



STATE  
PLANNING  
COMMISSION

#16340755

4 February 2021

Hon Vickie Chapman MP  
Minister for Planning and Local Government  
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Dear Minister

### Initiation of the State-wide Bushfire Hazards Overlay Code Amendment

I write to advise you, as Minister for Planning and Local Government, that the State Planning Commission (the Commission) has initiated the **State-wide Bushfire Hazards Overlay Code Amendment** pursuant to section 73(2)(a) of the *Planning, Infrastructure and Development Act 2016* (the Act).

Section 73 (2)(a) of the Act provides that a proposal to amend the Planning and Design Code (the Code), via a Code Amendment, may be initiated by the Commission. The Commission has agreed to a Proposal to Initiate (**Attachment 1**) to commence investigations with the aim of reviewing and updating the application of the suite of six Hazard (Bushfire Risk) Overlays contained in the Code.

This Code Amendment is the first State-wide Code Amendment following the phased implementation of the Code. It seeks to better align the Code with the primary objective of the State Planning Policy 15: Natural Hazards by '*building the resilience of communities, development and infrastructure from the adverse impacts of natural hazards*'.

The Code Amendment will be informed by mapping prepared by a State and Commonwealth project initiative, with funding assistance from the National Disaster Resilience Grant Scheme 2015-18. This mapping incorporates more current vegetation (2015) data into the modelling as well as grassfire modelling and fuel load variation data based on farm cropping, grazing and potential grass fuel loads. It is anticipated that the modelling may provide for updates to the spatial boundaries of hazard mapping for high, medium and general bushfire hazards across the state.

As a next step and recognising the complexity of this topic, the Commission intends to undertake pre-consultation with key stakeholders and local government on the spatial outputs and changes delivered. To that end, the Commission will be writing to key stakeholders, including the Minister for Environment and Water, advising of the initiation of the Code Amendment.

For further information please contact Anita Allen, Director, Planning and Development, Planning and Land Use Services, Attorney-General's Department on 7109 7099 or [anita.allen@sa.gov.au](mailto:anita.allen@sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**Michael Lennon**  
Chair

Attachment: Proposal to Initiate Document #15145474