

Appendix 2 - Section 117 Directions

A number of directions under Section 117 of the EP & A Act 1979 are relevant to this planning proposal.

1 Employment and Resources

Direction 1.2 Rural Zones

The objective of this direction is to protect the agricultural production value of rural land.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that affects land within an existing or proposed rural zone (including the alteration of any existing rural zone boundary).

A draft LEP shall:

- a not rezone land from a rural zone to a residential, business, industrial, village or tourist zone.
- b not contain provisions that will increase the permissible density of land within a rural zone (other than land within an existing town or village).

A draft LEP may be inconsistent with the terms of this direction only if council can satisfy the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General) that the provisions of the draft LEP that are inconsistent are:

- a justified by a strategy which:
 - i gives consideration to the objectives of this direction,
 - ii identifies the land which is the subject of the draft LEP (if the draft LEP relates to a particular site or sites), and
 - iii is approved by the Director-General of the Department of Planning, or
- b justified by an environmental study prepared in accordance with section 57 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* which gives consideration to the objectives of this direction, or
- c in accordance with the relevant Regional Strategy or Sub-Regional Strategy prepared by the Department of Planning which gives consideration to the objective of this direction, or
- d is of minor significance.

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with the requirements of this direction.

Direction 1.3 Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries

The objective of this direction is to ensure that the future extraction of State or regionally significant reserves of coal, other minerals, petroleum and extractive materials are not compromised by inappropriate development.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that would have the effect of:

- a prohibiting the mining of coal or other minerals, production of petroleum, or winning or obtaining of extractive materials, or
- b restricting the potential development of resources of coal, other minerals, petroleum or extractive materials which are of State or regional significance by permitting a land use that is likely to be incompatible with such development.

In the preparation of a draft LEP affected by this direction, the council shall:

- a consult the Director-General of the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to identify any:
 - i resources of coal, other minerals, petroleum or extractive material that are of either State or regional significance, and
 - ii existing mines, petroleum production operations or extractive industries occurring in the area subject to the draft LEP, and
- b seek advice from the Director-General of DPI on the development potential of resources identified under (4)(a)(i), and

- c identify and take into consideration issues likely to lead to land use conflict between other land uses and :
 - i development of resources identified under (4)(a)(i), or
 - ii existing development identified under (4)(a)(ii).

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with the requirements of this direction.

Direction 1.5 Rural Lands

The objectives of this direction are to:

- a protect the agricultural production value of rural land,
- b facilitate the orderly and economic development of rural lands for rural and related purposes.

This direction applies when:

- a a council prepares a draft LEP that affects land within an existing or proposed rural or environment protection zone (including the alteration of any existing rural or environment protection zone boundary) or
- b a council prepares a draft LEP that changes the existing minimum lot size on land within a rural or environment protection zone.

What a council must do if this direction applies

- a A draft LEP to which clauses 3(a) or 3(b) apply must be consistent with the Rural Planning Principles listed in *State Environmental Planning Policy (Rural Lands) 2008*.
- b A draft LEP to which clause 3(b) applies must be consistent with the Rural Subdivision Principles listed in *State Environmental Planning Policy (Rural Lands) 2008*.

An amendment within this planning proposal will allow rural land to be subdivided below the minimum lot size for a use other than a dwelling. This provision is consistent with the provisions that were available under the NLEP 1995.

One of the benefits of this clause is that it will allow for permissible development such as an educational establishment to be removed from larger residue portions of rural land, which can continue to be managed for rural purposes and not mismanaged or neglected as unused land.

2 Environment and Heritage

Direction 2.1 Environment Protection Zones

The objective of this direction is to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP.

What a council must do if this direction applies:

- a A draft LEP shall include provisions that facilitate the protection and conservation of environmentally sensitive areas.
- b A draft LEP that applies to land within an environment protection zone or land otherwise identified for environment protection purposes in a LEP shall not reduce the environmental protection standards that apply to the land (including by modifying development standards that apply to the land). This requirement does not apply to a change to a development standard for minimum lot size for a dwelling in accordance with clause (5) of Direction 1.5 "Rural Lands".

