The purpose of this circular is to provide councils, accredited certifiers and the community with advice regarding State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) Amendment (City of Sydney Special Events) 2010. This amendment introduces a new code and development type entitled the ‘City of Sydney Special Events Code’ to allow the temporary extension of licensed premises’ trading hours during the FIFA World Cup 2010 in the City of Sydney.

Introduction

The Special Events amendment to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Codes) 2008 (the Codes SEPP) allows the temporary extension of trading hours during the FIFA World Cup 2010 in the City of Sydney.

The extension applies to licensed premises that have development consent and hold a club or hotel licence under the Liquor Act 2007.

The amendment introduces a new type of exempt development to facilitate this ‘City of Sydney Special Events’.

The SEPP makes the extension of hours of operation, outlined by the Liquor Regulation 2008, exempt development within the City of Sydney. As a result they are exempt from planning approval.

Why the amendments have been made

The Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing has made an amendment to the Liquor Act to enable the temporary extension of trading for licensed premises during the FIFA World Cup 2010.

Clause 38B of the Liquor Regulation 2008 extends the permitted hours of operation when liquor may be supplied or sold for consumption on licensed premises to which a hotel or club licence relates on the dates during the FIFA World Cup 2010 where Australia is playing, as well as the quarter-final, semi-final and the final matches.

The extension to the Liquor Act does not cover planning approval for extending hours of operation.

The SEPP applies throughout the City of Sydney, except in the Freeze Precinct which comprises areas in Kings Cross, Oxford Street and Sydney CBD South (as defined in Division 1A of Part 4 of the Liquor Act 2007, during the freeze period referred to in that Division). In these instances the City of Sydney will need to consider amending the applicable development consent to permit operation during extended trading hours.

Importantly, the changes ensure all conditions of an existing development consent still apply as they relate to protecting the amenity of adjoining neighbours and the orderly management of the premises.

After the final match of the FIFA World Cup 2010 the City of Sydney Special Events Code will no longer have effect.

Timing of changes

The SEPP amendment will be gazetted and come into effect on 11 June 2010 in time for the first match on the 14 June 2010. Go the Socceroos!
Further information

Information about the Codes SEPP, including the General Exempt Development Code, General Housing Code, Housing Internal Alterations Code and Commercial and Industrial Code is available on the Department’s website at http://housingcode.planning.nsw.gov.au

For further information, please contact codes@planning.nsw.gov.au or call the Department of Planning’s Information Centre on Freecall 1300 305 695 or 02 9228 6333.

Note: This and other Department of Planning circulars are published on the web at http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/circulars

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Important note: This circular does not constitute legal advice. Users are advised to seek professional advice and refer to the relevant legislation, as necessary, before taking action in relation to any matters covered by this circular.

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