

## Environmental Health Referral Response - Solid Fuel Heaters

Application Number:	DA2020/0022
Responsible Officer	Gareth David
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 7 DP 30924 , 13 Virginia Place FORESTVILLE NSW 2087

### Reasons for referral

This application requires detailed consideration of solid fuel heaters. And as such, Council's Environmental Investigations officers are required to consider the likely impacts.

### Officer comments

#### General Comments

Proposal for some additions and alterations to the dwelling. Environmental Health has reviewed the aspect of installing a wood-fired pizza oven.

We generally try to discourage the addition of solid fuel heaters to dwellings in built-up residential areas such as this one due to the potential health impacts on surrounding residents e.g. respiratory irritation.

The prohibitions in the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Control of Burning) Regulation 2000* do not apply to either cooking or barbecuing in the open or fires for recreational purposes such as camping, picnicking, scouting or similar outdoor activities.

For the purpose of cooking, Environmental Health won't recommend the smoke reduction provisions that usually apply to wood-fired heaters. Instead we will recommend that the smoke must not cause 'offensive odour' or be detrimental to people's health.

### Recommendation

APPROVAL - subject to conditions

Note: Should you have any concerns with the referral comments above, please discuss these with the Responsible Officer.

### Recommended Environmental Investigations Conditions:

#### **ON-GOING CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH AT ALL TIMES**

#### Operation of solid fuel burning heaters

You are requested to take all practicable measures to prevent the likelihood of causing smoke and/or odour nuisances. Such measures should include:

- Using dry seasoned hardwood
- Storing wood in a dry well ventilated place
- Having a hot and well oxygenated fire
- Ensuring that the chimney flue is clean
- Checking the chimney at different stages of the fire to see if there is any smoke
- Not using the heater or BBQ if weather conditions make it likely to blow smoke towards a neighbouring dwelling
- The heater or BBQ being only used for occasional "recreational" use as per the intention of EPA guidelines.

Reason: To ensure that works do not interfere with reasonable amenity expectations of residents and the community.