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with the requirements of this direction.

Direction 2.2 Coastal Protection

The objective of this direction is to implement the principles in the NSW Coastal Policy.

This direction applies to the coastal zone, as defined in the *Coastal Protection Act 1979*.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that applies to land in the coastal zone.

A draft LEP shall include provisions that give effect to and are consistent with:

- a the *NSW Coastal Policy: A Sustainable Future for the New South Wales Coast 1997*, and
- b the *Coastal Design Guidelines 2003*, and
- c the manual relating to the management of the coastline for the purposes of section 733 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the *NSW Coastline Management Manual 1990*).

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with the requirements of this direction. The NLEP 2010 contains provisions which address Coastal Development.

Direction 2.3 Heritage Conservation

The objective of this direction is to conserve items, areas, objects and places of environmental heritage significance and indigenous heritage significance.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP.

A draft LEP shall contain provisions that facilitate the conservation of:

- a items, places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects or precincts of environmental heritage significance to an area, in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item, area, object or place, identified in a study of the environmental heritage of the area,
- b Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places that are protected under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, and
- c Aboriginal areas, Aboriginal objects, Aboriginal places or landscapes identified by an Aboriginal heritage survey prepared by or on behalf of an Aboriginal Land Council, Aboriginal body or public authority and provided to the council, which identifies the area, object, place or landscape as being of heritage significance to Aboriginal culture and people.

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with the requirements of this direction. The NLEP 2010 contains provisions to address Heritage Areas and Items.

3 Housing, Infrastructure and Urban Development

Direction 3.1 Residential Zones

The objectives of this direction are:

- a to encourage a variety and choice of housing types to provide for existing and future housing needs,
- b to make efficient use of existing infrastructure and services and ensure that new housing has appropriate access to infrastructure and services, and
- c to minimise the impact of residential development on the environment and resource lands.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that affects land within:

- a an existing or proposed residential zone (including the alteration of any existing residential zone boundary),
- b any other zone in which significant residential development is permitted or proposed to be permitted.

A draft LEP shall include provisions that encourage the provision of housing that will:

- a broaden the choice of building types and locations available in the housing market, and
- b make more efficient use of existing infrastructure and services, and
- c reduce the consumption of land for housing and associated urban development on the urban fringe, and
- d be of good design.

A draft LEP shall, in relation to land to which this direction applies:

- a contain a requirement that residential development is not permitted until land is adequately serviced (or arrangements satisfactory to the council, or other appropriate authority, have been made to service it), and
- b not contain provisions which will reduce the permissible residential density of land.

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with the requirements of this direction. Amendments under this proposal are proposed to rectify anomalies with residential zoned land in a number of areas including:

- Short St Nambucca Heads
- Uriti Road North Macksville

Direction 3.4 Integrated Land Use and Transport

The objective of this direction is to ensure that urban structures, building forms, land use locations, development designs, subdivision and street layouts achieve the following planning objectives:

- a improving access to housing, jobs and services by walking, cycling and public transport, and
- b increasing the choice of available transport and reducing dependence on cars, and
- c reducing travel demand including the number of trips generated by development and the distances travelled, especially by car, and
- d supporting the efficient and viable operation of public transport services, and
- e providing for the efficient movement of freight.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that creates, alters or removes a zone or a provision relating to urban land, including land zoned for residential, business, industrial, village or tourist purposes.

A draft LEP shall locate zones for urban purposes and include provisions that give effect to and are consistent with the aims, objectives and principles of:

- a *Improving Transport Choice – Guidelines for planning and development* (DUAP 2001), and
- b *The Right Place for Business and Services – Planning Policy* (DUAP 2001).

The proposal does not propose to rezone areas rather it is rectifying anomalies with the standards associated with the zones.

4 Hazard and Risk

Direction 4.1 Acid Sulfate Soils

The objective of this direction is to avoid significant adverse environmental impacts from the use of land that has a probability of containing acid sulfate soils.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that will apply to land having a probability of containing acid sulfate soils as shown on the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Maps.

