

The Government  
of South Australia

# Native Vegetation Clearance Controls

Regulations under the Planning Act, 1982

The Minister for Environment and Planning has announced that vegetation clearance in South Australia's agricultural regions is now subject to development control. New Development Control Regulations under the Planning Act, 1982 prescribe vegetation clearance as a class of development that requires the consent of the South Australian Planning Commission.

The controls apply to the Agricultural Regions of the State and the following Metropolitan Council areas: The City of Noarlunga; The District Councils of East Torrens, Meadows, Munno Para, Stirling and Willunga. All other Metropolitan Councils are not subject to the Controls.

Native vegetation refers to any tree, shrub or plant of a species indigenous to South Australia that has not been established by planting or tillage. Clearance means any manner of destruction of native vegetation, including cutting, felling, chaining, rolling, ring-barking, poisoning or burning but excluding forms of clearance specified in the regulations.

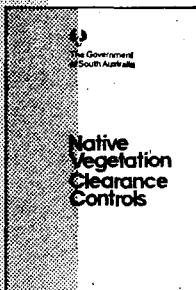
Applications to undertake clearance are required to be submitted to the Council in which the proposed development is located or to the South Australian Planning Commission where the development is located outside Council areas. The Council will forward all applications to the Commission which will seek comment from the Council regarding the proposed development. A standard Development Application form should be used and is available from the Council or the Commission.

In addition to clearance of native vegetation for agricultural purposes, the regulations apply to the commercial harvesting of broom brush, cut flowers and firewood. Any persons involved in these activities and requiring an early approval for continuation of their work, should contact the Department of Environment and Planning as soon as possible.

It should also be noted that the Regulations apply to any clearing being carried out at the time of their introduction, and property owners currently clearing or having a contract to clear should, similarly, contact the Department as soon as possible.

The South Australian Planning Commission may give consent to an application either with or without conditions or may refuse consent. An appeal against a decision by the Commission may be made to the Planning Appeal Tribunal.

Where vegetation clearance is carried out without the approval of the Commission or contrary to the conditions under which consent was given by the Commission, the Planning Act, 1982 provides for a PENALTY OF \$10,000 with a DEFAULT PENALTY OF \$1,000.



A free booklet with further information on these new controls is available from Council offices or may be obtained by writing to the Department of Environment and Planning, Box 1782 G.P.O., Adelaide, 5001 and marking the enquiry Vegetation Clearance Control.



Department of  
Environment and Planning

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