



Township Burning Permit Policy

Reference Number:	<i>EI015</i>
Strategic Plan:	
Classification:	<i>Environmental & Inspectorial Policy</i>
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Review Frequency:	<i>Every 4 years</i>
Last Reviewed:	<i>June 2017</i>
Next Review Due:	<i>2021</i>
Responsible Officer(s):	<i>Manager Environmental and Inspectorial Services</i>
Council File Reference:	
Applicable Legislation:	<i>section 28 of the Environment Protection Act 1993</i>
Relevant Policies:	<i>Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016</i>
Related Procedures:	
Delegations:	

KINGSTON DISTRICT COUNCIL
TOWNSHIP BURNING PERMIT POLICY

1. Purpose

The purpose of the policy is to establish criteria that Council's authorised officer can consider when assessing permit applications outside the Fire Danger Season for burning within the township in the Kingston District Council.

2. Scope

This policy is made subject to the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016.

3. Definitions

3.1 Agricultural Waste

Waste produced in the course of agriculture and includes dead stock, diseased crops, crop stubble or other crop waste and waste resulting from the clearing of land for farming.

3.2 Authorised Officer

An employee of Council delegated with the authority to issue Burning Permit in accordance with provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1993 and the Delegations by the Board of the Environment Protection Authority to Employees of Council

3.3 Burning Permit

A permit issued by an Authorised Officer of the Kingston District Council issued in accordance with the provisions of the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016, to carry out one or more of the following burning activities outside of a Fire Danger Season:

- Burning agriculture or forestry waste; or
- Burning off vegetation for fire prevention or control; or
- Burning vegetation for any other purpose.

Permits for lighting or maintaining a fire during the Fire Danger Season are covered under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 and are subject to a separate application and permit.

3.4 Township

A township as declared and gazetted by Kingston District Council

4. Policy

Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016 (the Air Quality Policy) came into effect in July 2016. The Air Quality Policy regulates air emissions including those from wood heaters and burning in the open. The intent of the Air Quality Policy is to better protect and improve the health of South Australians and the environment through the improved air quality.

The introduction of the Air Quality Policy results in a number of changes to controls relating to burning in the open. In regards to townships within the Kingston District Council area, burning of agricultural waste was previously permitted without the requirements of any approval, out of the Fire Danger Season but now requires a burning permit form Council.

In assessing permit applications, Council's authorised officers will use their discretion; where practicable, all burning piles will be inspected prior to permits being authorised and taking into account the following criteria in determining whether a permit will be issued or not:

- Bushfire risk of the area
- Purpose of the proposed burning
- Amount of the material to be burnt
- Fuel load present on adjoining reserve/s or park/s
- Proximity and potential impact to neighbouring residents
- Availability of other reasonable means to dispose of the vegetation (i.e. access to green-waste station)
- Legitimacy of the proposed burning (i.e. genuine fire hazard reduction or rubbish removal)
- Nature of material to be burnt
- Size of the allotment
- Terrain of the allotment and locality
- Accessibility to the allotment and area where the vegetation is to be burnt
- Is the material diseased plant material
- Is the material declared and / or woody weeds
- Requirements of the Country Fire Service Broad Acre Burning Code of Practice
- Requirements of the Country Fire Service Vegetation Pile Burning Code of Practice
- Religious or Cultural purposes

5. Responsibilities

The Manager Planning and Regulatory Services has the delegation to approve, amend and review any procedures that shall be consistent with this Policy.

6. References

Environment Protection Act 1993
Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016
Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005

7. Council Endorsement of the Policy

The policy was endorsed and adopted by Council on Friday 23 June 2017, resolution number 9839.

8. Review and Evaluation

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed and evaluated once during the term of the Council (or on significant change to legislation or other matters which could affect this policy). The Chief Executive Officer of the Council will report to the Council on the outcome of the evaluation and make recommendations for amendment, alteration or a substitution of a new policy.

9. Availability of the Policy

The policy will be available for inspection at the Council's principle office during ordinary business hours. Copies will also be provided to interested members of the community upon requests, and upon payment of the fee set by Council.