Council shall consider the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Guidelines adopted by the Director-General of the Department of Planning when preparing a draft LEP that applies to any land identified on the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Maps as having a probability of acid sulfate soils being present.

When a council is preparing a draft LEP to introduce provisions to regulate works in acid sulfate soils, those provisions shall be consistent with:

- a the Acid Sulfate Soils Model LEP in the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Guidelines adopted by the Director-General, or
- b such other provisions provided by the Director-General of the Department of Planning that are consistent with the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Guidelines.

A council shall not prepare a draft LEP that proposes an intensification of land uses on land identified as having a probability of containing acid sulfate soils on the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Maps unless the council has considered an acid sulfate soils study assessing the appropriateness of the change of land use given the presence of acid sulfate soils. Council shall provide a copy of any such study with its statement to the Director-General of the Department of Planning under section 64 of the EP&A Act.

Where provisions referred to under paragraph (5) of this direction have not been introduced and council is preparing a draft LEP that proposes an intensification of land uses on land identified as having a probability of acid sulfate soils on the Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Maps, the draft LEP must contain provisions consistent with paragraph (5).

The amendments within this planning proposal are consistent with this direction. The NLEP 2010 contains provisions which give consideration to acid sulphate soils.

Direction 4.3 Flood Prone Land

The objectives of this direction are:

- a to ensure that development of flood prone land is consistent with the NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy and the principles of the *Floodplain Development Manual 2005*, and
- b to ensure that the provisions of an LEP on flood prone land is commensurate with flood hazard and includes consideration of the potential flood impacts both on and off the subject land.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that creates, removes or alters a zone or a provision that affects flood prone land.

A draft LEP shall include provisions that give effect to and are consistent with the NSW Flood Prone Land Policy and the principles of the *Floodplain Development Manual 2005* (including the *Guideline on Development Controls on Low Flood Risk Areas*).

A draft LEP shall not rezone land within the flood planning areas from Special Use, Special Purpose, Recreation, Rural or Environmental Protection Zones to a Residential, Business, Industrial, Special Use or Special Purpose Zone.

A draft LEP shall not contain provisions that apply to the flood planning areas which:

- a permit development in floodway areas,
- b permit development that will result in significant flood impacts to other properties,
- c permit a significant increase in the development of that land,
- d are likely to result in a substantially increased requirement for government spending on flood mitigation measures, infrastructure or services, or
- e permit development to be carried out without development consent except for the purposes of agriculture (not including dams, drainage canals, levees, buildings or structures in floodways or high hazard areas), roads or exempt development.

A draft LEP must not impose flood related development controls above the residential flood planning level for residential development on land, unless a council provides adequate justification for those controls to the satisfaction of the Director-General (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General).

For the purposes of a draft LEP, a council must not determine a flood planning level that is inconsistent with the Floodplain Development Manual 2005 (including the *Guideline on Development Controls on Low Flood Risk Areas*) unless a council provides adequate justification for the proposed departure from that

Manual to the satisfaction of the Director-General (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General).

The planning proposal is consistent with this direction. The NLEP 2010 contains provisions that address flooding.

The Planning Proposal prepared by GeoLink (Attachment 1) to allow the subdivision of Rural Land for the purposes of a School Development on Lot 11 DP805157 Dudley Street Macksville has included a report prepared by Benson and De Groot consulting engineers which addresses flooding related issues on the subject land.

Direction 4.4 Planning for Bushfire Protection

The objectives of this direction are:

- a to protect life, property and the environment from bush fire hazards, by discouraging the establishment of incompatible land uses in bush fire prone areas, and
- b to encourage sound management of bush fire prone areas.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP that affects, or is in proximity to land mapped as bushfire prone land.

In the preparation of a draft LEP a Council shall consult with the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service under section 62 of the EP&A Act, and take into account any comments so made.

A draft LEP shall:

- a have regard to *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006*,
- b introduce controls that avoid placing inappropriate developments in hazardous areas, and
- c ensure that bushfire hazard reduction is not prohibited within the APZ.

