



## NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Northern Beaches Council  
PO Box 882  
MONA VALE NSW 1660

Your reference: CNR-63806 DA2023/1763  
Our reference: DA20231215005696-Original-1

**ATTENTION:** Nina Robinson

Date: Wednesday 10 January 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

### Development Application

s4.14 - Other - Other

4 Minna Close Belrose NSW 2085, 502//DP875858

I refer to your correspondence dated 15/12/2023 seeking advice regarding bush fire protection for the above Development Application in accordance with section 4.14 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has considered the information submitted and provides the following recommended conditions:

### Asset Protection Zones

***Intent of measures: to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting firefighting activities.***

1. From the start of building works, and in perpetuity to ensure ongoing protection from the impact of bush fires, the entire property, with the exception of the existing vegetation located on site, and contained, within 30m of the rear north western site boundary, must be managed as an inner protection area (IPA) in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4 of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019. When establishing and maintaining an IPA the following requirements apply:

- tree canopy cover should be less than 15% at maturity;
- trees at maturity should not touch or overhang the building;
- lower limbs should be removed up to a height of 2m above the ground;
- tree canopies should be separated by 2 to 5m;
- preference should be given to smooth barked and evergreen trees;
- large discontinuities or gaps in vegetation should be provided to slow down or break the progress of fire towards buildings;
- shrubs should not be located under trees;
- shrubs should not form more than 10% ground cover;
- clumps of shrubs should be separated from exposed windows and doors by a distance of at least twice the height of the vegetation.

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#### Street address

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SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK NSW 2127

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- grass should be kept mown (as a guide grass should be kept to no more than 100mm in height); and
- leaves and vegetation debris should be removed.

### **Construction Standards**

***Intent of measures: to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting firefighting activities.***

2. Construction on the proposed works north eastern, south eastern (abutting Minna Close) and south western elevations and roofing, must comply with Sections 3 and 8 (BAL 40) Australian Standard AS3959-2018 *Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas* or NASH Standard (1.7.14 updated) *National Standard Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas – 2014* as appropriate and Section 7.5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

3. Construction on the proposed works north western elevation, must comply with section 3 and section 7 (BAL 29) Australian Standard AS3959-2018 *Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas* or NASH Standard (1.7.14 updated) *National Standard Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas – 2014* as appropriate and Section 7.5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

### **Water and Utility Services**

***Intent of measures: to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting firefighting activities.***

4. The provision of water, electricity and gas must comply with the following in accordance with Table 7.4a of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*:

- reticulated water is to be provided to the development where available;
- all above-ground water service pipes external to the building are metal, including and up to any taps;
- where practicable, electrical transmission lines are underground;
- where overhead, electrical transmission lines are proposed as follows:

a) lines are installed with short pole spacing (30m), unless crossing gullies, gorges or riparian areas; and

b) no part of a tree is closer to a power line than the distance set out in accordance with the specifications in ISSC3 Guideline for Managing Vegetation Near Power Lines.

- reticulated or bottled gas is installed and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS 1596:2014 and the requirements of relevant authorities, and metal piping is used;
- all fixed gas cylinders are clear of flammable materials to 10m and shielded on hazard side;
- connections to and from gas cylinders are metal;
- polymer sheathed flexible gas supply lines - are not used; and
- above-ground gas service pipes are metal, including and up to any outlets.

### **Landscaping Assessment**

***Intent of measures: to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting firefighting activities.***

5. Landscaping within the required asset protection zone must comply with Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*. In this regard, the following principles are to be incorporated:

- A minimum 1 metre wide area, suitable for pedestrian traffic, must be provided around the immediate curtilage of the building;
- Planting is limited in the immediate vicinity of the building;
- Planting does not provide a continuous canopy to the building;
- Landscape species are chosen to ensure tree canopy cover is less than 15% (IPA), and less than 30% (OPA) at maturity and trees do
- no touch or overhang buildings;
- Avoid species with fibrous bark, or retain/shed bark in strips or dead material in their canopies;
- Use smooth bark species of trees species which generally do not carry a fire up the bark into the crown;
- Avoid planting of deciduous species that may increase fuel at surface/ ground level;

- Avoid climbing species to walls and pergolas;
- Locate combustible materials and structures such as woodchips/mulch, flammable fuel stores away from the building; and,
- Low flammability vegetation species are used.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Craig Casey on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Surbhi Chhabra  
**Supervisor Development Assessment & Plan  
Built & Natural Environment**