* *A Guide to the Reduction of Traffic Noise ( VicRoads 2003).*

**13.04-2 Air quality**

20/09/2010   
VC71

**Objective**

To assist the protection and improvement of air quality.

**Strategies**

Ensure that land-use planning and transport infrastructure provision contribute to improved air quality by:

* Integrating transport and land-use planning to improve transport accessibility and connections.
* Locating key developments that generate high volumes of trips in the Central Activity District, Principal and Major Activity Centres.
* Providing infrastructure for public transport, walking and cycling.

Ensure, wherever possible, that there is suitable separation between land uses that reduce amenity and sensitive land uses.

**Policy guidelines**

Planning must consider as relevant:

* *State Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality Management).*
* *Recommended Buffer Distances for Industrial Residual Air Emissions (Environmental Protection Authority, 1990) in assessing the separation between land uses that reduce amenity and sensitive land uses.*

**13.05 Bushfire**

18/11/2011   
VC83

**13.05-1 Bushfire planning strategies and principles**

18/11/2011   
VC83

**Objective**

To assist to strengthen community resilience to bushfire.

**Strategies**

*Overarching strategies*

Prioritise the protection of human life over other policy considerations in planning and decision-making in areas at risk from bushfire.

Where appropriate, apply the precautionary principle to planning and decision-making when assessing the risk to life, property and community infrastructure from bushfire.

*Bushfire hazard identification and risk assessment strategies*

Apply the best available science to identify vegetation, topographic and climatic conditions that create a bushfire hazard.

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Assess the risk to life, property and community infrastructure from bushfire at a regional, municipal and local scale.

Identify in planning schemes areas where the bushfire hazard requires that:

* Consideration needs to be given to the location, design and construction of new development and the implementation of bushfire protection measures.
* Development should not proceed unless the risk to life and property from bushfire can be reduced to an acceptable level.

*Strategic and settlement planning strategies*

Ensure that strategic and settlement planning assists with strengthening community resilience to bushfire.

Consult with the relevant fire authority early in the strategic and settlement plan making process and implement appropriate bushfire protection measures.

Ensure that planning to create or expand a settlement in an area at risk from bushfire:

* Addresses the risk at both the local and broader context.
* Reduces the risk to future residents, property and community infrastructure from bushfire to an acceptable level.
* Ensures any biodiversity and environmental objectives specified in the planning scheme are compatible with planned bushfire protection measures.
* Ensures the risk to existing residents, property and community infrastructure from bushfire will not increase as a result of future land use and development.
* Ensures future residents can readily implement and manage bushfire protection measures within their own properties.

*Planning scheme implementation strategies*

Specify in planning schemes the requirements and standards for assessing whether the risk to a proposed development from bushfire is acceptable and the conditions under which new development may be permitted.

Ensure that planning schemes, in particular the Municipal Strategic Statement, Local Planning Policies and zones applying to land, provide for use and development of land in a manner compatible with the risk from bushfire.

Ensure that planning schemes support bushfire management and prevention and emergency services actions and activities.

Ensure that planning schemes do not prevent the creation of required defendable space around existing development through the removal and management of vegetation.

*Development control strategies*

In areas identified in the planning scheme as being affected by the bushfire hazard, require a site-based assessment to be undertaken to identify appropriate bushfire protection measures for development that has the potential to put people, property or community infrastructure at risk from bushfire.

Only permit new development where:

* The risk to human life, property and community infrastructure from bushfire can be reduced to an acceptable level.
* Bushfire protection measures, including the siting, design and construction of buildings, vegetation management, water supply and access and egress can be readily implemented and managed within the property.
* The risk to existing residents, property and community infrastructure from bushfire is not increased.

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When assessing a planning permit application for a single dwelling in an established urban or township residential area, consider the need for a localised response to the bushfire risk and consider any relevant existing or planned State or local bushfire management and prevention actions that may affect the level of on-site response needed.

**Policy guidelines**

Planning must consider as relevant:

* Any relevant approved State, regional and municipal fire prevention plan.
* *AS 3959-2009 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-prone Areas (Standards Australia, 2009).*
* *Building in bushfire-prone areas - CSIRO & Standards Australia (SAA HB36-1993, May 1993).*

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