A draft LEP shall, where development is proposed, comply with the following provisions, as appropriate:

- a provide an Asset Protection Zone (APZ) incorporating at a minimum:
 - i an Inner Protection Area bounded by a perimeter road or reserve which circumscribes the hazard side of the land intended for development and has a building line consistent with the incorporation of an APZ, within the property, and
 - ii an Outer Protection Area managed for hazard reduction and located on the bushland side of the perimeter road,
- b for infill development (that is development within an already subdivided area), where an appropriate APZ cannot be achieved, provide for an appropriate performance standard, in consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service. If the provisions of the draft LEP permit Special Fire Protection Purposes (as defined under section 100B of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*), the APZ provisions must be complied with,
- c contain provisions for two-way access roads which links to perimeter roads and/or to fire trail networks,
- d contain provisions for adequate water supply for fire fighting purposes,
- e minimise the perimeter of the area of land interfacing the hazard which may be developed,
- f introduce controls on the placement of combustible materials in the Inner Protection Area.

The planning proposal is consistent with this direction.

6 Local Plan Making

Direction 6.1 Approval and Referral Requirements

The objective of this direction is to ensure that LEP provisions encourage the efficient and appropriate assessment of development.

A draft LEP shall:

- a minimise the inclusion of provisions that require the concurrence, consultation or referral of development applications to a Minister or public authority, and
- b not contain provisions requiring concurrence, consultation or referral of a Minister or public authority unless the council has obtained the approval of:
 - i the appropriate Minister or public authority, and
 - ii the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General),prior to a certificate under section 65 of the Act being issued, and
- c not identify development as designated development unless the council:
 - i can satisfy the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General) that the class of development is likely to have a significant impact on the environment, and
 - ii has obtained the approval of the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General) prior to a certificate being issued under section 65 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

This Planning Proposal does not require the implementation of any concurrence provisions. The planning proposal is consistent with this direction.

Direction 6.2 Reserving Land for Public Purposes

The objectives of this direction are:

- a to facilitate the provision of public services and facilities by reserving land for public purposes, and
- b to facilitate the removal of reservations of land for public purposes where the land is no longer required for acquisition.

A draft LEP shall not create, alter or reduce existing zonings or reservations of land for public purposes without the approval of the relevant public authority and the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General).

When a Minister or public authority requests a council to reserve land for a public purpose in a draft LEP and the land would be required to be acquired under Division 3 of Part 2 of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*, the council shall:

- a reserve the land in accordance with the request, and
- b include the land in a zone appropriate to its intended future use or a zone advised by the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General), and
- c identify the relevant acquiring authority for the land.

When a Minister or public authority requests a council to include provisions in a draft LEP relating to the use of any land reserved for a public purpose before that land is acquired, the council shall:

- a include the requested provisions, or
- b take such other action as advised by the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General) with respect to the use of the land before it is acquired.

When a Minister or public authority requests a council to include provisions in a draft LEP to rezone and/or remove a reservation of any land that is reserved for public purposes because the land is no longer designated by that public authority for acquisition, the council shall rezone and/or remove the relevant reservation in accordance with the request.

A draft LEP may be inconsistent with the terms of this direction only if council can satisfy the Director-General of the Department of Planning (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Director-General) that:

- a with respect to a request referred to in paragraph (7), that further information is required before appropriate planning controls for the land can be determined, or
- b the provisions of the draft LEP that are inconsistent with the terms of this direction are of minor significance.

This Planning Proposal is consistent with this direction

Direction 6.3 Site Specific Provisions

The objective of this direction is to discourage unnecessarily restrictive site specific planning controls.

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP to allow a particular development to be carried out.

A draft LEP that amends another environmental planning instrument in order to allow a particular development proposal to be carried out shall either:

- a allow that land use to be carried out in the zone the land is situated on, or
- b rezone the site to an existing zone already applying in the environmental planning instrument that allows that land use without imposing any development standards or requirements in addition to those already contained in that zone, or
- c allow that land use on the relevant land without imposing any development standards or requirements in addition to those already contained in the principal environmental planning instrument being amended.

A draft LEP shall not contain or refer to drawings that show details of the development proposal.

The planning proposal is consistent with this direction.