Monday 19 October 2015

**Changes to the State Policy for exempt and complying development on exhibition**

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment today proposed a number of minor amendments to the State Environment Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development) 2008 (the Policy). The proposed amendment is part of the Department’s ongoing approach to improving the Policy to make it easier to use and understand.

The proposed amendments mainly address technical issues that are related to the application of the Policy and include:

- clarifying existing defined terms
- refining clauses to ensure they achieve the Policy’s intent
- clarifying the Policy intent in the case of minor inconsistencies
- correcting minor clause references and drafting errors.

The proposed housekeeping amendments reflect feedback the Department has received from stakeholders including councils, accredited certifiers, industry and the community.

A Departmental spokesperson encouraged interested parties to have their say on the proposed changes during the exhibition period of 28 days, starting Monday 19 October 2015.

“The Policy, which started in February 2009, sets a consistent State-wide approach for exempt and complying development across NSW,” the spokesperson said.

“These proposed amendments are intended to improve the clarity, performance and implementation of the State Policy for exempt and complying development.”

Exempt development includes minor and low impact building work or home renovations that do not need planning or building approval such as a carport, balcony, deck or garden shed.

Complying development is a fast track approval process for straightforward residential, commercial and industrial development.

The Department has prepared an Explanation of Intended Effect to accompany the draft amendment that provides an explanation of each of the amendments, the reason for the proposed amendment and the intended outcome.

The proposed changes can be viewed at:
- planning.nsw.gov.au/Have-Your-Say/
- The offices of the Department of Planning and Environment at 23-33 Bridge St, Sydney.

Submissions can be made:
- at planning.nsw.gov.au/Have-Your-Say/
- by post to the Manager, Codes and Approval Pathways, Department of Planning and Environment, GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001
- by emailing: codes@planning.nsw.gov.au.

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