



Temporary State Planning Policy 2/12

Planning for Prosperity

August 2012



Sustainable Planning Act 2009

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Making the temporary State Planning Policy

This temporary State Planning Policy was made by Jeff Seeney MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, under Chapter 2, Part 4, Division 3 of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* on 24 August 2012.

Commencement

This temporary State Planning Policy takes effect on 24 August 2012.

Prepared by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
August 2012



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Preamble

The Queensland Government is committed to growing the Queensland economy.

The Government's planning system will facilitate economic growth in Queensland. This policy articulates the State's position on economic growth.

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that economic growth:

- is facilitated by local and state plans, and
- is not adversely impacted by planning processes.

This policy is to be reflected in relevant State and local government decision making.

The State interests in economic growth include:-

1. promoting agriculture by:
 - a. preserving good quality agricultural land for its income earning potential, and as a natural resource;
 - b. supporting agriculture as the predominant land use in Rural zoned areas; and
 - c. not supporting land uses that have the potential for conflict with agriculture in Rural zoned areas.

The agriculture industry is central to Queensland's economy, employment and our food and timber supply.

Planning for and promoting agriculture opportunities will enable the growth and sustainability of the agriculture industry, and its contribution to the growth of the Queensland economy.

2. promoting tourism by:
 - a. protecting Queensland's tourism attractions and significant natural assets, for the benefit and sustainability of the tourism industry;
 - b. facilitating tourism projects that complement local conditions; and
 - c. removing hurdles and locational limitations for appropriate tourism development.

Development for tourism is distinct from other development owing to the diversity of its type, size, location and impact. Tourism supports local and regional economies in urban and non-urban areas – providing opportunities for growth and employment.

Tourism provides resilience and diversity in local economies that may otherwise be dependent on a narrow economic base. Growth of the tourism industry will complement and balance rural pursuits and nature conservation activities.

3. promoting the State's mineral and extractive resources industries by:
 - a. preserving mineral and extractive resource industries;
 - b. resolving at a regional and local level potential land use conflicts; and,
 - c. supporting our mining communities with housing and community facilities.

The resources industry is a major contributor to the Queensland economy. It supports the energy and other needs of industries and communities across the state, nationally and internationally by supplying valuable commodities including coal, coal seam gas, minerals and petroleum.



Recognising resources as a State interest in relevant State and local government decision making will allow mining activities and their demands for housing and community facilities to be planned for in relevant regions.

4. promoting construction activities by:
 - a. facilitating residential, commercial and industrial development in appropriately zoned areas;
 - b. identifying infrastructure required to support new development;
 - c. removing impediments to a steady supply of land in suitable locations, and by,
 - d. ensuring an efficient, effective and accountable planning and development system.

The construction industry is a major employer in Queensland and a healthy construction industry is necessary to underpin the economic growth of the state.

An inefficient or over-regulated planning system inhibits the industry's ability to respond quickly to new projects or market demands, therefore impacting on development activity and project costs.

1. Application of the temporary state planning policy

- 1.1 The temporary State Planning Policy 2/12 Planning for Prosperity is a statutory instrument under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*.
- 1.2 The Policy applies to all local government areas in Queensland.
- 1.3 The following Policies apply to the range of circumstances set out in the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, including a referral agency's assessment of a development application, however the policies do not apply to:
 - 1.3.1 an assessment manager's assessment of a development application, or
 - 1.3.2 the assessment of a master plan application,

as the application of the policies may involve the resolution of competing or conflicting outcomes between the various policies. Any conflicts are to be resolved as set out in part 2 below and not in the assessment of a master plan or a development application (by an assessment manager and referral agency).
- 1.4 This Policy will be applied in the making or amending of regional plans under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*.
- 1.5 The terms used in this Policy have the same meaning given in the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* and the Queensland Planning Provisions.



2. Application of the Policies

The application of the policies may involve the resolution of competing or conflicting outcomes between the various policies, and are best resolved when:

1. making or amending local planning instruments;
2. making regional plans; and
3. deciding whether to designate land for community infrastructure.

At the decision making stage on a development application, the purpose of this policy will be achieved by a balancing of competing or conflicting outcomes that gives additional weight to:

- a. agricultural uses in areas zoned for agricultural uses;
- b. urban uses in areas zoned for urban uses;
- c. tourist development which can be shown to be complementary to an area's environmental, scenic and cultural values; and
- d. mineral and extractive resources development which can be shown to be complementary to an area's primary intended land use.

3. Policies about the matters of State interest

The Preamble refers to the State's policies on matters of State interest.

The Policies are to:

Remove regulatory barriers which impede development

1. remove regulatory barriers which impede the development of the following in appropriately zoned or suitable locations:-
 - a. agriculture;
 - b. tourism projects;
 - c. mining and extractive resource industries; and,
 - d. residential, commercial and industrial activities;

Agriculture

2. protect good quality agricultural land from incompatible development - such as residential (including rural residential), commercial and industrial uses - in Rural zoned areas;
3. identify and provide for the infrastructure and services necessary to support a viable and resilient agricultural economy;
4. provide specific appropriate locations for the conduct of agricultural activities with significant impacts (for example, intensive animal husbandry and intensive horticulture);



Tourism

5. protect existing and appropriate tourism development;
6. identify opportunities for the expansion of existing tourism development;
7. identify localities or areas appropriate for tourism development, and protect these areas from incompatible development;
8. provide for the infrastructure and services necessary to support both existing tourism and identified tourism opportunities;

Mining and extractive resources

9. identify known mineral, petroleum, gas, hard rock and geothermal reserves, and protect these reserves from incompatible development;
10. seek to avoid conflicts between potential development of known mineral, petroleum, gas and geothermal reserves and other incompatible land uses, including by the allocation of new areas for urban development away from known reserves;
11. provide for development directly supporting the resources industry, such as supporting infrastructure, housing, transportation networks, downstream processing and port facilities;
12. facilitate development that supports the efficient extraction of known resource deposits, including by the allocation of sufficient land to support housing, community facilities and amenities for mining workforces;

Construction

13. facilitate supporting infrastructure, and industrial and commercial activities;
14. identify and provide for the infrastructure and services necessary to support existing and planned urban areas;

Planning system reform

15. amend planning regulations that add unnecessary costs to development; and, to
16. provide an efficient and effective performance-based development assessment process, that:
 - a. maximises community engagement and consultation activities at the plan making stage;
 - b. maximises the use of exempt development, self assessment, compliance assessment and third party assessment/certification processes;
 - c. standardises development assessment codes, processes and requirements for common land uses and development types across the state; and,
 - d. removes unnecessary costs on development by:
 - eliminating the 'gold plating' of infrastructure,
 - accepting staged infrastructure, and
 - using other innovative infrastructure solutions.