
Sent: 31/08/2023 5:10:10 PM
Subject: NSW RFS Determination - Your Reference - CNR-56087 DA2023/0642
Attachments: DA20230627002784-CL55-1 - 31-08-2023 16_09_29 - Determination Letter.pdf;



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



Attention: Northern Beaches Council

Your Reference: CNR-56087 DA2023/0642

Application Details: s4.14 – Other – CL55

Site Address:

41 Milham Crescent
Forestville NSW 2087

Please find attached correspondence relating to the above development.

Should you wish to discuss this matter please contact Elaine Chandler on 1300 NSW RFS and quote DA20230627002784-CL55-1.



Planning and Environment Services

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142

P 1300 NSW RFS **E** records@rfs.nsw.gov.au

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PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Northern Beaches Council
PO Box 882
MONA VALE NSW 1660

Your reference: CNR-56087 DA2023/0642
Our reference: DA20230627002784-CL55-1

ATTENTION: Northern Beaches Council

Date: Thursday 31 August 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Development Application

s4.14 - Other - Single Dwelling - Alterations & Additions

41 Milham Crescent Forestville NSW 2087, 4/42/DP239939

I refer to your correspondence dated 25/08/2023 seeking advice regarding bush fire protection for the above Development Application in accordance with Clause 55(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*.

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

Asset Protection Zones

The intent of measures is to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting fire fighting activities. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

1. From the commencement of building works and in perpetuity, the entire property must be managed as an inner protection area in accordance with the following requirements of Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*:

- 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 2 m above the ground;
- tree canopies should be separated by 2 to 5 m;
- preference should be given to smooth-barked and evergreen trees;
- large discontinuities or gaps in the shrubs layer 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;
- grass should be kept mown (as a guide, grass should be kept to no more than 100mm in height); and

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Postal address

NSW Rural Fire Service
Locked Bag 17
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Street address

NSW Rural Fire Service
4 Murray Rose Ave
SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK NSW 2127

T (02) 8741 5555
F (02) 8741 5550
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

- leaves and vegetation debris should be removed regularly.

Construction Standards

The intent of measures is that buildings are designed and constructed to withstand the potential impacts of bush fire attack. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

2. New construction for the roof, north, east, and west elevations must comply with Sections 3 and 8 (BAL 40) of the Australian Standard AS3959-2018 *Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas* or the relevant requirements of the *NASH Standard - Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas* (incorporating amendment A - 2015). New construction must also comply with the construction requirements in Section 7.5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

3. New construction of the southern elevation must comply with section 3 and section 7 (BAL 29) of the Australian Standard AS3959-2018 *Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas* or the relevant requirements of the *NASH Standard - Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas* (incorporating amendment A - 2015). New construction must also comply with the construction requirements in Section 7.5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

4. The existing dwelling must be upgraded to improve ember protection by enclosing all openings (excluding roof tile spaces) or covering openings with a non-corrosive metal screen mesh with a maximum aperture of 2mm. Where applicable, this includes any subfloor areas, openable windows, vents, weep holes, eaves and gutters. External doors are to be fitted with draft excluders.

Water and Utility Services

The intent of measure is to minimise the risk of bush fire attack and provide protection for emergency services personnel, residents and others assisting firefighting activities.

5. 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:
 - lines are installed with short pole spacing (30m), unless crossing gullies, gorges or riparian areas, and
 - 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 kept clear of all flammable materials to a distance of 10m and shielded on the 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

The intent of measures is for landscaping. To achieve this, the following conditions shall apply:

6. 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 (or to the property boundary where the setbacks are less than 1 metre), 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 (i.e. trees or shrubs are isolated or located in small clusters);

- Landscape species are chosen to ensure tree canopy cover is less than 15% (IPA), and less than 30% (OPA) at maturity and trees do not touch or overhang buildings;
- Avoid species with rough fibrous bark, or which retain/shed bark in long strips or retain 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 (i.e. leaf litter);
- Avoid climbing species to walls and pergolas;
- Locate combustible materials such as woodchips/mulch, flammable fuel stores away from the building;
- Locate combustible structures such as garden sheds, pergolas and materials such as timber garden furniture away from the building; and
- Low flammability vegetation species are used.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Elaine Chandler on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Kalpana Varghese
Supervisor Development Assessment & Plan
Built & Natural Environment