006* have been applied to all areas where revegetation will create or increase a bushfire hazard.

2. Camden Council

The response prepared by DP&I for the one matter raised by Camden Council (Council) addresses the issue of the possible relationship between an asset protection zone (APZ) and riparian corridor vegetated buffer (VB) (see DP&I response table attached). To assist further in responding to Council's comments, the asset protection zones (APZs) identified are based on the expected revegetation/restoration of the waterways. Some shorter lengths of bushland interface where a low hazard will exist (typically defined by the identification of a 10 m APZ)

SUITE 4, 2-4 MERTON ST SUTHERLAND NSW 2232 | PO BOX 12 SUTHERLAND NSW 1499 T | 02 8536 8600 F | 02 9542 5622

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may not require a perimeter road (based on low risk). An APZ can be integrated into the development design through ways other than a perimeter road. The design of the APZ and the uses within it can only really be determined at a site specific scale at subdivision stage. However the principles of APZ management and ownership outlined within the Bushfire Assessment are applicable to all sites.

3. Final ILP

I have reviewed the final ILP against the ILP assessed within the Bushfire Assessment submitted in September 2011. The only changes as they relate to bushfire protection and compliance with the relevant requirements and specifications (namely *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006*) are the very minor adjustments to the boundary of the vegetation (bushfire hazard) to be retained/enhanced. These adjustments are so minor that they do not alter the recommended APZ design (location or dimension).

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 0422 802 448 to discuss this information further or if you need additional assistance on the Post Exhibition task.

Yours sincerely



David Peterson
Principal Bushfire Consultant
FPAA BPAD-A Certified Practitioner (BPD-PA-18882)